

Directors Forum – February 8, 2024

Sandra Raye-Redmond (Director of Program Implementation) welcomed everyone.

Sandra announced for Preschool Promise providers that we are having our first-ever stipend check pickup for participants of our year-long Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) next Friday. Information about exact times has been published in the weekly provider newsletter and email messages will be sent early next week.

4C for Children - Katie Thompson

We are excited to welcome our new Strategic Director, Nicole Malveaux, who hold degrees in business management and has nearly 20 years' experience working with children and families. In her new role, Nicole will plan and lead the agency's delivery of programs and services to families and the community.

Family and Community Services - 4C is taking a fresh look at how we can serve our families that call us looking for child care better. If you have ideas about how 4C can serve you and families that attend your center, feel free to contact Surbhi Narula at snarula@4CforChildren.org.

Help Us Help You! Update your program information in the OCCRRA Work Life System Child Care Program Portal for us match the unique needs of families looking for care with your program. Follow these steps:

1. <https://www.4cforchildren.org/providers/program-portal/>
2. Click *Go to Program Portal*.
3. Follow the prompts

Also, 4C offers parenting classes that they can do at your center. Click on the following link to learn more: <https://www.4cforchildren.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/4C-for-Children-Child-Care-Program-Parent-Onsite.pdf>

Quality Programs & Coaching – SUTQ changes will be coming soon but until we get anything official, we are still coaching to the current SUTQ requirements. If you need a coach, please let Katie know or reach out to Ashley Chiles at 937-723-2718.

We also have two different projects currently going on in the Miami Valley. We have the LENA project and Infant/Toddler Cohort which works closely with the ITERS. Participating programs receive specific coaching based off their score on that assessment. If your program is interested in finding out more or being a part of these projects in the future, please let Katie know (kthompson@4cforchildren.org).

Katie also noted that 4C has a lending library at the Miami Valley office in Moraine; you can stop by Tuesday through Friday. Many materials are brand new. Let Katie know if you want her to pull resources for you.

Professional Development & CDA – 4C is hosting a special training series called All Together on the Trail which focuses on outdoor learning experiences. The facilitator is Meredith Florkey who some of you may know; she does a great job on this topic. Each session will take place at the Jones Pavilion at Armco Park in Lebanon. Sign up for the February and March sessions! Details will be in the Feb. 12 4C newsletter; you can also call the central registrar for more information 513-758-1301.

An in-person CDA course will begin in Dayton this Spring. Please visit 4C's [website](#) to register for the required orientation.

The *Child Care Careers* program is available to any licensed child care center in our service area. We offer a full-service program to recruit new people into the field of early childhood education. From background checks, to required licensing training we cover it all! If you want to hire someone, you can send them to us before hiring and we will return them to you ready to work in a classroom. Have those interested fill out the interest form on our Child Care Careers website to best get their start: <https://www.4cforchildren.org/child-care-careers/launch-a-career/>

Business services continues work with new applicants on provisional licenses and expanding services. Additionally, they are working to increase the number of seats within the Latina community and with the City of Kettering to help reduce the shortage of child care services while supporting workforce development in Kettering's low income areas. If you would like additional information on our starting and expanding work, please complete the interest form at <https://www.4cforchildren.org/providers/business-services/>.

Infant & Toddler Mental Health - Grace Schoessow

Grace Schoessow is the Director of Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health at Greene County Educational Service Center. They have been working for nearly a decade to expand early mental health services. She is involved in developing a field of professionals in Master's level positions who can offer consultation around social emotional and behavioral issues.

Outcomes are better in school when we are informed about early childhood mental health. It is important to get everyone on board and do cross-systems work. The early childhood mental health workforce across the state has expanded to about 100 licensed and credentialed early childhood mental health consultants. She hopes to bolster the number of folks who are available to meet the needs you have.

Nationwide Children's Hospital has a Preschool Expulsion hotline number where providers can request support if you have a child at risk for expulsion. Sometimes it is hard to get children in the right program; we want them to thrive in educational institutions. The hotline (1-844-678-2227) will connect you with local consultant to help maintain the child in the educational environment. See the attached flier for more information.

She is working on a new expansion project with local Child Care and Referral organizations (4C in the Miami Valley). This infant project involves pairing an expert on her team with 4C to serve the area.

When children are identified as needing extra support involving the continuum of early childhood mental health, they help adults understand and help families navigate services.

The infant mental health credential is a pathway for anyone in early childhood field to learn early childhood mental health. Learn core concepts and how to help support social emotional health. Please see the attached document with more information.

Feel free to reach out and email questions. Her email address is GSchoessow@greeneesc.org.

City of Dayton Issue 6 - Mayor Jeffrey Mims

Mayor Mims thanked everyone on the call for their work with children. He noted quality early education is essential to grow good citizens.

Issue 6 is a levy that was Issue 9 in 2016. It supports critical services: police, fire, resurfacing roads, parks/recreation, and a housing component. This is very important for Dayton to continue the movement made over the last 10-12 years. He asked everyone to vote in favor of Issue 6.

There is no additional cost. It is an earned income tax meaning only wages earned are taxed, not income like Social Security. It is not a property tax. At least 50% of the tax revenues are paid by commuters, those who work in Dayton but don't live there.

Mayor Mims took questions. A request was made for language that could be used by providers to encourage Issue 6 passage on social media. Mayor Mims said he would share a flier. (See attached)

Mayor Mims invited everyone to attend the Issue 6 campaign kickoff on Monday, Feb. 12 at Noon. Feb. 21 is the first day of early voting; the last day to register is Feb. 20. Vote between Feb. 21 and March 19 at polling locations.

Sandra shared Issue 6 is important for Preschool Promise to continue the work we do. Please be sure to vote on March 19. If you know people who live in the City of Dayton, please encourage them to vote also.

Ohio PROMISE - Diane Fox and Laura Maddox, Ohio Department of Children & Youth

Diane Fox, Deputy Director, provided a high-level overview of the new Ohio Department of Children & Youth (DCY) which was established last July. The department's mission is to promote positive lifelong outcomes for Ohio youth through early intervention, quality education, and family support programs.

Goals:

- Help more children thrive and reach their first birthday.
- Ensure continuity of care across the spectrum of ages, stages, and services to help children and youth succeed.
- Help provide families with needed resources and supports proactively, before a crisis within the family occurs.

DCY includes some programs formerly overseen by the following departments:

Department of Developmental Disabilities

Department of Education

Department of Health

Department of Job & Family Services

Department of Mental health and addiction services

These are the programs that were moved to DCY:

- Children Services
- Home Visiting
- Ohio Children's Trust Fund
- Maternal and Infant vitality programming
- Early Intervention
- Publicly funded Childcare
- Early childhood education
- Preschool special education
- Licensing
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library
- Ohio Fatherhood commission
- Ohio family children first council
- Healthy beginnings at home
- Early childhood mental health consultation
- Strong families, Safe communities

Laura Maddox is Program Director of the Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence which is part of the new Ohio PROMISE program. She also oversees the OCALI Center for the Young Child. OCALI includes several centers which address autism, outreach center for deafness and blindness, teaching diverse learners center, any others. If you are not familiar with OCALI, go to our website (ocali.org) and you will see most of our services are free.

Ohio PROMISE is a statewide initiative that will **promote** resources, **opportunities**, and **meaningful** inclusion through **support** and **education** (PROMISE). Investments of resources, expertise, and a robust infrastructure will allow Ohio to realize the vision that each Ohioan from birth has a strong foundation of support, acceptance, and empowerment.

Funded by federal ARPA discretionary funds, Ohio PROMISE has multiple components:

- Professional credential
- Program designation
- Center of Excellence
- Scholarship program (financial aid for families to offset cost)
- State advisory Team

The Inclusion professional credential has 3 levels:

Level 1: Awareness of inclusion – 2,000 professionals have

Level 2: Applying knowledge of inclusion – more nuts & bolts of how to be inclusive

Level 3: Implementing inclusion best practices – not yet available

Level 1 and 2 are available; it takes about 10 hours of investment to reach each level.

The Inclusive Child Care Program designation helps families find professionals committed to serving children with disabilities. The designation currently requires only an administrator and one lead teacher to complete credential Level 1. The designation has provided 125 existing programs with \$20K this year and 50 new programs with \$15K to offset costs that may be associated with serving children with disabilities.

Family support through scholarships (manual procedure letter #169 outlines this initiative)

Funding is for the family but goes to the program. Up to \$500/month to support tuition. Children must be denied for PFCXC for being over income and have an IFSP or IEP.

Coordinated through JFS

EC Inclusion Center of Excellence – focus is on workforce. COE will inform policies and provide current and innovative guidance, resources, training, and practice-based consultation to early care and education providers and families throughout Ohio.

Services include materials and tools, training, and practice-based coaching as well as assistance with cross-agency collaboration. Help programs build capacity for serving all children.

The Southwest Ohio region is being served by Megan Carlton. A [request for assistance](#) must be completed online. Megan can be reached at megan_carlton@ocali.org.

Want to increase access for early childhood professionals and families to assistive technology and accessible educational materials. Will train providers on use of materials, some available through lending library and others will be given away.

Contact them at <https://cycsuite.org/ec-inclusion>; you can subscribe to their quarterly newsletter. (A copy of the PowerPoint presentation slides are attached.)

Licensing updates - Trentae Taylor and Kelly Paull

Kelly Paull and Trentae Taylor are licensing supervisors from the Dayton field office for the Department of Children and Youth (formerly with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services).

Kelly started with expressing gratitude for the hard work providers do. She noted there is always a lot of information because so much happens between forums. As is usual, a high-level overview of information will be shared during this forum and they will provide follow-up documents and links to additional details.

Changes to licensing requirements are likely, especially with programs from other state departments coming together under the Department of Children and Youth (DCY). As soon as more information is available, Kelly and Trentae will share it with providers.

Department of Children and Youth Updates - Two of the guiding principles of DCY are transparency and accountability. Therefore, DCY is hosting regularly scheduled meetings on the 4th Tuesday of every month from 2-3 p.m. The meetings are a way to stay updated on how the transition from ODJFS to DCY impacts you. If you are signed up for child care updates, that is how you will get invited to the meetings. You can sign up on our website "Stay in the Know." You can use the following link to join the February 27 meeting (2–3 p.m.): [Teams Live Event](#)

Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) Updates - Child care providers often assist families/caretakers as they apply for publicly funded child care (PFCC) benefits. There are legal requirements that must be met in order for the state or county agency to share details of a family's PFCC application with a provider. To support families/caretakers and providers with the PFCC application process, a formal "Release of Information" form (see attached) has been created that meets these legal requirements.

How It Works –

Step 1. The child's guardian/caretaker needs to submit this form to their county agency or through the Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal (SSP) to allow their child care provider to receive child care case information from their county agency and ODJFS.

Step 2. AFTER the form has been submitted by the caretaker, the provider needs to contact their county agency or the Child Care Help Desk to request information on the specific child care case.

Step 3. The County agency or Child Care Help Desk will confirm that the caretaker has completed the form and the provider requesting the case information is listed on the form and permitted to receive the information. The information will then be shared with the appropriate provider.

The form is valid for up to 18 months or until the caretaker removes the permissions, whichever comes first.

The attached manual procedure letter includes more information. It can also be found in the eManual here: [ODJFS eManuals > Family Assistance - Child Care > Child Care Manual > Procedure Letters > CCMPL 172 \(JFS 01115 "Publicly Funded Child Care Release of Information"\) \(ohio.gov\)](#)

The JFS 01115 can be found here: odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/

Please note: A child care provider cannot require the family to complete this form as part of their enrollment process and/or to receive child care.

Please contact the Child Care Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4 if you have questions.

Website Updates - Please see the updates made to public-facing website, The Beacon, and Forms Central.

Public Facing Child Care Website

<https://jfs.ohio.gov/child-care/information-for-providers/become-a-provider>

(Path: JFS>Child Care>Information for Providers>Become a Provider)

The following TA documents are now available on this page:

- JFS 01316 – Child Care Center Licensing – Getting Started
- JFS 01310 – FCC Home Licensing – Getting Started
- JFS 01314 – Child Care Day Camps – Getting Started
- JFS 01313 – In-Home Aide Certification – Getting Started The “Getting Started” documents are quick checklists to guide the professional.

Forms Central

- JFS 01316 – Child Care Center Licensing – Getting Started
- JFS 01310 – FCC Home Licensing – Getting Started
- JFS 01314 – Child Care Day Camps – Getting Started
- JFS 01313 – In-Home Aide Certification – Getting Started
- JFS 01309 – Who can get child care payment assistance?

Phase 4 ARPA Stabilization - CCCMPL 42, CCIMPL 15, and FCCMPL 35 were posted to eManuals 11/20/2023. These manual procedure letters outline Phase 4 of the ARPA Stabilization Grants for Centers, In-Home Aides and Family Child Care providers. Please review these documents if you have any questions regarding Phase 4 of the Stabilization Grant.

- *4th Round of Stabilization Grants:* On Monday, November 20, 2023, an application for a fourth round of stabilization grants was opened on the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association website: <http://occrra.org>
- Please note, a typo was discovered on the Family Child Care MPL in example 4. This error has been corrected and a revised FCCMPL has been made available in the eManual. So, if you printed a copy as soon as it was published, please check to make sure you have the updated version.

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk with questions about funding and license capacity at 1-877-302-2347, option 4 and contact OCCRRA with questions regarding the application and process at support@occrra.org or 614-396-5959.

Publicly Funded Child Care Base Rates - Move to the 35th Percentile: Ohio Administrative Code rules were filed with the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review by close of business Monday, November 20, 2023 updating publicly funded child care base rates to the 35th percentile of the 2022 market rate study. Starting February 4, providers will be reimbursed more. Child Care Manual Transmittal Letter No. 166 (*2024 Update to Publicly Funded Child Care provider Payment Rates to the 35th Percentile*) was published on January 29, 2024. Ohio Administrative Code rule 5101:2-16-10 has been amended. Please refer to the letter for details on the rule and increased rates. If you have questions, please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

Infant and Toddler Infrastructure Grants - The following procedure letters have been posted to the eManual (see attached):

- CCCMPL 43 -2023 Infant and Toddler Infrastructure Grants for Licensed Child Care Centers, Family Child Care Homes and Ohio Department of Education Preschool Programs
- FCCMPL 36 - 2023 Infant and Toddler Infrastructure Grants for Licensed Child Care Centers, Family Child Care Homes and Ohio Department of Education Preschool Programs

Infant and Toddler Infrastructure Grants - In December, ODJFS collaborated with the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) to establish Infant/Toddler Infrastructure Grants for licensed child care centers, family child care homes and preschool programs. Funds are intended to support the infant and toddler workforce and to increase access to infant and toddler child care. The response was overwhelming with over 1,800 applications received by December 29, 2023. Because there were so many applications, the applications were closed early. Applications submitted were reviewed and applicants notified of the status of their application by January 31.

