

# Promising Directions for Early Childhood Professional Development

compiled by Chip Donohue

As higher education institutions scramble to put traditional face-to-face courses online the quality of the content, instructional design, learning experience, and student support can vary. Before you enroll in an online course, be sure to consider the following:

## **Content and Instructional Design**

- Instructor's training and online teaching experience
- Course format and delivery system that match your learning style, needs, interests — preview a course web site
- Ease of use — user-friendly interface, simple login, easy and logical navigation, access to materials, resources, and virtual library

## **Learning Experience**

- Easy access to your instructor — virtual office hours, e-mail, telephone
- Clear expectations and directions and timely feedback from instructor
- Friendly, accessible learning community
- Interactions with instructor and students

## **Student Support / Customer Service**

- Technology requirements identified
- Self-assessment available — Are Online Courses for Me?
- Easy access to technical support — 24/7 HelpLine, Online HelpDesk)

**Search Tip:** As I gathered information for this directory I often found it very difficult to find the early childhood online courses and degree programs on a college or university website, even when I knew what I was looking for. If the links that have been provided in the directory don't take you to the information you are looking for try going back to the school's Home Page and search for links to Outreach, Distance Learning, Online Courses, or Online Programs. You can also have success starting with the academic department or program, so search for Early Childhood, Child Care, and Child Development. And remember to save the links to your browser's *Favorites* or *Bookmarks* file so you can easily find your way back the next time. Good luck searching for and finding an online program that meets your professional development interests and needs!

# Guide to Training Opportunities

This directory represents a first step toward identifying online degree, certificate, and credential programs for early childhood professionals. Online courses in early childhood education are a relatively new phenomenon, but already there is a wide range of programs to choose from. Many colleges, universities, and training programs offer early childhood courses online — the focus of this directory is on completely online programs.

