How we use cookies and similar technologies?

Except for Education and College Advising Services, which are used by school age children with parental consent, Bright Horizons websites are intended for use by adults. Bright Horizons does not solicit or knowingly collect any information from visitors under 18 years of age, without parental consent. Please do not use any of our websites if you are not yet 18 years old or of the age of majority where you reside without parental consent.

Bright Horizons websites may contain links or references to other websites. Please be aware that we do not control other websites and that this Privacy Notice does not apply to those websites. We encourage you to read the privacy notices of every website you visit. In addition to this Privacy Notice, your use of our websites is subject to our **Terms of Use**.

There are two ways we may collect your personal data when you use our websites: actively (when you voluntarily enter your personal information as described in our Privacy Notice), or passively as described below.

- Passive Information Collection: As you navigate through our websites, we passively collect certain information (that is, we gather it without you actively providing the information) using various technologies and means, such as Internet Protocol addresses and cookies.

- Internet Protocol (IP) Addresses: An Internet Protocol (IP) Address is a number your Internet service provider assigns to your computer so that you can access the Internet. We use your IP address to diagnose problems with our server, report aggregate information, determine the fastest route for your computer to use in connecting to our websites, and administer and improve our websites.

- Cookies: Cookies are small text files that our websites place on your computer when you visit them. We use cookies to make our websites work, or work more efficiently, as well as to provide information to us. Your website browser allows you some control over cookies through your browser settings. To find out more about cookies, including how to see what cookies have been set and how to manage and delete them, visit http://www.allaboutcookies.org/. The information below explains further the cookies we use and why.

   Cookies fall into two general categories: first party cookies (which we set) and third-party cookies (which are set by third parties).

   First-party cookies

   These cookies are set by us and for the most part, enable essential functionality on our websites. These cookies also include our own Web Analytics cookies, which we use to understand how visitors use our websites so that we can improve them.

   Third-party cookies

   Third-party cookies are not set by us, but by selected third parties with whom we work with. Some of these third party cookies enable useful services, such as online questionnaires or Live Chat (which lets you ask questions of a Bright Horizons expert). Others are set by advertising networks we approve to track your browsing activities so that they can place our online advertisements to you in the most appropriate places.

   Social media cookies

Some pages on our websites let you share our content through social media sites such as LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter. Also, we may embed videos from sites such as YouTube. These websites set their own cookies, which we do not control and have their own cookie policies. You should carefully review the cookie policies on these websites to make sure that you are happy with them.

Cookies falling within the three categories above can be further categorized depending on if they are session cookies or permanent cookies.

Session cookies

These cookies expire when you close your browser (or if you stay inactive for a certain time). We use these types of cookies on our portals and registration/enrollment websites so that you can continue browsing without losing information as you navigate from page to page.

Permanent cookies

Persistent cookies are more permanent bits of information that are placed on the hard drive of your computer and stay there unless you delete them. These cookies persist even when the browser is closed. We use these cookies to remember you so that you don't have to re-enter passwords and login information every time you visit our website.