Copayment Amounts during the Minimum 12 Month Period – CCMPL 175 has been posted to eManuals. This manual procedure letter outlines a new requirement to not increase copayments for Homeless and Protective Child Care recipients (see attached).

Child Care Quarterly Newsletter – The quarterly Child Care Newsletter is available on the website and is also attached. The layout has been changed to include a section with information to share with families. Please share the “For Families” section with the families you serve.

Publicly Funded Child Care Special Needs Enhanced Rate – There is an enhanced rate for caring for children with special needs. Please review the following reminder

- *Reminder* - Current publicly funded child care (PFCC) rule 5101:2-16-10, of the Ohio Administrative Code, outlines how a child care program may be eligible to receive an enhanced PFCC payment when the program provides care to a child identified as having special needs and has to make accommodations to provide this care. The JFS 01231 “Request for Payment Rate for Special Needs Child Care” form continues to be required to apply for this enhanced payment and must be completed by the program and the family. Details are outlined in the second section of the information sheet in the “Special Needs Payment Requested by Provider” section. This is not a change to the existing rule or form, just a reminder.
- *Technical Assistance* - To assist families and providers who are applying for the enhanced PFCC payment, a five-minute Quick Tips video on how to complete the JFS 01231 form has been created. This video can be found here: [Special Needs Child Care | Job and Family Services \(ohio.gov\)](#) under the Program Resources section as well as on the right hand side of the webpage in the LAUNCH box.

Tips for Outdoor Play Spaces

A technical assistance (TA) document has been created to assist you in maintaining compliance with your outdoor play spaces. This TA document is posted on the child care website and is titled “Outdoor Play Spaces”. Please be sure to have adequate supervision outdoors. We are receiving too many allegations and concerns where kids are being left outside without supervision. Shout out to Head Start who have this down pat.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan Requirements Manual Procedure Letters – Be sure to read the following manual procedure letters that are attached and have been posted to eManuals:

- CCCMPL 44, FCCMPL 37, CCDMPL 11 & CCIMPL 16 “Relocation Requirements in Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan”
- CCCMPL 45, FCCMPL 38, & CCIMPL 17 “Accommodations for Toddler Requirements in Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan”

- Our Technical Assistance team recently posted the JFS 01251 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan for Family Child Care Home Providers (DCY) and JFS 01114 Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan for Child Care Centers. Both forms are related to the updated procedures.

Revisions to Lower the Minimum Age for High School Students/Graduates Working in Child Care – There have been rule changes about high school students and graduates working in child care. High school students are allowed; review the attached letter for guidance.

Updates to the Prohibitive Convictions for Child Care Centers, Child Care Day Camps, Family Child Care Home Providers, and Ohio Department of Education Licensed Preschool and School-age Child Care Programs Providing Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) – Recent changes were made to the prohibitive convictions in the Ohio Administrative Code Rules. Be sure to review the attached letter for guidance.

Staff Checklist in the Ohio professional Registry - To support programs with the hiring process and to meet compliance of staff licensing requirements, the ODJFS collaborated with a select number of child care programs across the state and OCCRRA to create a Staff Checklist on the organization dashboard in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR). This checklist will be a smart checklist that will pull in staff requirements, such as trainings and health and safety training expiration dates, directly from the professional's OPR profile. It will also allow the administrator to enter medical completion dates and background check expiration dates for the administrator to view and monitor compliance. Notifications will automatically be sent from the OPR to the professional and the administrator when a requirement is nearing a deadline and has not been completed.

An Organization Dashboard User Guide including information on the New Hire Checklist is available at <https://occrra.org/ohio-professional-registry/programadministrator/>.

SUTQ Updated Curriculum and Alignment Process - The following procedure letter has been published in eManuals: CC MPL 173 “Step Up To Quality Updated Curriculum and Alignment Process” and it is also attached. Effective July 1, 2024, programs will be required to align their curriculum with early learning and development standards. There's helpful information out there if you are using a purchased curriculum. Our department is working with ODE and curriculum developers to outline the alignment.

Questions –

In response to a question about the infant and toddler expansion grant applications, Trentae suggested providers reach out to the Help Desk (877-302-2347, option 4). Licensing specialists and supervisors don't have access to that information.

Trentae shared her screen to demonstrate where providers can sign up to receive child care updates: <https://jfs.ohio.gov/child-care/information-for-providers/receive-child-care-updates>

She also encouraged people to take time to become familiar with the newer website: <https://jfs.ohio.gov/child-care>

The following link can be used to access information on the Department of Children and Youth website:
<https://childrenandyouth.ohio.gov/for-providers>

As always, reach out to your licensing specialist or the help desk if you have questions. Thank you.

Preschool Promise - Ashley Marshall, Senior Director of Operations

Current providers should have received an email from her with a link to complete a survey/interest form for the 2024-2025 school year. There are some changes to how Preschool Promise will be doing provider applications. A separate request for expired documents will be sent to you. Also, current providers will receive an electronic signature page for the handbook; be sure to review the handbook before signing. Preschool Promise will provide updates through the spring and summer about being a provider next year.

Ashley noted that Preschool Promise is considering ending the star attendance program for students in the City of Dayton. Although it has resulted in a positive impact on attendance, it is not as impactful as desired. Therefore, alternatives are being considered.

We are excited about 24 providers looking for information on partnering with us and potentially increasing the number of children Preschool Promise can serve. We will be giving those providers information tonight and next week.

Lastly, Ashley encouraged everyone to educate themselves about Issue 6. Getting this passed will allow us to continue the services we provide.

Sandra thanked everyone for participating in the forum.
The meeting ended at 11:45 a.m.

Ohio Preschool Expulsion Prevention Partnership

Do you have a child who is no longer a good fit at your preschool?
Does this child's challenges put them at risk for expulsion?

Now, there's support available to you.

Nationwide Children's Hospital, in collaboration with the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, announces a new resource for licensed preschools and child care providers – the Ohio Preschool Expulsion Prevention Partnership at **1-844-678-ABCs (2227)**.

A call to 1-844-678-ABCs* (2227) will link you with an early childhood consultant in your area who can complete a consultation at your site within two business days. The consultant will:

- Observe and consult at your preschool
- Provide recommendations on specific classroom strategies and interventions designed to have an immediate impact
- Offer service recommendations and resources for your students and families, (including referrals to local mental health providers if necessary)
- Give recommendations for training and professional development
- Link you with free early childhood trainings

As you well know, every child deserves a high-quality, early education, but some children face significant challenges. Please call us if a child at your site can benefit from these services.

*The line is staffed from Monday-Thursday, 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Voicemail will be returned promptly on the next business day.



**GROW
POWER**
OHIO KIDS MATTER



WELLNESS & CONNECTION MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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Published: February 2024



"Hello and Welcome, thank you for including our Connection & Wellness Monthly Newsletter in your readings! The goal of this newsletter is to be informative and interactive as it relates to our students' wellness and resiliency, as well as the well-being of the adults that support them.

Please **subscribe** (at the link below) and provide your feedback, so together we can create a community that supports wellness and connection. Enjoy!

<https://forms.gle/JomExcNVivKysfto9>

This newsletter has been provided to you through the collaboration of OhioMHAS Whole Child Matters ODE-SST Expansion Project and State Support Team Region 10.

*Self-Reflection
of the
Month:*

*I am enough. I
know this
because...*



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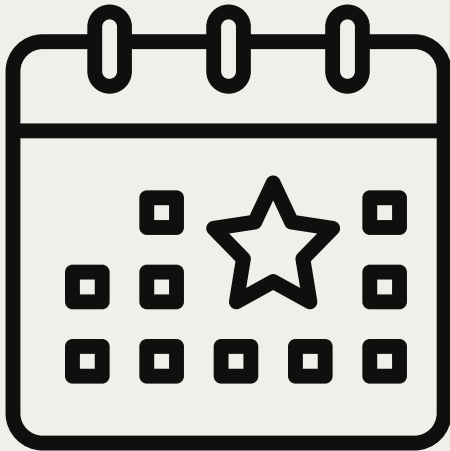
Dayton, OH 45431



Mental Health News & Tips

Important Dates to Consider:

*Click the [links below](#) to register for events and future dates



February ([International Boost Self-Esteem Month](#))

February 6th - [Safer Internet Day](#)

February 6th (1:00pm) - [Resilience and Racial Equity](#)

February 9th (9:00 - 11:00am) - [Relational Health Strategies for Improving Behavior in Early Childhood Classrooms](#)

February 13th (2:30-3:30pm) - [Organizational Wellness to Increase Student Wellbeing](#)

February 13th & 27th (8:00 - 8:30pm) - [Positive Parenting](#)

February 14th & 28th (1:00 - 1:30pm) - [Positive Parenting](#)

February 14th (3:00-4:00pm)- [Prevention: Substance Misuse and Mental Health](#)

February 16th to 23rd - [Random Acts of Kindness Week](#)

February 9th (9:00 - 11:00am) - [Relational Health Strategies for Improving Behavior in Early Childhood Classrooms](#)



Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education

Check out the “Advancing Equity in Early Childhood Education Position Statement” from the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC). Below are a few helpful tips to support creating an equitable space for play and learning for all children. Click the [link](#) to find more recommendations tailored to your specific role in Early Childhood Education.

1. **Build awareness and understanding** of your culture, personal beliefs, values and biases.
2. Recognize the power and benefits of **diversity and inclusivity**
3. **Take responsibility for biased actions**, even in unintended, and actively work to repair the harm.
4. Acknowledge and seek to understand **structural inequities and their impact over time**.
5. View your commitment to cultural responsiveness as an **ongoing process**.
6. Recognize that the **professional knowledge base is changing**.

Mental Wellness in Practice

sharing the 12 part series on: Combating Stress

STRESS

Thoughts Impact Behavior

Did you know that your thoughts can impact your behavior? Stress comes from our perception of a situation. Technically, the actual situation is not stressful; it is our **PERCEPTION** that makes it stressful.

The experience of stress is cyclical and includes thoughts, emotions, and behaviors.

Each component of stress impacts the other. If you can intervene at one of these points, you can stop the cycle of stress.



Sometimes it is easier to start by changing your thoughts, and here is one way to try this:

Practice "Thought Stopping"

- Step 1:** Notice your thoughts. Are they positive and helpful? Or negative and unhelpful?
- Step 2:** Use a trigger word to stop a negative and unhelpful thought.
- Step 3:** Replace that thought with a more helpful thought.

This is what it might look like:

1. You: "There is no point in trying"
2. You: STOP!
3. You: "This situation could be easier if I first talked with a friend, colleague, or other source of support."

CENTER FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH CONSULTATION
Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development



Funded by the Office of Head Start/ACE, DHHS (#90YD0268)

For more information about the 12 part series - Combating stress please visit :

https://www.iecmhc.org/documents/CECMHC_GraffitiPosters.pdf

Or reach out to your Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant to request a presentation of the series at khairston@greeneESC.org.

Community Resource Spotlight



Get Connected. Get Help.™

211 proudly serves as the “**boots on the ground, the local experts who make finding help easier**”. They have 200+ compassionate and highly trained agencies across the United States that are available 24/7/365 to help you, or a loved one, access the best local resources and services to address the need.

211 is available to provide support in the following areas along with several other needs that can be accessed by **DIALING 2-1-1** or visiting their website at: <https://www.211.org/>

Health

Healthcare Expenses
Mental Health
Substance Use

Paying bills

Housing Expenses
Utility Expenses

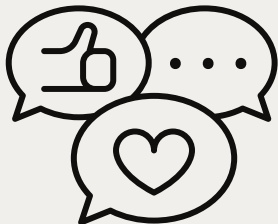
Food

Food Programs
& Benefits

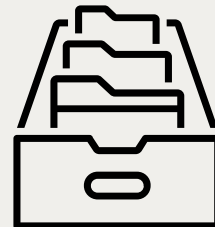
Crisis & Emergency

Disaster Recovery
& much more...

Searching for additional mental health resources in your area? Scan the QR Code below or click the **link**:



Don't forget to provide feedback & subscribe!



Click here to view last months Newsletter!



The Ohio Infant Mental Health CREDENTIAL



Our Goal

The goal of the Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential is to implement a set of nationally recognized skills and core competencies. These will be developmentally appropriate and anchored in relationship-based practices that support the needs of infants and caregivers to reach their greatest wellness.

Every early childhood system partner including providers of child care, early learning and education, home visiting, early intervention, maternal health, and infant and early childhood mental health plays a key role in the achievement of good infant/caregiver outcomes.

Ohio recognizes the need for early childhood system professionals to have specialized skills and training while working with Ohio's pregnant women, infants, and toddlers. As such, the Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential is accessible to all Ohio early childhood professionals and is leveled to the right scope of practice for each service-delivery system partner.



The Three Ohio Levels

- Ohio Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I)
- Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II)
- Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III (OIMHP - III)



“Babies thrive when communities support professionals with key skills they need to provide comprehensive, integrated care to ALL families. Working together, we build a solid foundation for life.”

– Erin Lucas, Early Childhood Programs Director, Hopewell Health Centers, Inc.

Ohio Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I)

I

SCREENING LEVEL

This is the Entry Level for the Ohio Infant Credential. An Ohio Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I) will perform screening functions and work within a defined early childhood role or position and scope of practice in a state program, funded agency, or other provider organization.

Ohio Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I) will provide primary screening and/or support services, identify and refer families to the appropriate system services. An Ohio Infant Family Affiliate supports positive parenting skills and overall child development and will follow-up with providers, parents, and caregivers on securing the necessary services and supports.