As higher education institutions scramble to put traditional face-to-face courses online the quality of the content, instructional design, learning experience, and student support can vary. Before you enroll in an online course, be sure to consider the following:			
School/Program	Degree/Certificate/Credential	Website	Notes
<b>Arkansas Tech University</b> Russellville, Arkansas, USA	CDA, AS in Early Childhood Education	<a href="http://commed.atu.edu/ECE.htm">http://commed.atu.edu/ECE.htm</a> <a href="http://pdi.atu.edu/">http://pdi.atu.edu/</a>	School of Community Educ. and Prof. Dev. and the Prof. Dev. Institute
<b>Bay Mills Community College</b> Brimley, Massachusetts, USA	CDA, AA in ECE — Admin of EC Programs, EC Dev, Family Services	<a href="http://www.bmcc.edu">www.bmcc.edu</a>	Accredited Tribal college, meets Rev. Head Start Performance Standards
<b>Brenau University Online College</b> Gainesville, Georgia, USA	MEd in Early Childhood Education	<a href="http://online.brenau.edu">http://online.brenau.edu</a>	School of Education & Human Development
<b>Central Arizona College</b> Coolidge, Arizona, USA	CDA, Certif., AAS in ECE Inf/Tod., Preschl, S-A, Family CC, Mgmt.	<a href="http://www.centralaz.edu">www.centralaz.edu</a>	Early Care and Education Department
<b>Coastline Community College</b> Fountain Valley, California USA	Transfer Psychology courses in Child Development and Parent Educ	<a href="http://coastline.cccd.edu/">http://coastline.cccd.edu/</a>	Offers Telecourses, Independent Study/CD Rom, Internet, Cablecasts
<b>College of the North Atlantic</b> St. Johns, NL, Canada	Diploma in ECE, Certification through the Assoc. of ECE — NL	<a href="http://www.northatlantic.nf.ca/programs/">www.northatlantic.nf.ca/programs/</a>	Applied Arts program, online courses and summer institutes
<b>CO Community Colleges Online</b> Denver, Colorado, USA	Group Leader, Director Certs. by a consortium of CO Com Colleges	<a href="http://www.ccconline.org/">www.ccconline.org/</a>	EC Professions Program, may articulate to a 2-year degree program
<b>Colorado State University</b> Fort Collins, Colorado, USA	Child Care Administration Certification	<a href="http://www.csu2learn.colostate.edu/csuncertificates/childcareadmin.htm">www.csu2learn.colostate.edu/csuncertificates/childcareadmin.htm</a>	Division of University Outreach, Distance Learning Programs
<b>Concordia University</b> Degree/Certificate/Credential	MA in EC and S-A Care, BA, Certs. Website	<a href="http://www.cshs.csp.edu/">www.cshs.csp.edu/</a> Notes	School of <b>School/Program</b>
<b>Arkansas Tech University</b> Russellville, Arkansas, USA	CDA, AS in Early Childhood Education	<a href="http://commed.atu.edu/ECE.htm">http://commed.atu.edu/ECE.htm</a> <a href="http://pdi.atu.edu/">http://pdi.atu.edu/</a>	School of Community Educ. and Prof. Dev. and the Prof. Dev. Institute
<b>Bay Mills Community College</b> Brimley, Massachusetts, USA	CDA, AA in ECE — Admin of EC Programs, EC Dev, Family Services	<a href="http://www.bmcc.edu">www.bmcc.edu</a>	Accredited Tribal college, meets Rev. Head Start Performance Standards
<b>Brenau University Online College</b> Gainesville, Georgia, USA	MEd in Early Childhood Education	<a href="http://online.brenau.edu">http://online.brenau.edu</a>	School of Education & Human Development
<b>Central Arizona College</b> Coolidge, Arizona, USA	CDA, Certif., AAS in ECE Inf/Tod., Preschl, S-A, Family CC, Mgmt.	<a href="http://www.centralaz.edu">www.centralaz.edu</a>	Early Care and Education Department
<b>College of the North Atlantic</b> St. Johns, NL, Canada	Diploma in ECE, Certification through the Assoc. of ECE — NL	<a href="http://www.northatlantic.nf.ca/programs/">www.northatlantic.nf.ca/programs/</a>	Applied Arts program, online courses and summer institutes
<b>CO Community Colleges Online</b> Denver, Colorado, USA	Group Leader, Director Certs. by a consortium of CO Com Colleges	<a href="http://www.ccconline.org/">www.ccconline.org/</a>	EC Professions Program, may articulate to a 2-year degree program
<b>Colorado State University</b> Fort Collins, Colorado, USA	Child Care Administration Certification	<a href="http://www.csu2learn.colostate.edu/csuncertificates/childcareadmin.htm">www.csu2learn.colostate.edu/csuncertificates/childcareadmin.htm</a>	Division of University Outreach, Distance Learning Programs
<b>Concordia University</b> St. Paul, Minnesota, USA	MA in EC and S-A Care, BA, Certs. in EC and S-A Child Development	<a href="http://www.cshs.csp.edu/">www.cshs.csp.edu/</a>	School of Human Services, Depts. of EC and S-A Child Development
<b>E-LECT</b> St. Paul, Minnesota, USA	E-Learning for EC Teachers — AAS, online Child Dev. and ECE Courses	<a href="http://www.aeyc-mn.org/">www.aeyc-mn.org/</a>	Collaboration of 12 MnSCU Comm. & Tech. Col. Child Dev. programs
<b>Erikson Institute</b> Chicago, Illinois USA	Infant Studies Graduate Certificate, Professional Development Program	<a href="http://www.erikson.edu">www.erikson.edu</a>	A graduate school in child development
<b>Haywood Community College</b> Clyde, North Carolina, USA	AAS in EC Assoc. and AAS in EC Assoc. w/ Teach Assoc. concentration	<a href="http://www.haywood.edu/hccflsh.html">www.haywood.edu/hccflsh.html</a>	Articulates to BS Birth-Kndgrtn. and Ed. Programs at W. Carolina U
<b>Kansas State University</b>	BA in ECE, ECE Endorsement, ECE	<a href="http://www.dce.ksu.edu/dce/cl/">www.dce.ksu.edu/dce/cl/</a>	Until Fall '03, BA only to Head Start