Professionals for this entry-level credential may include: community health worker, home visitor, medical assistant, child care provider, early intervention service coordinator, child protective or other case worker, resource and referral specialist, early learning professional or other licensed health practitioner.

The Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I) candidates must have documentation of a high school diploma, GED or Child Development Associate (CDA), or Associate degree or higher. Additionally, they should have two years of infant and early childhood work experience. In order to obtain the OIFA-I, candidates will complete 20 hours of required training. Participation in reflective practices or an appropriate learning community of practice is recommended.



Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II)

II

ASSESSMENT / EARLY INTERVENTION LEVEL

The Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II) is the Mid-Level Ohio Infant Credential. An Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II) will assess and intervene with families and work within a defined early childhood role or position, and scope of practice in a state program, funded agency, or other provider organization.

The Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II) will perform assessments and may begin interventions to enhance the social and emotional development of an infant through attention to the complex relationships and relational health between infants and their caregivers. In addition to attending to the relational health of families and infants, the Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II) will observe and enhance parenting skills, monitor the infant's development, assure connections to recommended system services, and follow-up with parents and caregivers on the progress of those identified necessary services and supports.

Professionals for this Mid-Level Credential may include: developmental specialist, infant toddler

specialist, occupational therapist, nurse, lactation consultant, child protective or other case worker, community health worker, home visitor, or mental health professional. The Ohio Infant Family Practitioner II candidates must have documentation of a Bachelor's degree or higher in Social Work, Nursing, Education, Counseling, Psychology or Occupational Therapy, or other licensed health practitioner. Additionally, they should have two years post bachelor's professional work experience with infants, toddlers, or caregivers. To obtain the OIFP-II, candidates will complete 30 hours of approved training. Participation in reflective practices and/or an appropriate community of learning practice is required.



Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III (OIMHP-III)

III

ASSESSMENT/TREATMENT/CONSULTATION LEVEL

The Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III (OIMHP-III) is the Highest-Level in the Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential. The Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III will assess and intervene, and/or mentor level I or II credentials. Additionally, it will work within a defined early childhood role or position in a state program, funded agency, or other provider organization.

The Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III (OIMHP-III) focus of practice is on the infant's mental health, relational health of the infant caregiver attachment and attunement, and infant and family assessment. The Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III will develop or review individual, educational or family service plans, or provide mentoring and guidance to a practitioner or interdisciplinary team. He/she/they may provide mental health consultation, mental health assessment or testing, and/or treatment at the individual, family, classroom, programmatic, or system levels.

Professionals for the Highest-Level Credential may include: infant early childhood mental health consultants, infant early childhood mental health professionals, pediatric mental health

nurses and/or pediatric physician assistants, occupational therapists, psychologists, physicians, or advance practice primary care clinicians. The Ohio Infant Mental Health Specialist-III must have documentation of a Master's degree or higher in Social Work, Nursing, Education, Counseling, Psychology or Occupational Therapy, MD or DO as Doctor of Medicine or Osteopathy, or other Pediatric, or Women's Health Advance Practice degree or other licensed health practitioner; and two years postgraduate supervised experience providing culturally and trauma competent care with infants, toddlers and their primary caregivers. To obtain the OIMHP- III, candidates will complete 40 hours of required training. Participation in reflective practices, and/or an appropriate community of learning practice is required.



The Three Ohio Levels

- Education
- Work Experience
- Training
- References
- Code of Ethics
- Self-Reflective Assessment Checklist
- Reflective Practices
- Ohio Professional Registry/OPR

Ohio Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I) Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II) Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III (OIMHP-III)

OIFA-I

High School Diploma, GED, CDA or an Associate degree or higher

Two Years infant/early childhood work experience

20 Hours required
Relationship based training; on SE child development, maternal or infant health screening tools

Two Professional References
1. Current Supervisor
2. Colleague, service recipient

Signed and submitted

Supervisory verification

Recommended

Profile created

OIFP-II

Bachelor's degree or higher

Two Years infant/early childhood work experience

30 Hours required
Relationship based training; on infant SE development, maternal health, trauma EB interventions

Two Professional References
1. Current Supervisor
2. Professional colleague

Signed and submitted

Supervisory verification

Recommended

Profile created

OIMHP-III

Master's degree or higher

Two Years post graduate work experience

40 Hours required
Training in infant mental health, neurodevelopment, infant-family assessment trauma, EB treatment

Two Professional References
1. Current Supervisor
2. Former teacher/supervisor

Signed and submitted

Supervisory verification

Recommended

Profile created

The Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential Core Knowledge and Competency Content Areas



**Ohio Infant Family Affiliate I
OIFA Level I**
Screening

Child Growth and Development

Ohio Early Learning and Development Standards

Social and Emotional Development

Learning Environment and Experiences

Principles of Brain Development

'Serve and Return'

Developmental Play /Environments

Child Observation and Family Screening

HMG/EI Eligibility Assessment/Referral

Disabilities Risk Factors

Maternal Depression Screen

ASQ / ASQ-SE

Health, Safety and Nutrition

Child Abuse/Neglect

ACES

Family and Community Relations

Family Centered Practices

Cultural and Linguistic Competencies

Community Resources SUTO, EI, ECMH, CPS

Professionalism

Reflective Practices



**Ohio Infant Family Practitioner II
OIFP Level II**
Assessment / Early Intervention

Infant Growth and Development

Zero to Three Competencies

Approach to Learning / Cognition

Disabilities Risk Factors

Assessment

Infant Toddler Assessments

Service Planning

ASD/ FASD / NAS / NBO / FTT / Attachment

Eco-Mapping

Routine Based Interviews

Early Intervention

Sensory Processing Supports

Family Supports / Behavioral Strategies

OT, PT, SP, ECMH, IEP

Cultural and Linguistic Competency

Social Determinants of Health (SDOH)

Trauma Responsive Care ACES /Toxic Stress

Cultural, Religious & Social Norms

Family and Community Relations

Family Centered Practices

Community Resources SUTO, EI, ECMH, CPS

Professional Development

Reflective Practices / Community of Learners



**Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner III
OIMHP Level III**
Assessment / Treatment / Consultation

Social Emotional Growth and Development

Zero to Three Competencies

Neonatal Development and Risk Factors

Assessment

Infant Mental Health Assessment

Infant Parent Caregiver Relationship Assessment

Family Relational Assessment

Eco-Mapping

ASD/ FASD / NAS / NBO / FTT / Attachment

Intervention /Treatment

IECMH Consultation- Child /Family /Classroom

IECMH Treatment EBP CPP, PCIT, TIC-PCIT, PTSD

Multi-Disciplinary Treatment Planning

Cultural and Linguistic Competency

Trauma Responsive and Competent Care

Cultural, Religious and Social Norms Applied

SAMHSA CLAS Standards

Family and Community Relations

Family Centered Practices and Engaging Families in Care

in Care

Understanding the Social Determinants of Health

Professional Development

Reflective Practices Community of Learners/Mentoring



The Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential Embraces Core Professional Practices and Values

Initial Application:

Every Applicant for an Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential will submit all required documentation to the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) with required OPIN number on the forms provided electronically through OCCRRA.

Renewal:

Every two years renewal of the Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential will require completion of 15 hours in the core competency areas with at least one hour in each core competency content area.

Supervision:

Administrative Supervision is an expectation across all Ohio's early childhood professional communities. Staff participation in administrative supervision is guided by professional, program or other articulated agency or licensure guidelines.

Reflective Practices:

Reflective Practices is Ohio's preferred modality for practitioners delivering services in early childhood. Reflective practice is founded in relationship-based principles and require skilled mentors, coaches or supervisors to support reflective practice. Ohio invests in training for reflective practices and supervision. Where there are gaps in availability, programs can reach out to early childhood system partners to increase reflective practice access.

Learning Community:

The Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential supports participation in an appropriate “Community of Learners” practice. Recognized infant and early childhood communities of learners will be hosted regionally by approved partners and is accessible through early childhood agencies. Applications for renewal of levels II and III will need documentation of reflective supervision or community of learner participation uploaded to their OPR profile.

Listing of Credential:

Once approved, applicants may add the appropriate “Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential” to their title or signature as follows: Ohio Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I); Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II); or Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III (OIMHP-III). The Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential may or may not satisfy requirements for nationally recognized infant mental health endorsements or certifications.

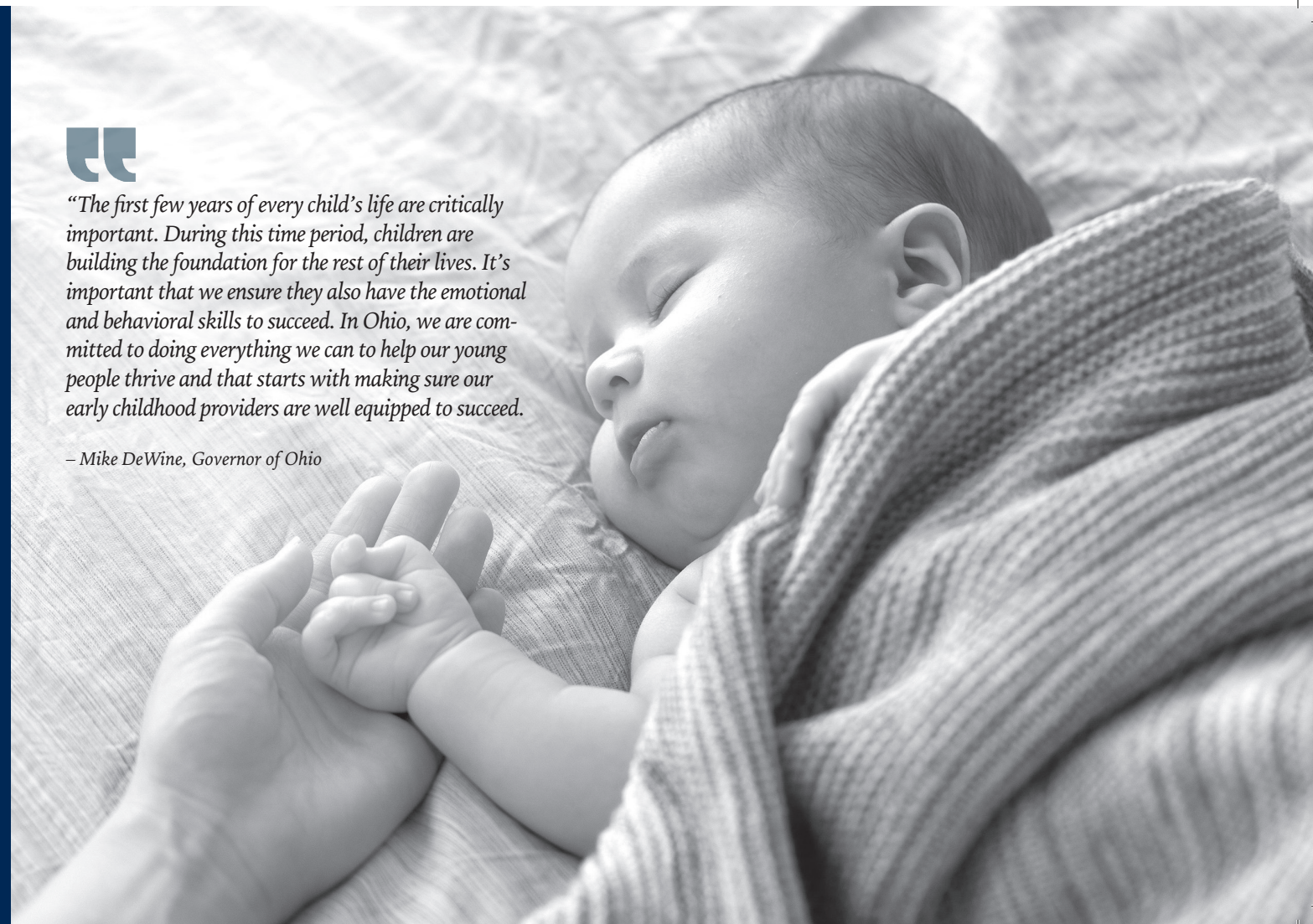
Privacy/Complaints:

Individuals with an Ohio Infant Credential – Infant Family Associate Level I, Infant Family Practitioner Level II or Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III- are to adhere to their agency policies and procedures governing the protection of health information. Any concerns, complaints or incidents filed about staff will be referred to the proper agency of employment, or state licensing board for review and disposition. Remedy, suspension, or revocation of any Ohio Credential will be at the discretion and direction of the agency of employment and/or state licensing board governing scope of practice. Appeals will follow the same process.



“The first few years of every child’s life are critically important. During this time period, children are building the foundation for the rest of their lives. It’s important that we ensure they also have the emotional and behavioral skills to succeed. In Ohio, we are committed to doing everything we can to help our young people thrive and that starts with making sure our early childhood providers are well equipped to succeed.”

– Mike DeWine, Governor of Ohio





**The Ohio Infant
Mental Health
CREDENTIAL**



Department of Mental Health and
Addiction Services

30 East Broad Street, 36th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
877-275-6364



MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



JON HUSTED
LT. GOVERNOR OF OHIO

www.Governor.Ohio.gov



Ohio Department of Children and Youth
Early Childhood Mental Health
Training Institute
Fiscal Year 2024, 3rd Quarter
January 1st-March 31st
Training Bulletin



OHIO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

WHOLE CHILD MATTERS
EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH

MASTER TRAINERS' BULLETIN
OF
EVIDENCED – BASED PRACTICES
AND
NATIONAL MODELS
QUARTER 3 FISCAL YEAR 2024
January 1st- March 31st

Acknowledgements:

Maureen S. Black, Ph.D., IECMH Workforce Development Consultant
Misty Cole, MSW, LSW Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Administrator
Ashlynn Jarvis, Training Support Specialist



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Welcome

Welcome to the Ohio Department of Children and Youth, Early Childhood Mental Health (ECMH) Training Bulletin. This bulletin contains Ohio Approved Trainings conducted through the Ohio Department of Children and Youth, ECMH Training Institute for Ohio's Early Childhood Mental Health Professionals.

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Overview

Early relationships and experiences at home and in other environments set the stage for how a child learns to manage his or her emotions. The Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) provides cross-system leadership through its Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health (IECMH) initiative that supports evidence-based training to equip parents and professionals across multiple systems with the skills to help children develop into mentally healthy individuals. Parents, teachers, and other professionals who effectively nurture, support and connect with young children, especially those experiencing social or emotional difficulty, can ameliorate future disabling problems.

The IECMH initiative is aimed at promoting healthy social and emotional development (i.e., good mental health) of young children (birth to six years). It focuses on ensuring children thrive by addressing behavioral health care needs, which increases their readiness for school and later academic success. This is accomplished by building protective factors in young children's lives and increasing competencies and skills of parents and professionals working with children and families. Much of the development and implementation of the Ohio IECMH program has been built upon the research and resources available from the Georgetown University Center for Child and Human Development.

The Historic 2019 EC Systems Conference

Ohio's 2019 Early Childhood Cross Systems Conference was truly historic. Each of Ohio's Early Childhood state agencies collaborated for the first time to offer a fully integrated systems approach early childhood conference. Each day an agency took the lead and sponsored mental health, disability and health specific sessions. There were cross-systems sessions designed to promote increased collaboration and improved outcomes among all early childhood professionals. In addition to the keynotes, participants were inspired by remarks from the new state agency leadership and participated in an interactive early childhood Wellness Fair. Sponsoring state agencies included the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Medicaid, Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services and the Ohio Department of Education.

<https://mha.ohio.gov/Schools-and-Communities/Educators/Early-Childhood-Mental-health/Conferences>

Whole Child Matters: Early Childhood Mental Health Initiative and Ohio Preschool Expulsion Prevention Partnership

The foundations of sound mental health are built early in life. State grants to regional providers enable counselors to work with teachers, staff and families of at-risk children in preschools and other early learning settings. The Whole Child Matters initiative promotes a strong mental health foundation for children to reduce preschool and kindergarten expulsions. Services include on-site interventions and child/family-focused assistance to parents, teachers and staff. Call the Ohio Preschool Expulsion Prevention Partnership at 1-844-678-ABCs (2227) to find a provider in your county.

Ohio's Early Childhood Mental Health Training Institute

Ohio's ECMH Training Institute is designed to share best practices with the field and provide professional development opportunities to early childhood mental health (ECMH) professionals seeking the Ohio

ECMH Credential. The purpose and goal of the training institute is to prepare ECMH professionals to deliver quality service to early learning centers and families; and to ensure providers have competency in the six domains of ECMH: Social and Emotional Growth and Development, Family and Community Relations, Assessment, Interventions, Professional Development, Cultural and Linguistic Competency. The Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA) manages the IECMH provider's profile, processes applications for all Ohio's early childhood credentials through the Ohio Professional Registry and hosts Ohio Approved (OA) Training data.

The Master Trainer Role

Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services Bureau of Children, Youth and Families provides funding for up to seven master trainers to provide statewide training and technical assistance to infant and early childhood mental health counselors and consultants. The goal is to get the “right care, to the right children, at the right time” early enough to make the difference in their education and future success by deploying Ohio's experts in infant and early childhood mental health to reduce and eliminate preschool to kindergarten expulsions. The position is designed to increase capacity of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Professionals statewide to provide rapid response to early learning settings when parents, teachers or program directors have a need for help to stabilize a student's emotional or behavioral classroom adjustment.

Meet the Master Trainers



Lynn Belhorn, B.S., Nationwide Children's Hospital Lynn is employed by Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus as a regional Master Trainer, serving 17 counties in the Central Ohio area through the Whole Child Matters Grant. She has 35+ years of experience in a variety of public and private settings, providing early childhood education and community prevention services in early childhood mental health. Lynn's work has included direct services with toddlers through school-aged children, supervision, coordination and program administration. Lynn.belhorn@nationwidechildrens.org



Katy Carpenter, MSW, LISW-S, Nationwide Children's Hospital Katy is currently a regional master trainer and an Early Childhood Mental Health consultant for Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, OH. Katy received her Bachelor of Social Work from Indiana University and her Master of Science in Social Work from University of Louisville. Katy began working in the field in 2016 in a therapeutic day treatment program for children ages 3-5 with severe trauma and behavioral needs. Katy then provided outpatient therapy for children and families for 2 years before becoming an Early Childhood Mental Health consultant in 2019. Katy is regional master trainer under the Whole Child Matters Grant and continues to provide consultation and prevention services in the Columbus area. Katy currently holds her ECMH credential and is an independently licensed social worker. Katlin.Carpenter@nationwidechildrens.org



James (Jim) Flynn, MSSA, LISW-S, Positive Education Program. James Flynn has been working in the field of mental health for 32 years and in the past 21 years his practice has been almost exclusively in the field of Early Childhood Mental Health. He has held the positions of mental health therapist, medical social worker, clinical supervisor, classroom consultant and parent resource consultant. He is currently a master trainer for the State of Ohio under the Whole Child Matters Grant and the Director of Early Childhood Plus for the Positive Education Program in Cleveland. James has a master’s degree in Social Service Administration from the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences. James is a Licensed Independent Social Worker with a supervisory designation, and he has certifications in Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation and Infant Mental Health through the State of Ohio. He recently completed his phase two level certification in the Neurosequential Model of Therapeutics. jflynn@pepcleve.org



Marci Cullivan, BSAS, MSW, EMCH, OPCSA, Alta Care Group. After graduating Youngstown State University with degrees in Education, prekindergarten teaching, as well as Family Studies and Psychology, Marci began working in the early childhood mental health field as an Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant. This includes working with children, families, and early care and education professionals with a focus on adult resiliency and building capacity in order to enhance children’s social, emotional, and behavioral health. She is currently a Master Trainer under the Whole Child Matters Initiative through DCY, whereby she provides social, emotional, and behavioral trainings to early childhood staff, ECMH staff, and parents of young children. MarciM@ALTACAREGROUP.org



Rachael Theis, B.S., Children’s Resource Center
Rachael is a credentialed Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant and Master Trainer with Children’s Resource Center in Bowling Green, OH. She moved into the mental health field as a consultant in 2008 and has since been assisting teachers in the Northwest Region of the state by providing professional training in Early Childhood Social and Emotional Development. Rachael@rcwoodcounty.org



Ava T. Lucky, MSW, LSW, ECMH-C, OIMHP--III
Ava has nearly 30 years’ experience supporting children, families and caregivers in early care and education. Throughout her employment, Ava has worked as a teacher, supervisor, licensed center administrator and has provided professional development training to licensed center-based and family childcare professionals. For the past 8 years, Ava has supported children and caregivers to foster targeted social & emotional developmental needs in homes, early learning environments and throughout communities in Northeast Ohio. “It is my privilege to serve child serving professionals across Ohio as Master Trainer.” Ava holds social work degrees from Ursuline College, Cleveland State University, and a Graduate Certificate in Early Intervention from Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies. Ava is employed as Trainer/Consultant at Positive Education Program in Cleveland, Ohio. alucky@pepcleve.org



Colleen Wallace, M.S., Nationwide Children’s Hospital. Colleen is employed by Nationwide Children’s hospital, Columbus as a regional Master Trainer and IECMH Consultant, serving 17 counties in the Central Ohio area through the Whole Child Matters Grant. She has 20+ years of experience, providing early childhood education and community prevention services in early childhood mental health. Colleen is particularly interested in the topics of relationship and connection but provides training on a variety of other topics. Colleen currently holds the Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III (OIMHP-III) credential in the state of Ohio.

Colleen.Wallace@nationwidechildrens.org

Meet the New Master Trainers

Ikeshia Smith, PsyD, LSW is an IECMH Consultant and Master Trainer for Hopewell Health Centers, Inc. in Southeastern, Ohio. Dr. Smith specializes in providing trauma-informed, evidence-based treatment and psychological assessment services for children and their families. In addition, Dr. Smith works as an independent contractor for a group practice located in Mentor, Ohio, conducts mental health presentations in churches that services minority communities, and participates in local and state initiatives to promote equity and inclusion among disenfranchised communities and mental health professionals of color. Dr. Smith has a background working in child protective services, home health, and crisis stabilization. Dr. Smith graduated from Kent State University with her Bachelor of Science in Human Development and Family Studies in 2009, Case Western Reserve University with her Master of Social Science in Administration in 2016 and earned her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Capella University in 2021. Dr. Smith completed an APA-accredited internship with Hopewell Health Centers and postdoctoral training through Ohio Guidestone with her placement at Cleveland Public Schools. She enjoys watching horror movies, traveling, basketball and track & field, and spending time with her nephew. Ikeshia.Smith@hopewellhealth.org



Erin Finley, LISW-S is an Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Coordinator and Master Trainer for Hopewell Well Centers, Inc. in Southeastern, Ohio. Erin has provided Southeastern Ohio with mental health services for the past 8 years; serving as a case manager, school-based therapist, Infant and Early Childhood Therapist/ Consultant, clinical supervisor, and coordinator. Erin is certified to provide Parent Child Interaction Therapy and Child Parent Psychotherapy. In addition, she is trained in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing Therapy, holds an Early Childhood Mental Health Credential, Infant Mental Health Level III Credential, and Trauma Informed Care Credential. Erin graduated with her bachelor's and master's degree from Ohio University in Athens. She currently resides in Noble County with her 2-year-old son. Erin.Finley@hopewellhealth.org



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FY2024 Quarter 3 Training Institute Scheduled Trainings
Training Descriptions are available on OCCRRA.org

In response to Covid 19, many professional development and training opportunities are being offered in an online platform (ZOOM). Please check the Ohio Professional Registry at occrra.org

Date	Title	Time	ST#	Trainer	Hrs	
1/3/2024	FQHC DECA Day 1	9AM-4PM		Private training	Rachael Theis	6
1/3/2024	Leadership and the culture of communication: Showing up as leaders	1PM-2:30PM		ST10140313	Marci Cullivan and Jamie Barone	1.5
1/4/2024	Toxic Stress to Safe Zone Level 2: Becoming a Trauma Informed Early Learning Professional	8:30AM-11:30AM		ST10140445	Lynn Belhorn	3
1/9/2024	Building Resilient Classrooms – Session #6- Empathy	6PM-9PM		ST10139979	Colleen Wallace	3
1/10/2024	Exploring& Understanding Behavior Through the Context of Sensory Systems	12:30PM-2:30PM		ST10139929	Lynn Belhorn	2
1/10/2024	Leadership: Who we are is how we lead: empathy, values, and feedback	1PM-2:30PM		ST10140314	Marci Cullivan and Jamie Barone	1.5
1/11/2024	Protecting Play	8:30AM-10:30AM		ST10140234	Lynn Belhorn	2
1/11/2024	Foundations in Infant Mental Health (synchronous)	9AM-11:30AM		ST 10140315	Marci Cullivan and Jamie Barone	2.5
1/16/2024	Mastering the Consultative Stance: Session 4	10:30AM-12PM		ST10137449	Rachael Theis	1.5
1/17/2024	DECA Day 1	9AM-4PM		ST10139234	Trainer Team	6
1/18/2024	DECA Day 2	9AM-4PM		ST10139234	Trainer Team	6
1/23/2024	Building Resilient Classrooms – Session #7 – Positive Intent	6PM-8PM		ST10139980	Colleen Wallace	2
1/24/2024	Standards in the Context of Developmentally Appropriate Practice: Preschool (Virtual)	12:30PM-3:30PM		ST10140435	Ava Lucky	3
1/24/2024	Leading, Encouraging and Developing Resilient Early Learning Environments	9AM-12PM		ST10139931	Lynn Belhorn	3
1/24/2024	Leadership and the culture of communication: Showing up as leaders	1PM-2:30PM		ST10140317	Marci Cullivan and Jamie Barone	1.5
1/25/2024	Prescriptions for Preventing Power Struggles	9AM-11:30AM		ST10140319	Marci Master-Cullivan and Jamie Barone	2.5
1/26/2024	EI training: The Growing Brain	8AM-11AM		TBD	Rachael Theis	3
1/27/2024	You Are Amazing!	9AM-11AM		ST10140436	Ava Lucky	2

1/30/2024	Practicing Mindfulness	2PM-3:30PM	ST10140325	Marci Master-Cullivan and Jamie Barone	2.5
1/31/2024	Recognizing and Respecting Individual Differences	12PM-2:30PM	ST10140077	Lynn Belhorn & Colleen Wallace	2.5
1/31/2024	Understanding Implicit Bias	9AM-12PM	Pending OCCRRA Approval: https://forms.office.com/r/31zcnK7pgW	Rachael Theis	3
2/7/2024	Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Early Childhood Classrooms	9AM-12PM	ST10140437	Ava Lucky	3
2/7/2024	Stress Management for the Caring Professional	12:30PM-3PM	ST10140321	Marci Master-Cullivan and Jamie Barone	2.5
2/8/2024	I'm Not Your Friend: Bullying in Preschool	6PM-9PM	ST10140439	Ava Lucky	3
2/9/2024	EI training: Maternal Mental Health	9AM-11:30AM	TBD	Rachael Theis	2.5
2/13/2024	Ohio Model Day 1	9AM-4PM	ST10139589	Trainer Team	6
2/15/2024	Ohio Model Day 2	9AM-4PM	ST 10139590	Trainer Team	6
2/19/2024	Building Attachment and Attunement Using Social Play in Infant and Toddler Classrooms	9AM-12PM	ST10139592	Colleen Wallace	3
2/19/2024	Exploring & Understanding Behavior Through the Context of Sensory Systems	10AM-12PM	ST10139628	Katlin Carpenter	2
2/19/2024	Prescriptions for Preventing Power Struggles	1PM-3:30PM	ST10139605	Lynn Belhorn	2.5
2/20/2024	Mastering the Consultative Stance: Session 5	10:30AM-12PM	ST10137449	Rachael Theis	1.5
2/21/2024	Standards in the Context of Developmentally Appropriate Practice: Infant and Toddler (Virtual)	6PM-9PM	ST10140440	Ava Lucky	3
2/21/2024	Exploring & Understanding Behavior Through the Context of Sensory Systems	5PM-7PM	ST10140453	Lynn Belhorn	2
2/23/2024	EI training: The Growing Brain	8AM-11AM	TBD	Rachael Theis	3
2/24/2024	Toxic Stress to Safe Zone: Responding to How Trauma Impacts Behavior	9AM-12PM	ST10140451	Lynn Belhorn	3
2/26/2024	Igniting Your Inner Happiness	9AM-12PM	ST10140455	Ava Lucky	3
2/27/2024	Resilience: Reorienting and Re-calibrating in Times of Uncertainty	9AM-10:30AM	ST10140454	Lynn Belhorn	1.5
2/29/2024	Bridging the Generation Gap	3PM-6PM	ST10140452	Lynn Belhorn	3
2/29/2024	FQHC Ohio Model Day 2	9AM-4PM	Private training	Rachael Theis	6
3/4/2024	Understanding & Respecting Individual Differences	12PM-2:30PM	ST10140496	Lynn Belhorn	2.5