Manhattan, Kansas, USA <b>Kean University</b>	Admin. Credential, Continuing Ed. MA, post-baccalaureate, undergrad.	<a href="http://www.kean.edu">www.kean.edu</a>	or accredited school district in KS Field coursework required. NJ
Union, New Jersey, USA <b>Kentucky Virtual University</b>	certification degree program AA, BS in Interdisciplinary ECE, by	<a href="http://www.kyvuv.org/index.html">www.kyvuv.org/index.html</a>	certification for EC teachers AA transfers to BS which also leads
Frankfort, Kentucky, USA <b>Loyalist College</b>	KY Com. & Tech. College System Two-year diploma in ECE	<a href="http://www.kctcs.edu/">www.kctcs.edu/</a> <a href="http://www.loyalistc.on.ca/learn/programs/0601_distance.html">www.loyalistc.on.ca/learn/programs/0601_distance.html</a>	to Assistant & Provider certifications Multi-media approach online and
Bellevue, Ontario, Canada <b>National-Louis University</b>	ECA Online — MEd and Certificate of Advanced Studies in EC Admin.	<a href="http://www.nl.edu/nlu_nce/index.html">www.nl.edu/nlu_nce/index.html</a>	on campus National College of Educ., cohort
Wheeling, Illinois, USA <b>New York State ECE Online</b>	Courses in ECE from a SUNY and Community College consortium	<a href="http://www.nyseceonline.suny.edu">www.nyseceonline.suny.edu</a>	model includes on campus & online Go to the web site for a list of
Albany, New York, USA <b>Northampton Community College</b>	AAS or Certificate in ECE, diplomas in Family & S-A Child Care	<a href="http://www.northampton.edu">www.northampton.edu</a>	consortium participants and FAQs Specialized diploma programs
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, USA <b>Northeast Wisconsin Tech College</b>	AA in ECE, Certificate in ECE	<a href="http://www.nwtconline.com">www.nwtconline.com</a>	articulate to the ECE AAS degree Online and hybrid program including
Green Bay, Wisconsin, USA <b>NOVA Southeastern University</b>	MS, EC Admin., Early Literacy, AA, EC for Head Start, Adm. Cred., CDA	<a href="http://www.fgse.nova.edu/">www.fgse.nova.edu/</a>	general ed. and EC classes/electives Combine the use of distance learning
Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA <b>Pacific Oaks Online</b>	MA, BA in Human Dev., emphasis in ECE, Leadership and Bicultural Dev.	<a href="http://www.pacificoaks.edu">www.pacificoaks.edu</a>	technologies with on-site formats Upper division and graduate classes
Pasadena, California, USA <b>QCCS Early Childhood College</b>	Certificate II and III, Diploma, Advanced Diploma in Com. Services	<a href="http://www.earlychildhoodcollege.com">www.earlychildhoodcollege.com</a>	online, some residency requirements 3 modes — External hardcopy self-
Shailer Park, Queensland, Australia <b>Saint Paul College</b>	Child Development Administration Advanced Technical Certificate	<a href="http://www.saintpaul.edu/academics/programs/development/">www.saintpaul.edu/academics/programs/development/</a>	paced, In College, Online Online and on campus courses for
St. Paul, Minnesota, USA <b>SUNY Learning Network</b>	Access to Online ECE courses and degrees from SUNY campuses	<a href="http://SLN.suny.edu">http://SLN.suny.edu</a>	MnAECY EC Center Dir Credential Asynchronous Learning Network links
Albany, New York, USA <b>Teikyo Post University</b>	Certificates ECE and EC Admin, AS in ECE, and courses toward the CDA	<a href="http://www.tpuonline.com/ece/">www.tpuonline.com/ece/</a>	SUNY online courses/degrees Degree and certificate programs