3/5/2024	Attachment: The Basics-Beyond the Hugs and Kisses	9AM-12PM	ST10140409	Katlin Carpenter	3
3/5/2024	Standards in the Context of Developmentally Appropriate Practice: Preschool (Virtual)	12:45PM-3:45PM	ST10140456	Ava Lucky	3
3/8/2024	Child Abuse & Neglect, Identification Prevention and Reporting Online: Synchronous	9AM-4PM	ST10140457	Ava Lucky	6
3/8/2024	EI training: Understanding Implicit Bias	9AM-12PM	TBD	Rachael Theis	3
3/9/2024	Toxic Stress to Safe Zone: Becoming a Trauma-Informed Early Learning Professional	8:30AM-11:30AM	ST10140497	Lynn Belhorn	3
3/11/2024	Building Resilient Classrooms – Session #1- Intro to Brain	6PM-8PM	ST10139981	Colleen Wallace	2
3/11/2024	You Are Amazing!	6PM-8PM	ST10140458	Ava Lucky	2
3/13/2024	Supporting Secure Attachment in Early Learning Environments	3PM-6PM	ST10140498	Lynn Belhorn	3
3/14/2024	Where Boys Are 3.0	6PM-9PM	ST10139982	Colleen Wallace	3
3/14/2024	What Can the Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant Do for You?	10AM-11:30AM	ST10140410	Katlin Carpenter	1.5
3/15/2024	Emotional and Social Safety in the Workplace (synchronous)	9AM-11:30AM	ST10140459	Ava Lucky	2.5
3/15/2024	Toxic Stress to Safe Zone	9AM-12PM	TBD	Rachael Theis	3
3/15/2024	Supporting Caregiver Mental Health	1PM-4PM	TBD	Rachael Theis	3
3/18/2024	Building Resilient Classrooms – Session #2- Composure	6PM-8PM	ST10139981	Colleen Wallace	2
3/19/2024	Mastering the Consultative Stance: Session 6	10:30AM-12 PM	ST10137449	Rachael Theis	1.5
3/21/2024	FLIP IT!	9AM-4PM	ST10140021	Lynn Belhorn & Katy Carpenter	6
3/22/2024	Understanding Implicit Bias	9AM-12PM	TBD	Rachael Theis	3
3/25/2024	Leading, Encouraging and Developing Resilient Early Learning Environments	12PM-3PM	ST10140499	Lynn Belhorn	3
3/27/2024	Exploring & Understanding Behavior Through the Context of Sensory Systems	10AM-12PM	ST10140411	Katlin Carpenter	2
3/27/2024	Prescriptions for Preventing Power Struggles (Synchronous)	9AM-11:30AM	ST10140460	Ava Lucky	2.5
3/27/2024	Prescriptions for Preventing Power Struggles	5PM-7:30PM	ST10140495	Lynn Belhorn	2.5
3/29/2024	EI Training: The Growing Brain	8AM-11PM	TBD	Rachael Theis	3

Ohio Professional Registry

The Ohio Professional Registry is a centralized information system for early childhood and afterschool professionals. Ohio's web based professional registry allows professionals to document and track their career growth and accomplishments as well as to search and register for training opportunities offered statewide.

OCCRRA also coordinates the Early Childhood Mental Health and Ohio Infant Mental Health Credentials processes, as well as the "Ohio Approved" process for professional development opportunities. The goal is to ensure early learning and afterschool professionals receive high-quality professional development to maximize the learning and development of children in their care. Visit your Registry profile to apply to be an Ohio Approved Instructor, create a Training Organization, and submit professional development for Ohio Approval.

Get Started

To get started, create a profile, upload your supporting documents and be recognized for your experience, education, credentials and training in the Ohio Professional Registry. Follow the new user guide to learn how to document your employment, education and training to fulfill Ohio's Early Childhood Mental Health and Infant Mental Health credentialing requirements.

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant Credential

The Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) Program objectives are to build protective factors in young children (from birth to six years of age who are at risk for abuse, neglect, and poor social/emotional health), increase skills of parents and promote the competencies of early childhood providers. IECMHC targets the healthy social and emotional development of all young children in Ohio to ensure they thrive and achieve success in school. Consultation requires practitioners to have formal preparations, certifications and licensure in children's mental health and experience working with young children and their families.

Since 2000, Ohio has recommended that IECMH practitioners be licensed mental health professionals. Everyone applying for an IECMH Credential will need to complete a personal profile in the *Ohio Child Care Resources and Referral Association's* (OCCRRA) Professional Development Registry. If already completed, you would not have to reenter for the credential. You will need your OPIN number and to have met the Core Competencies course requirements.

Please note, to obtain the IECMHC, the Ohio Model of Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation and the Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA) trainings are required. An additional fifteen hours of training must be completed in the following areas: social emotional growth and development, family & community relations, assessment, interventions, and cultural and linguistic competency. Please visit <https://occrra.org/ohio-professional-registry/early-childhood-mental-health/> for complete guidance.

Ohio Infant Mental Health (OIMH) Credential - Established March 2020

The launch of the Ohio Infant Mental Health (OIMH) Credential expands our formalized specialization and certification of the IECMH professions in Ohio. The overarching purpose of this OIMH credential is endorsed by the Governor's Office to achieve the Goal of implementing a set of nationally recognized skills and core competencies that will be developmentally appropriate and anchored in relationship-based practices that support the needs of infants and caregivers to reach their greatest wellness.

The Three (3) OIMH Credential Levels are Ohio Infant Family Affiliate Level I (OIFA-I) Ohio Infant Family Practitioner Level II (OIFP-II) Ohio Infant Mental Health Practitioner Level III (OIMHP - III). Every early childhood system partner including providers of childcare, early learning and education, home visiting, early intervention, maternal health, and infant and early childhood mental health plays a key role in the achievement of good infant/caregiver outcomes. Ohio recognizes the need for early childhood system professionals to have specialized

skills and training while working with Ohio’s pregnant women, infants, and toddlers. As such, the Ohio Infant Mental Health Credential is accessible to all Ohio early childhood professionals and is leveled to the right scope of practice for each service-delivery system partner. <https://mha.ohio.gov/Schools-and-Communities/Educators/Early-Childhood-Mental-Health/Infant-Mental-Health-Credential>

IECMHC Resources

Devereux

Tools & Recourses for Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultants

<https://centerforresilientchildren.org/iecmhc/>

Devereux Professional Development Opportunities

<https://centerforresilientchildren.org/dcrc-professional-development/>

Devereux Center for Resilient Children (DCRC) Resources

<https://centerforresilientchildren.org/free-resources/>

Georgetown University

Center of Excellence for Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation

<https://www.iecmhc.org/virtual-trainings-portal/>

Yale University

Yale School of Medicine Child Study Center Webinar Calendar

<https://medicine.yale.edu/childstudy/search/?entityType=Event&calendar=childstudy>

Additional Training Resources: Infant Mental Health Credential Online Trainings

Below are available **Asynchronous** Trainings (online, pre-recorded, not delivered in real time)

Title	OCCRRA ST#	Training Author
Building Resiliency in Infants, Young Children, and Their Caregivers	ST10120224	Misty Cole
Failure to Thrive (FTT) What Touch Can Do (Tiers II & III)	ST10108144	William Mosier
IECMH Assessment: What’s Out There and How It Benefits Treatment (Tiers II & III)	ST10120461	Dr. Jennifer Lackey Misty Cole
Infant Mental Health: Cognition Growth and Development (Tiers II & III)	ST10116372	Ross Nunamaker
Infant Mental Health Interventions & Treatment Modalities (Tier III)	ST10108141	Erin Lucas
Supporting Families & Caregivers w/Infants that Have Complex Needs (Tiers II & III)	ST10108103	Grace Schoessow
Why Race Matters in IMH Outcomes (Tiers I, II & III)	ST10108142	Dr. Janeece Warfield
Why Place Matters in IMH Outcomes (Tiers I, II & III)	ST10108149	Jon Kinsel
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (Tiers II & III)	ST10124032	Maria Jirousek
Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome: Prenatal to Four Months (Tiers II & III)	ST10120517	Visiting Presenter
Toxic Stress to Safe Zone (Tiers II & III)	ST1018152	Misty Cole

Maintaining Your Record

Each time you complete training, acquire education and credentials, or change employment, please update your professional profile as soon as possible. Be sure to upload required documentation for verification after changes are made.

Contact the Ohio Professional Registry <https://ocrra.org/our-resources-page/>
• Phone: (614) 396-5959 • Toll-free: (877) 547-6978 • Email: credential@ocrra.org

Whole Child Matters Partner Agencies

Ohio Partnership to Prevent Preschool Expulsion Hotline: 1-844-678-2227 The Whole Child Matters initiative promotes a strong mental health foundation for children in an effort to reduce preschool and kindergarten expulsions. Services include on-site interventions and child/family-focused help to parents, teachers and staff. For more information, please visit <https://mha.ohio.gov/static/Portals/0/assets/SchoolsAndCommunities/Educators/NACH-2730-Preschool-Expulsion+flier07ee.pdf>

Alcohol, Addiction, and Mental Health Boards (ADAMH) Ohio has a county-operated, state supervised behavioral health system made up of area behavioral health authorities, or boards. These boards plan, evaluate, and fund mental health and addiction services locally. The boards contract with a wide range of providers for prevention, treatment and recovery support for their community members. For your county's information, please visit <https://mha.ohio.gov/community-partners/adamh-boards>

For a full list of Ohio's Whole Child Matters' Partners, please visit <https://mha.ohio.gov/community-partners/early-childhood-children-and-youth/early-childhood-mental-health/whole-child-matters-map>

Contact Training Institute Administrative Staff

Misty Cole, MSW, LSW, IECMH Administrator

Misty.cole@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov

Maureen Black, Ph.D., IECMH Workforce Development Consultant

Maureen.black@mha.ohio.gov

TRIPLE P ONLINE

Help your child to manage challenges

FREE
In OHIO

Support your child's emotional wellbeing, and yours too

We all face challenges sometimes. But there are positive ways to handle them! Positive parenting skills and strategies make a big difference to your child's development and wellbeing. And that can have a far-reaching impact on their life, and yours.

Why Triple P works

The Triple P – Positive Parenting Program is one of the world's best. Backed by more than 330 trials and studies, Triple P gives you proven parenting strategies that will help you develop your child's talents and life-skills—so they can be happy, confident, and successful. In the meantime, your home life will be happier, with rules followed, relationships stronger, and parents who are much less stressed.

Now, there's Triple P Online, so you can set your own parenting goals, learning step-by-step whenever you like. It'll help you:

- Build a stronger bond with your child
- Support your child's life skills
- Encourage positive behavior and cooperation
- Use consistent strategies to manage bedtime and screen time battles
- Respond to problem behavior effectively, without yelling
- Take care of yourself and enjoy being a parent

START TODAY – IT'S COMPLETELY FREE!!

Right now, this world-class program is available FREE in Ohio, and you can do it all online!

Register now: triplep-parenting.com/ohio



Free access to Triple P Online for Ohio parents has been funded by the Ohio Children's Trust Fund, and Department of Job and Family Services.



Ohio

Department of
Job and Family Services



Ohio Children's Trust Fund
Ohio's Prevent Child Abuse America Chapter



Issue 6 - March 19 on the ballot in the City of Dayton

In 2016 Dayton voters approved a ¼% earned income tax for safety and neighborhood services.
Renewal this year is essential to continue the vital services we need, with no tax increase.


- Funding to continue Preschool Promise
- Police, fire, and EMS protection
- Road resurfacing, park upgrades, and vacant lot cleanup
- Affordable housing services and investments for renters and homeowners



Vote by March 19th!

- ★ Does not raise taxes
- ★ Does not tax Social Security, Pensions, interest, or investments.
- ★ More than half the revenue comes from commuters, not residents.
- ★ If you pay local income taxes outside Dayton, you get a tax credit for it here.

ProtectDaytonsFuture.org




Department of Children & Youth

Our Mission
The Ohio Department of Children and Youth's mission is to promote positive, lifelong outcomes for Ohio youth through early intervention, quality education, and family support programs.


1

Principles and Goals


The following principles serve as the foundation for the Department's approach and operations.




Transparency
Create transparency across programs utilizing cross-program data



Accountability
Create accountability to ensure children are receiving services when needed with the intended outcomes



Focus & Prioritization
Continued focus and prioritization for children from birth to age 21, both in policy and funding




Local Structure
Foster collaboration to ensure strong child and family outcomes but local structure remains a local decision

GOALS


- Help more children thrive and reach their first birthday.
- Ensure continuity of care across the spectrum of ages, stages, and services to help children and youth succeed.
- Help provide families with needed resources and supports proactively, before a crisis within the family occurs.

2




DCY Update

- The Ohio Department of Children and Youth was established on July 4, 2023.
- Includes family and child serving programs from the following state agencies:
 - Department of Developmental Disabilities
 - Department of Education
 - Department of Health
 - Department of Job and Family Services
 - Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Staff and programs transitioned January 1, 2024.




3

Department of Children and Youth




Identification:

- Children Services
- Home Visiting
- Ohio Children's Trust Fund
- Maternal and Infant Vitality Programming



Early Education:


- Early Intervention
- Publicly Funded Childcare
- Early Childhood Education
- Preschool Special Education
- Licensing
- Dolly Parton Imagination Library



Support:


- Ohio Fatherhood Commission
- Ohio Family Children First Council
- Healthy Beginnings at Home
- Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation
- Strong Families, Safe Communities

The Department will place children at the core of its mission to promote positive, lifelong outcomes for all Ohio youth.




4

PILLARS



Pillars
These essential components support our mission and goals. They are the strength behind the department.

- **Continuum of Care** – Providing the level of support children and youth need, where and when they need it.
- **Workforce** – Attracting and maintaining quality, competent professionals working on behalf of children to match needs across the state.
- **Parent Ambassadors** – Working together to support the well-being and future success of all children.



5



Early Childhood
Inclusion
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Together from the start, every one of us.




6


OCALI Centers

 Autism Center	 Lifespan Transitions Center	 THE OUTREACH CENTER for Deafness and Blindness
 Center for the Young Child	 Teaching Diverse Learners Center	 Assistive Technology & Accessible Educational Materials Center
 Family and Community Outreach Center	 Universal Design for Learning Center	 Multi-System Navigation Center

Early Childhood
Inclusion
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Together from the start, every one of us.

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- **Ohio PROMISE** is a statewide initiative that will promote resources, opportunities, and meaningful inclusion through support and education (PROMISE).
- Investments of resources, expertise, and a robust infrastructure will allow Ohio to **realize the vision** that each Ohioan, from birth, has a strong foundation of support, acceptance, and empowerment where they live, play, learn, and work.


Early Childhood
Inclusion
CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
Together from the start, every one of us.

10

History



- Early Childhood Technical Assistance (ECTA) Center chose our grant application to provide us with technical assistance. Ohio is one of nine states selected for the intensive TA opportunity.
- In 2020, a cross-agency, cross-sector group started meeting weekly to examine where Ohio stood in the State Indicators of High-Quality Inclusion.
- Group moved from examination of “Where We Are” to “Where We Want to Be” by:
 - Making recommendations for child care, preschool, and school age child care licensing rule.
 - Making recommendations to add inclusion to Step Up to Quality indicators.
 - Identifying what could work for a Program Designation/Distinction
 - Creating a Family Resource Guide bridging the gap between parents and professionals



11

Ohio PROMISE Purpose

New statewide initiative to promote resources, opportunities, and meaningful inclusion through support and education funded by federal ARPA discretionary funds.


Professional Credential	Program Designation	Center of Excellence	Scholarship Program	State Advisory Team
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Credential (PECIC) • Provides professionals with additional inclusion-focused training and skill development opportunities • 3 levels 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) • Incentivizes and acknowledges programs who participate in additional inclusion-focused training activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishes a framework to coordinate scalable and replicable early care and education resources statewide 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides scholarships to programs to serve children with special needs who are not otherwise eligible for Publicly Funded Child Care • Supports families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Advisory on Early Childhood Inclusion • Diverse group of professionals and parents • Advises and assists DCY in examining Ohio PROMISE data, lessons learned, and overall impact



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Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Credential (PECIC)

- Level 1: Awareness of Inclusion**
 - Learning focuses on raising awareness & establishing basic knowledge of inclusion; accessible by anyone, fully remote.
- Level 2: Applying Knowledge of Inclusion**
 - Builds on Level 1 and moves to application of learning how to include in early childhood settings; coming in 2024.
- Level 3: Implementing Inclusion Best Practices**
 - Provides skills & strategies needed to implement best practices for early childhood inclusion; coming 2024.



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An Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) Designation




Ohio Department of Education
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Search for Early Care and Education Programs

Designations:
Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) ®

Search

Programs earning designation are identified on <https://childcaresearch.ohio.gov>



- Early care & education programs can earn a Program Designation.
- Purposes are to (1) help families identify programs who have professionals with more knowledge about Early Childhood Inclusion and (2) increase confidence & competence of providers so they are willing to accept and keep serving children with disabilities (Access).
- Program Designation has provided 125 existing programs with \$20,000 this year and 50 new programs with \$15,000 to offset costs that may be associated with serving children with disabilities.
- Designation currently only requires Administrator and one Lead Teacher to complete PECIC.
- We have the discretion to add more incentives and requirements in time to higher levels of the PECIC.

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Family Support Through Providing Direct Scholarships

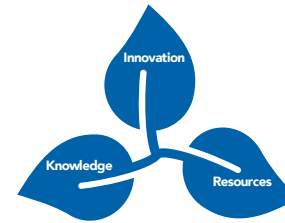
[Manual Procedure Letter #169](#) outlines initiative.

- This is a pilot for now to see how it works.
- Purpose is to increase options for families (Access).
- Programs must have earned Inclusive Child Care Program Designation.
- Programs receive \$500/month.
- Children must be denied for Publicly Funded Child Care for being over income; have an IFSP or IEP.



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The Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence



- The Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence (CoE) emerged from a cross-sector vision for all of Ohio's young children and families to have full access to meaningful inclusion where they live, play, and spend their day.
- Through partnerships with early childhood state, local, and community leaders and agencies, the CoE will inform policies and provide current and innovative guidance, resources, training, and practice-based consultation to early care and education providers and families throughout the state.



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Vision #1: The Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence Infrastructure

The Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence (CoE) is a foundation for cross-sector inclusive early care and education in Ohio that supports continuous improvement efforts of state and community leaders, professionals, and families.



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Center of Excellence Priorities

- Build sustainable infrastructure, assemble staff, and develop processes & practices.
- Translate research to practice.
- Develop ongoing guidance documents and innovative resources related to early childhood inclusion.
- Facilitate cross-agency collaboration and strengthen program and community capacity.
- Develop training and materials for inclusion support specialists.
- Curate and disseminate extensive collection of materials and resources.
- Ensure quality and fidelity of implementation of initiatives and practices.



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“What do our priorities look like?”



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Vision #2: Professional Development, Collaboration & Training

Early care and education services are high quality, developmentally appropriate, and accessible to all young children and families in Ohio.



22

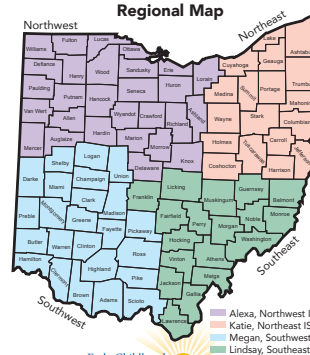
CoE Summary of Activities

- General information
- Practice-based coaching
- Participation at outreach activity to share resources, or attendance at an event
- Assistance with cross-agency collaboration
- Presentations and training
- Community & program capacity-building support
- Individual consultation & technical assistance



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Inclusion Support Specialists Regional Map



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Vision #3: Universal Access and Assistive Technology Materials & Equipment

Coordinated awareness of, access to, and widespread use of, inclusive tools exist in all early care and education settings in Ohio.



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CoE Material Support

Increase access for early childhood professionals and families to assistive technology and accessible educational materials.

- Child-Specific:** Support, in collaboration with IFSP/IEP teams; accessing AT from OCALI lending library
- Training Giveaways:** build foundational knowledge of more specific supports for children with disabilities in areas of identified needs
- Universal Access Kits:** build knowledge of adapting the environment, activities and materials to support access for all children
- Grab and Gos:** build awareness and opportunities for inclusionary early care practices



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CoE Material/Equipment Overview

Grab and Go	Universal Access Infant/Toddler & PreK 3-5	Tips Training Materials	EC Assistive Technology
Simple, no training needed	Build knowledge of adapting	Helpful to any provider with little training	Domain-specific materials and equipment
Build awareness	ISSs own kits	Specific, corresponding training available	ISSs take kits to providers
Available for outreach, conferences, presentations, training, etc.	Disseminate for PD, consultations, and coaching	Used in PD, consultations, coaching, and training giveaways	Advanced AT available for trained individuals
			Available through OCALI Lending Library



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Working within Ohio's Early Childhood Systems

- Are there areas of need in systems (or individual agencies) related to training or resources we might support?
- Integration, not duplication
 - Our process will be to determine what resources and supports have been accessed or are available and support collaboration (for example, help child care professionals understand their role and the supports available from CCR&Rs, SSTs, local districts, etc.)
- We want to establish ongoing communication and partnership at state, regional and local levels



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How to contact us

- Visit our website (<https://cycsuite.org/ec-inclusion>)
- Submit an activity request



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Thank You

visit us at
www.ocali.org

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Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 172

TO: All Child Care Manual Holders
FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director
SUBJECT: JFS 01115 "Publicly Funded Child Care Release of Information"

Background:

Child care providers often request case information to assist families who are submitting an application for publicly funded child care (PFCC) and to determine when the provider may expect payment for care provided. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS)/county department of job and family services (CDJFS) is not permitted to provide child care case information to anyone without permission of the caretaker or their designated authorized representative.

Implementation:

The JFS 01115 "Publicly Funded Child Care Release of Information" is now available to assist child care providers with obtaining child care application information on the families they serve. Caretakers can submit this form to their CDJFS or through the Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal (SSP) to allow their child care provider to receive child care case information from their county agency and ODJFS. A child care provider cannot require the family to complete this form as part of their enrollment process and/or to receive child care.

The following applies to caretakers who submit an application for PFCC benefits or have entered the recertification process for PFCC benefits.

Scenario	Procedure
When should the caretaker complete the JFS 01115 and submit it?	A caretaker may complete the JFS 01115 when a child care provider accepts their children into their program for care AND their application for PFCC benefits or recertification has not been completed.
Why should the caretaker complete the JFS 01115?	PFCC benefit case information is not allowed to be shared with anyone outside of ODJFS/CDJFS. The form will grant permission for child care providers to receive information concerning pending applications.
How can the JFS 01115 be cancelled?	The JFS 01115 consent may be canceled by the caretaker or caretaker’s Authorized Representative at any time by providing notice in writing to the county agency or through the SSP.

<p>What information is ODJFS/CDJFS able to share about the status of an application if your child care program is listed on the PFCC application and the JFS 01115 has been submitted by the caretaker?</p>	<p>ODJFS/CDJFS may share the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary caretaker first and last name, address and phone number • First and last name and date of birth of children needing care. • Application information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application status, including denied without PAD (payment after denial) and pending application. • Verification documents needed. • Eligibility begin and end date. • Authorization information
<p>What if the JFS 01115 has been submitted by the caretaker giving permission for a specific provider to have access to information, but this specific provider is not listed on the PFCC application?</p>	<p>If the caretaker has already submitted their PFCC application through the SSP and the provider identified by the family needs to be changed, then the caretaker can submit a change of provider through the SSP.</p> <p>If the caretaker has already submitted their PFCC application to the county and the provider identified by the family needs to be change, then the caretaker will have to contact the county to report the change in provider, unless their SSP account is already linked to their case in Ohio Benefits.</p>

The most recent version of the ODJFS form referenced in this procedure letter can be accessed through [Forms Central](#).

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at childcarepolicy@jfs.ohio.gov or 1-877-302-2347, option 4, if you have any questions.

Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Publicly Funded Child Care Release of Information

Caretaker Name	Phone Number		
Street Address	City	State	Zip
Caretaker Email (must be email you used in the SSP, if you have an SSP account)	Last four digits of Caretaker SSN		
REASON FOR THE CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION			
<p>This consent gives permission for the county department of job and family services (CDJFS)/Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) to release publicly funded child care application information to the identified child care provider.</p> <p>You are not required to complete this form to be eligible for publicly funded child care.</p> <p>A child care provider cannot require you to complete this form as part of their enrollment process and/or to receive child care.</p>			
CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION			
<u>Reason for Consent</u>			
<p>I understand that by signing this that the provider(s) has access to my information until the access is revoked by me or my authorized representative even if I'm no longer attending that program.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary caretaker first and last name, address and phone number • First and last name and date of birth of children needing care. • Application information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Application status, including denied without PAD (payment after denial) and pending application. ○ Verification documents needed. ○ Eligibility begin and end date. ○ Authorization information 			
This information may be released to:			
Provider 1 name	Provider 2 name		
Program license number	Program license number		
Provider address	Provider address		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This document can be submitted using one of the following methods: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Uploaded into the Self-Service Portal (SSP) by accessing your benefit https://ssp.benefits.ohio.gov/ 2. Submitted to the caretakers' county agency. • This consent will remain in effect for eighteen months from the date of application for pending and denied child care applications or may be revoked by the Caretaker or Caretaker's Authorized Representative at any time by providing notice in writing, which must include your name and case number using one of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uploaded into the Self-Service Portal (SSP) by accessing your benefit https://ssp.benefits.ohio.gov/ • Submitted to the caretakers' county agency. • By signing this form, I am responsible for terminating the listed provider(s) access to the information listed on this form. • Be aware that the information used or disclosed pursuant to this authorization may be disclosed by the recipient of the information and may no longer be protected from disclosure. • Treatment, payment, enrollment, or eligibility for public assistance cannot be conditioned on signing this authorization unless the authorization is necessary for determining eligibility for the public assistance program. • Pursuant to federal and state law, and applicable policies the ODJFS may access and disclose information contained in systems controlled or maintained by the ODJFS or controlled and maintained for the benefit of the ODJFS. 			
Signature of Caretaker or Caretaker's Authorized Representative listed in Ohio Benefits			Date



**Child Care Center Manual Procedure Letter No. 43
Family Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 36**

**TO: All Child Care Center Manual Holders
All Family Child Care Manual Holders**

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

**SUBJECT: 2023 Infant and Toddler Infrastructure Grants for Licensed Child
Care Centers, Family Child Care Homes and Ohio Department of
Education Preschool Programs**

Background

Section 423.105 of Amended Substitute House Bill No. 33 of the 135th General Assembly appropriated \$15 million per year for infant and toddler infrastructure grants in communities with high infant mortality rates to rebuild the infant and toddler workforce and to increase access to infant and toddler child care. Since the pandemic, child care programs have struggled to maintain an adequate workforce and have closed classrooms. These grants are intended to offset the higher costs associated with lower staff to child ratios for infants and toddlers and the additional spacing, equipment and supplies needed to serve this population.

The Director of Children and Youth, in collaboration with the Director of Job and Family Services, will utilize this funding to provide grants to eligible Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) licensed child care centers and family child care (FCC) homes, as well as Ohio Department of Education (ODE) licensed preschools. These grants may be used to provide workforce supports, reopen an infant/toddler classroom, convert a closed classroom to an infant/toddler classroom or expand programs for infant/toddler space, open new programs, technical assistance, facilities improvement and classroom supplies.