Waterbury, Connecticut, USA <b>University of Cincinnati</b>	Heads Up! Reading, CDA, AA, and BA from Union Institute and Univ.	<a href="http://www.ucollege.uc.edu/ecic">www.ucollege.uc.edu/ecic</a>	offered completely online Early Childhood Learning Center
Cincinnati, Ohio, USA <b>University of Nebraska-Lincoln</b>	MEd and PhD in Early Childhood Special Education	<a href="http://advance.unl.edu/distance/degrees/ecsepp.html">http://advance.unl.edu/distance/degrees/ecsepp.html</a>	offers articulation from CDA to BA Core offered via online and
Lincoln, Nebraska, USA <b>University of New England</b>	Bachelors of Teaching (EC) and Educ. (EC), Masters of Educ. (EC)	<a href="http://fehps.une.edu.au/PdAL/Courses/EarlychildhoodEd/overview.htm">http://fehps.une.edu.au/PdAL/Courses/EarlychildhoodEd/overview.htm</a>	videoconferencing Professional Development and
Armidale, NSW, Australia <b>University of Phoenix Online</b>	MA in Educ., emphasis in Admin. & Supervision, C&I, Teacher Educ.	<a href="http://www.uonline.com/eedu">www.uonline.com/eedu</a>	Leadership, Early Childhood Studies Completely online, courses offered
Phoenix, Arizona, USA <b>Univ of Wisconsin-Milwaukee</b>	Professional Credential for Child Care Administrators	<a href="http://www.sce.uwm.edu">www.sce.uwm.edu</a> <a href="http://www.uwm.edu/Dept/EducOutreach">www.uwm.edu/Dept/EducOutreach</a>	one at a time for 5-6 weeks. EC Professional Develop Programs,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA <b>University of Wyoming Online</b>	Prof. Child Development BA, EC Program Director's Certificate	<a href="http://ecampus.uwyo.edu/">http://ecampus.uwyo.edu/</a>	6 courses, degree pathways Department of Family and Consumer
Laramie, Wyoming, USA <b>Vanguard University</b>	Certificates in Early Childhood, EC Administration and Infant/Toddler	<a href="http://www.vanguard.edu/LiberalStudies/index.cfm?doc_id=1995">www.vanguard.edu/LiberalStudies/index.cfm?doc_id=1995</a>	Sciences Meets WA State EC Career Dev. Core
Costa Mesa, California, USA <b>Western Washington University</b>	Birth to Five Care Certificate	<a href="http://www.wce.wvu.edu/depts/hs">www.wce.wvu.edu/depts/hs</a>	Competencies/CDA/Head Start
Bellingham, WA, USA			

### Online Training Programs

<b>The CARE Course School</b> McLean, Virginia USA	CDA, CCP, courses and training for home care and day care center educ	<a href="http://www.carecourses.com/ecoursesinfo.htm">www.carecourses.com/ecoursesinfo.htm</a>	Home study training and courses in print and electronic formats
<b>Minnesota CCR and R Network</b>	Eager-to-Learn online in-service	<a href="http://www.mnchildcare.org/">www.mnchildcare.org/</a>	4 week intensive courses,

**Disclaimer** — This directory is for informational purposes only. No official endorsement of any practice, publication, program, or individual by *Child Care Information Exchange* is intended or is to be inferred. Online programs, course offerings, and web page addresses change frequently so the information contained in this directory may have already changed. Please check with your local and state licensing agency to be sure the online courses or program you are interested in will meet your licensing requirements. If you plan to transfer credits from online courses into a degree program be sure the college or university granting the degree will accept the credits and courses prior to enrolling.

For additional information on this directory, or to provide information on online programs to be included in future directories, please contact Chip Donohue at [cdonohue@uwm.edu](mailto:cdonohue@uwm.edu).