Who Qualifies for the Infant and Toddler Infrastructure Grants?

ODJFS licensed non-profit or for-profit child care centers, Type A and Type B FCC homes, and ODE preschool programs who meet the requirements listed below will qualify for the grant. Preschool special education programs are not eligible to apply.

Qualifications

1. Be licensed and in good standing (not in the revocation process)
2. Have an active provider agreement to offer or deliver publicly funded child care (PFCC)
3. Operate in an Ohio Equity Initiative community within the following counties: Butler, Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Lorain, Lucas, Mahoning, Montgomery, Stark and Summit

4. Serve or intend to serve infants and toddlers during the life of the grant without displacing children from other age groups. Infant means a child who is under eighteen months of age. Toddler means a child who is at least eighteen months of age but less than three years of age.

Maximum Grant Awards Per Classroom or Family Child Care Home

Program Type	Program Criteria	Award Amount
ODJFS licensed Child Care Center and ODE Preschool	Licensed before the date of this procedure letter. Converting existing licensed or unlicensed space to infant or toddler classrooms. Planning to serve at least four additional infants or toddlers per classroom, one of which is PFCC approved.	\$250,000
ODJFS licensed Child Care Center and ODE Preschool	Licensed on or after the date of this procedure letter. Planning to serve at least four infants or toddlers per classroom, one of which is PFCC approved.	\$100,000
ODJFS licensed Type A and Type B FCC Home	New program is planning to serve at least one infant or toddler. Existing program is expanding to serve at least one additional infant or toddler who is PFCC approved.	\$5,000

If the existing child care license needs to be amended to serve infants or toddlers, programs are to submit a license capacity amendment in accordance with rules 5101:2-12-02, 5101:2-13-02, or 3301-37-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC).

How Can My Child Care Program Apply for the Grant?

Applications can be submitted using this link: <https://forms.office.com/g/pYn5rdqvSu>

Child care center and ODE preschool award recipients will receive half the funding after the application has been approved. Programs can request the second half of the total payment after they have enrolled and served at least four new infants or toddlers within 120 days of the application approval. One of the four new infants or toddlers needs to be approved to receive PFCC.

Family child care award recipients will receive half the funding after their application has been approved. Providers can request the second half of the total payment after they have

enrolled and served at least one new infant or toddler approved to receive PFCC within 120 days of the application approval.

What Does the Grant Award Cover?

The grant funding may be used for workforce supports, facility improvements, and classroom supplies.

Reporting Requirements

Providers will be required to submit quarterly and annual reports as outlined in the program's award letter.

Reports will include but not be limited to the following information:

- The number of children including their age and if they are participating in PFCC or are private pay
- Staff by role
- How the funding was spent monthly
- Best practices and lessons learned

Questions

Child Care Policy Help Desk

1-877-302-2347, option 4

childcarepolicy@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov



Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 175

TO: All Child Care Manual Holders

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

SUBJECT: Co-Payment Amounts During the Minimum 12-Month Period for Homeless and Protective Child Care Cases

Background:

The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) requires that states cannot increase a family's copayment during the twelve-months they are eligible for publicly funded child care (PFCC). Per rule, when a family is no longer receiving protective child care or homeless child care, their copayment can be increased, during the twelve-month eligibility period. This rule conflicts with the federal requirement.

For all other cases, as required federally and in current rule, copayments determined at the initial application do not increase during the twelve-month eligibility period.

Implementation:

For changes reported on or after the effective date of this letter, copayments for all families, including those with a protective or homeless child care case, will not have their copayments increased during the current twelve-month eligibility period.

Rule 5101:2-16-05 will be revised in the future to remove section (D)(4).

Questions:

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at childcarepolicy@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov or 1-877-302-2347, option 4, if you have any questions.



Child Care News



Volume 20 | December 2023

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH

The State of Ohio has a new agency! Created by Governor DeWine, in the Amended Substitute House Bill Number 33 (HB 33) on July 4, 2023, the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) will ensure all Ohio children have the opportunity to reach their full potential. DCY promotes the well-being of Ohio children from pregnancy through age 21. DCY’s mission is to promote positive, lifelong outcomes for Ohio youth through early intervention, quality education, and family support programs. The new department is led by Director Kara Wentz. When the full transition of all programs is complete (January 1, 2025), DCY will combine functions and programs from six different state agencies.

The primary purpose of DCY is to improve the delivery of services to the more than 2.5 million children in Ohio and their families.

Some of the department’s overall goals include:

- Reduce infant mortality
- Help more children thrive and reach their first birthday
- Reduce learning gaps
- Ensure continuity of care across the spectrum of ages, stages, and services to help children and youth succeed
- Reduce involvement with child welfare
- Help provide families with needed resources and support before there is a crisis in the family

Many child care providers have already participated in meetings with DCY. These meetings provide updates on early care and education. They also allow child care providers to communicate with the new agency. The meetings are held online on the fourth Tuesday of each month, from 2-3 pm. Invitations for the meetings are sent to the email address of your program.

You can learn more about the Ohio Department of Children & Youth, see: <https://childrenandyouth.ohio.gov/>

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

February is Black History Month. The White House states that during Black History Month, “we celebrate the legacy of Black Americans whose power to lead, to overcome, and to expand the meaning and practice of American democracy has helped our Nation become a more fair and just society.”

Children are not too young to learn about the history of Black Americans. Children can also learn to celebrate our differences.

Ways to celebrate Black History Month:

- Play music from diverse musicians, cultures, and genres
- Read books about black historical figures:
 - Little Melba and Her Big Trombone by Katheryn Russell- Brown
 - Dream Big, Little One by Vashti Harrison
 - Young, Gifted and Black: With a Mirror by Jamia Wilson and Andrea Pippins
 - Who Was Martin Luther King, Jr.? by Lisbeth Kaiser
 - Mae Among the Stars by Roda Ahmed and Stasi Burrington



Ways to teach children to understand and value diversity through the year:

- Talk with children about what makes us alike and different
- Provide books in your classroom that center on diverse characters
- Represent diversity through dolls, toys, and other classroom materials

The National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations has an article with helpful tips on talking with young children about race. It includes age-appropriate strategies.

Some examples include:

- Birth to age 2: Model positive ways to talk about differences in skin color. You can say, “Olivia has light skin, and you have dark skin. Both skin colors are lovely.”
- Ages 3-4: Celebrate differences and talk about how being different is important. You can say, “No one looks the same, it’s boring if everyone looks alike.”
- Ages 5-6: Talk about how some people treat others differently because of the color of their skin. Ask the children if they think that is fair or kind?

Look for additional resources and ideas in the article at: <https://challengingbehavior.org/docs/Talking-to-children-race.pdf>

Resources from the National Museum of African History and Culture (NMAAHC):

The National Museum of African History & Culture has resources to help early care educators (ECE). They created an Early Childhood Education Initiative (ECEI).

The ECEI is designed to “empower, enrich, and educate young children.” The ECEI provides:

- Age-appropriate programming for children
- Professional development opportunities for educators (includes online classes)
- Research based publications
- Online resources

Resources to download include the “Joyful ABC Activity Booklets.” These booklets support children’s positive identity development and help grow language and literacy skills. There are two different editions of these booklets available: either an infant and toddler edition, or an early learner (ages 3-5) edition. There are booklets for every letter of the alphabet.

For example, the toddler edition of “I is for Interesting” booklet includes the following suggestions:

- Create a “Favorite Things” display to help children tell their unique story
- Create and decorate a cardboard camera and use it to take pretend pictures as they look for something interesting
- Help children talk about themselves using “I am” statements
- Find books that are about children’s uniqueness or interesting items
- Provide information to share with families about the topic

The Joyful ABC Activity Booklets and additional information about the NMAAHC, can be found at: <https://nmaahc.si.edu/learn/early-childhood-education>

National Children’s Dental Health Month

February is also National Children’s Dental Health Month. This year’s theme is “Healthy Habits for Healthy Smiles!” This is a great time to talk about dental health with your children in care and their families. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has a website with resources to download including:

- Posters and flyers in Spanish and English
- Activity sheets
- List of children’s books about healthy teeth
- Links to free publications on dental health for young children

You can access more information on dental health month on the USDA website at: <https://wicworks.fns.usda.gov/resources/national-childrens-dental-health-month>

2024 SOLAR ECLIPSE

There will be a solar eclipse in Ohio on Monday, April 8, 2024. The State of Ohio has created a website with useful information about the eclipse. Some of the information on the website includes:

- A map of the path of the eclipse
- A visual explanation of an eclipse
- Safety information
- Resources for educators from the Ohio Department of Education

The website is available at: eclipse.ohio.gov

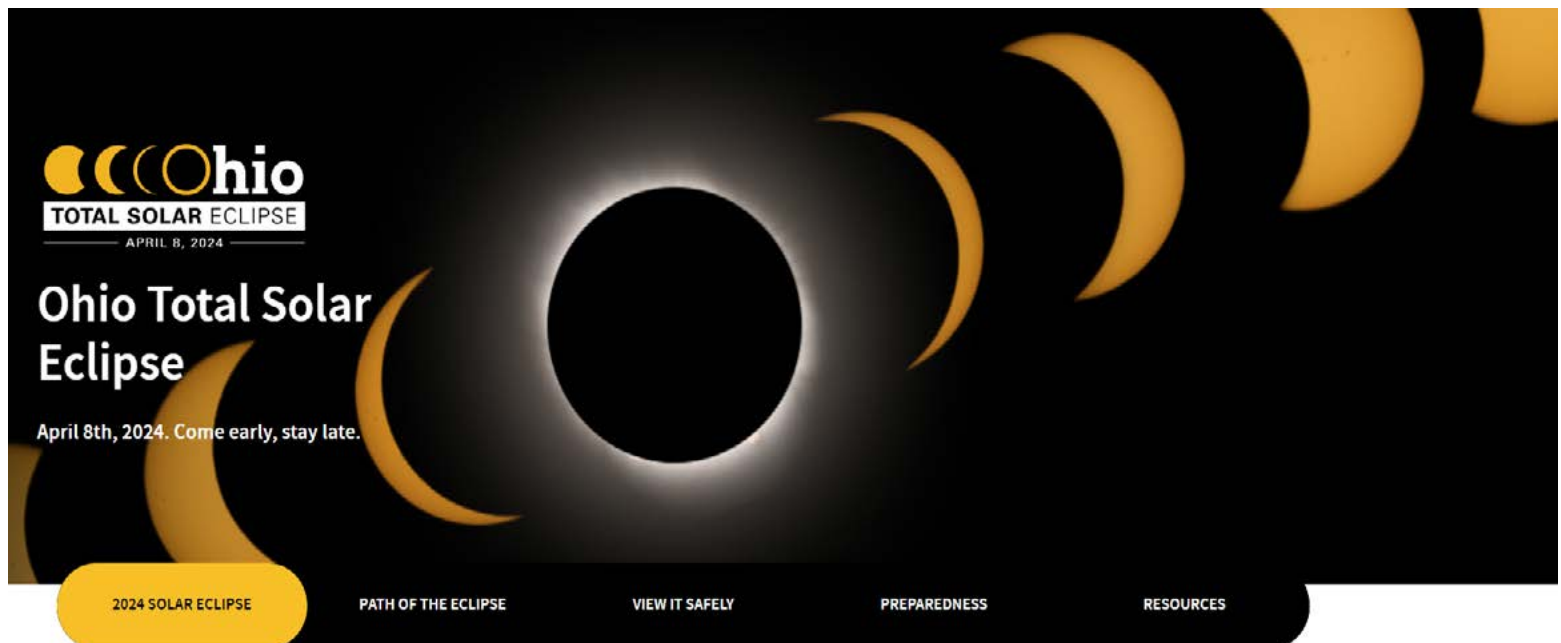
Prevent Blindness has a lesson plan to teach preschool children about eclipses and eye safety. This lesson plan can be downloaded and includes:

- Activities that demonstrate what happens during an eclipse
- Links to fact sheets for teachers

The lesson plan is available in English and Spanish at: <https://preventblindness.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/Eclipse-Lesson-Plan.pdf>

Preschool books about eclipses:

- Someone is Eating the Sun by Ruth Sonneborn
- The Big Eclipse by Nancy Coffelt
- When the Sun Goes Dark by Andrew Fraknoi and Dennis Schatz
- Moonbear's Shadow by Frank Asch
- A Few Beautiful Minutes: Experiencing a Solar Eclipse by Andy Rash



SPOTLIGHT ON CHILD CARE PROFESSIONALS

ODJFS is recognizing the inspiring professionals who have worked in child care for 20 years or more in the quarterly newsletter. We appreciate their dedication and commitment as they keep Ohio's children safe while helping them learn, grow, and thrive! We honor them for the huge impact they have on the lives of Ohio's children and families.



Erin Perry:

Close to 30 years in
Early Child Care

Erin Perry attained her Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE) from Owens State Community College. She is in her 15th year at St. Paul's Elizabeth Wayne Preschool, where she teaches 3-, 4-, and 5-year-olds. Erin played an integral role in shaping what the preschool is today. Her passion is evident in her work. Erin spends her free time researching best practices, trying to absorb as much information about the profession as possible. She strives to provide experiences for young children to develop their capabilities so they can enter kindergarten with skills that will help them succeed in their education and everyday life. Erin believes that when children are excited about learning through meaningful experiences and opportunities, they become intrinsically motivated to learn, develop, and have fun doing so through play.

Erin was nominated for her dedication, persistence, and passion by Cristy Seely, the Director of Elizabeth Wayne Preschool. The director stated she often chats with Erin into the early morning hours about early childhood education. Her director also stated that Erin evolves her approach based on research in the field. She is a huge advocate for children doing for themselves, helping to create high self-esteem and autonomy. Erin isn't afraid of a challenge and gives 110% to her students. She is a great role model to those just starting in the field.



Susan Lovins:

Over 27 years in
Early Child Care

Susan Lovins has an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Cincinnati (UC). Susan has been a preschool teacher at Empower Learn Create at University of Cincinnati for the past 13 years.

Susan is a nurturing teacher who creates an intentional environment that inspires children to explore, observe, inquire, create, investigate, and problem-solve to obtain knowledge through hands-on experiences and social interactions with others. Susan serves as a mentor for new educators and takes pride in ensuring effective practice is understood and implemented.



Kim Riddell:

Over 25 years in
Early Child Care

Kim Riddell earned an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education from the University of Cincinnati (UC). Kim joined Empower Learn Create at UC in November of 2001.

Kim is motivated to continue teaching because she believes she has a positive influence in the lives of children and families. Kim considers it a privilege to help guide children's learning and development through the early years. Kim has a skillset and dedication to plan and present invitations for learning in her classroom with unique and beautiful materials.

ODJFS will again honor early child care professionals who have worked in child care for 20 years or more in the next quarterly newsletter. Please submit a recommendation to spotlight an early care and education professional that has had an impact on the children in their care. ODJFS will review all submissions and honor selected individuals in a future issue of Child Care News. Please email the following information to srnc@jfs.ohio.gov.

- name,
- photo, and
- a brief narrative of their life and career
- years working in early care and education field

Some suggestions of items you can include in the narrative are:

- Why they chose early care and education as their profession.
- What is their favorite part about working in child care.
- Why you are submitting a recommendation to spotlight this professional
- What is their favorite tip for running their classroom.

Please email this information by January 31, 2024 to srnc@jfs.ohio.gov.

For Families

SHOULD YOUR CHILD DRINK TODDLER MILK?

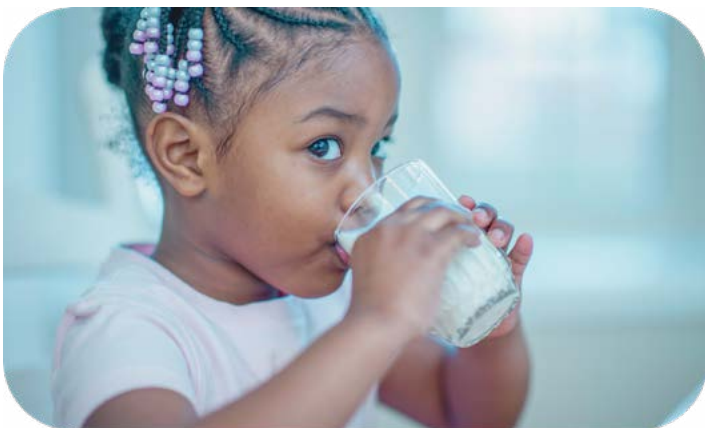
The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) recently warned parents against serving toddler milks to older babies and children. Toddler milks are powdered drink mixes advertised for older babies and children up to age 3.

The AAP states that serving toddler milks is “unnecessary and potentially harmful to young children.” The AAP stated:

- There are no federal regulations for toddler milks.
- Most toddler milks have added sugar
- The added sugar may cause children to develop a taste for sweet foods and drinks
- Toddler milks are more expensive than cow’s milk

The AAP recommends families serve their older babies and toddlers a balanced diet. This will help make sure they are getting the nutrition they need. They should contact their pediatrician if they have any questions about their child’s diet.

Additional information is available from the AAP at: <https://www.healthychildren.org/English/news/Pages/why-most-toddlers-dont-need-toddler-formula.aspx>



HELP CHILDREN LEARN BY DOING

Children love to learn by doing. Some examples of when children learn by doing include:

- During play: Play gives children opportunities to learn about relationships, how to solve problems, and how to move. Play helps with math, language, and science skills, and much more!
- Through the creative arts: Activities that include art, dance, music, and dramatic play help children learn. They also improve self-expression, self-esteem, and confidence.

One way to help children celebrate the skills they have and learn new skills is by having a family talent night.

- Let your children know that people have all kinds of talents and skills.
- Have everyone (including adults) in the family pick a talent they want to share. You may need to help young children choose their talent. Can they tie their shoes? Sing a song? Make interesting shapes out of Play-Doh? Balance on one foot?
- Have the children help create a program with each family member’s name and talent. Let the children decorate the programs.
- Announce each family member and their talent. Have them show their talent. Clap and cheer when they are done.
- Consider inviting a relative or neighbor to the talent night.
- Ask the children to think of any new skills or talents they would like to learn. Is there something the family could learn together?
Some examples are learning to:

- Paint a picture of a tree
- Sing a song
- Dance a simple dance routine

Then make time to learn the skill and have a future talent night.

PLAYTIME DURING WINTER MONTHS

Active play can be tough to do during winter. There are fewer daylight hours and it's cold outside. It is important however for children to continue to be active in their play. Not only is active play fun, but it has health benefits.

Active play helps:

- Strengthen bones
- Reduce anxiety
- Increase self-esteem

Kids don't have to stay inside just because it's cold.

Dress them for the weather and try some of these activities:

- Taking a fast walk or jog
- Chasing bubbles
- Playing tag or kicking a ball

When the weather is too bad for outdoor play, try some of these indoor activities:

- Watch a kids' exercise video or DVD. See if there are any available from your library.
- Put on some music and dance. Turn down the lights and have the kids wear safe light up necklaces or bracelets.
- Create a "move jar." Fill it with slips of paper with words, phrases or drawings that call for movement. For example, animals or movements like "monster walk." Have each child pick a movement for you to do together.
- Use tape to make a hopscotch board on the floor.
- Check to see if there is an indoor play space in your community for younger children.

Find times that work for your family and stick to a routine. Make the active play time positive and fun.

VACCINATIONS:

Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is a common respiratory virus that often causes mild, cold-like symptoms. Most people recover in a week or two. However, RSV can be serious for infants.

To prevent severe RSV disease in infants, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the following:

- Either maternal RSV vaccination, or
- Infant immunization with RSV monoclonal antibody

Talk to your pediatrician if you have any questions about the RSV vaccine.

PLANNING FOR THE SOLAR ECLIPSE

There will be a solar eclipse on Monday, April 8, 2024. This eclipse will be visible in Ohio if the weather is good. The last total solar eclipse seen in Ohio was in 1806, and the next one will be in 2099.

The eclipse will travel across Ohio from southwest (at approximately 2 pm) to northeast (at approximately 4:30 pm). Parts of Ohio will see a full eclipse and parts will see a partial eclipse. Some parts of Ohio will have 4 minutes of total darkness.

The State of Ohio encourages families to learn how to safely watch the solar eclipse. To see the path the eclipse will take in Ohio and to learn more about how to safely view the eclipse, please visit: eclipse.ohio.gov

Looking for Parenting Tips?

- The Ohio Statewide Family Engagement Center website has information on resources to help your child be successful in elementary school. Topics include:
- The benefit of family meals and family mealtime games
- Ways to support your child's mental health and well-being
- Family math toolkits with information about fun math activities
- Organizations that help families

You can find the information at: <https://ohiofamiliesengage.osu.edu/resource/families/>

Parents can also find advice on how to respond to behaviors such as biting, not letting their diaper be changed, and much more! You can find the guide on the Ohio BOLD Beginning! website at: <https://boldbeginning.ohio.gov/families/families-lp/helpful-tips-and-practical-advice-for-raising-baby>



**Child Care Center Manual Procedure Letter No. 44
Family Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 37
Child Care Day Camp Manual Procedure Letter No. 11
Child Care In-Home Aide Manual Procedure Letter No. 16**

TO: All Child Care Center Manual Holders
All Family Child Care Manual Holders
All Child Care Day Camp Manual Holders
All Child Care In-Home Aide Manual Holders

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

SUBJECT: Relocation Requirements in Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan

Background:

The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) requires child care programs to have a plan for relocation in the event of an emergency. Currently, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) licensed child care centers, family child care (FCC) Type A and Type B home providers, approved day camps, and certified in-home aides (IHA) are required to develop a written emergency/disaster plan and train child care staff members and employees on the plan annually. Licensing rules outline the specific required elements of the written plan.

Updated Policy:

Child care centers, FCC home providers, approved day camps and certified IHA providers will now be required to include a designated safe site where staff and children can safely remain when evacuated. This will be included in the written emergency/disaster plan in addition to evacuation procedures for children and staff.

This differs from the requirements for a temporary change of location when a provider is instructed by officials that it can no longer operate at its approved location due to unsafe conditions. This temporary change of location is defined in rules 5101:2-12-02, 5101:2-13-02, 5101:2-18-03, and 5101:2-14-02.

Implementation:

Providers will be assessed for this new requirement beginning on March 1, 2024.

Rules 5101:2-12-16, 5101:2-13-16, 5101:2-18-10, and 5101:2-14-07 will be revised in the future to include planning emergency relocation as part of the written emergency/disaster plan.

Questions:

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at childcarepolicy@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov or 1-877-302-2347, option 4, if you have any questions.



**Child Care Center Manual Procedure Letter No. 45
Family Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 38
Child Care In-Home Aide Manual Procedure Letter No. 17**

**TO: All Child Care Center Manual Holders
All Family Child Care Manual Holders
All Child Care In-Home Aide Manual Holders**

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

**SUBJECT: Accommodations for Toddler Requirements in Emergency
Preparedness and Response Plan**

Background:

The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) requires child care programs to have a plan for the evacuation needs of vulnerable children in the event of an emergency. Currently, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) child care centers, family child care (FCC) Type A and Type B home providers, and certified in-home aides are required to develop a written emergency/disaster plan and train child care staff members and employees on the plan annually. Licensing rules outline the specific required elements of the written plan including accommodations for infants and children with special needs.

Updated Policy:

ODJFS licensed child care centers, FCC home providers, and certified IHA providers will be required to include information on assisting toddlers in their written emergency/disaster plans in addition to accommodations for infants and children with special needs and/or health conditions.

Implementation:

Programs will be assessed on this new requirement beginning on March 1, 2024.

Rules 5101:2-12-16, 5101:2-13-16 and 5101:2-14-07 will be revised in the future.

Questions:

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at childcarepolicy@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov or 1-877-302-2347, option 4, if you have any questions.



**Child Care Center Manual Transmittal Letter No. 35
Family Child Care Manual Transmittal Letter No. 25**

TO: All Child Care Center Manual Holders
All Family Child Care Manual Holders

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

SUBJECT: Ohio Administrative Code Rules 5101:2-12-08 and 5101:2-13-08 Revisions to Lower the Minimum Age for High School Students/Graduates Working in Child Care

This MTL Replaces CCCMPL 41 and FCCMPL 33.

Background:

On November 28, 2022, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) implemented two new policies to expand age requirements for child care workers. The new policies were outlined in Child Care Center Manual Procedure Letter (CCCMPL) 41 and Family Child Care Manual Procedure Letter (FCCMPL) 33. High school students/graduates are now permitted to work as a child care staff member (CCSM) in a limited capacity in licensed child care centers and family child care homes. As a CCSM, high school students and high school graduates under the age of eighteen are to meet all CCSM requirements outlined in Chapters 12 and 13 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC).

Rules 5101:2-12-08 and 5101:2-13-08 are effective January 27, 2024

Revised rules:

Rule 5101:2-12-08 "Employee and child care staff member requirements for a licensed child care center"

- Add criteria for enrolled high school students and high school graduates under the age of eighteen to work as CCSM.
- Add a new appendix D to rule 5101:2-12-08, outlining limitations on child supervision and safety requirements for high school students and high school graduates.

Rule 5101:2-13-08 "Employees, child care staff members and substitute responsibilities and qualifications for a licensed family child care provider"

- Add criteria for high school graduates under the age of eighteen to work as CCSM.
- Add criteria outlining limitations on child supervision and safety requirements for high school graduate.
- Revise appendix A to update age requirements for family child care staff members

Additional Information:

For child care centers, supervision of the high school students is the responsibility of the child care center administrator. The center administrator is also responsible for ensuring that another

CCSM is assigned to work with the high school student and does not leave them alone at any time when supervising children.

Two new roles are available in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) for these child care staff members to use when they create their employment record for the program in the OPR. These roles include "High School Junior" and "HS Senior or Graduate <18."

Child care programs employing minors as a CCSM are to comply with [Ohio Minor Labor Law](#) requirements for those less than 18 years of age; including, but not limited to working permits, wage agreements, work hours, and student documentation, as outlined in [Chapter 4109. of the Ohio Revised Code](#) (ORC).

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at childcarepolicy@jfs.ohio.gov or 1-877-302-2347, option 4, if you have any questions.

5101:2-12-08

Employee and child care staff member requirements for a licensed child care center.

(A) What are the requirements for an employee in a licensed child care center?

Each employee is to:

- (1) Have on file, on or before the employee's first day of employment, a completed medical statement that meets the requirements detailed in appendix A to this rule.
- (2) Have written documentation on file of current immunization against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) from a licensed physician, as defined in Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code, physician's assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, certified nurse midwife, certified nurse practitioner or licensed pharmacist. The employee may be exempt from the immunization requirement for religious reasons with written documentation signed by the individual and for medical reasons with written documentation signed by a licensed physician.
- (3) For the purpose of tuberculosis (TB) screening, notify the child care center if the person has both resided in a country identified by the world health organization (WHO) as having a high burden of TB and arrived in the United States within the five years immediately preceding the date of application for employment. A current list of identified high burden countries (HBC) for TB can be found in the most recent report on the WHO website at <https://www.who.int/teams/global-tuberculosis-programme/tb-reports>.
 - (a) Notification is to be made on a completed medical statement that meets the requirements detailed in appendix A to this rule.
 - (b) If the person meets the criteria described above, the child care center is to comply with the testing requirements of section 5104.037 of the Revised Code before employment. The TB test is either a two-step mantoux tuberculin skin test or a blood assay for m. tuberculosis.
 - (i) If the result of the TB test is negative, the child care center may employ the person.
 - (ii) If the result of any TB test performed is positive, the child care center is to follow the requirements outlined in appendix C to this rule.

(B) What are the requirements for a child care staff member in a licensed child care center?

Each child care staff member is to:

~~(1) Meet one of the following:~~

~~(a)(1) Be at least ~~eighteen~~ sixteen years of age and have completed a high school education.~~

~~(i) High school education is defined in appendix B to this rule.~~

~~(ii) Verification shall be on file on or before the child care staff member's first day of employment.~~

~~(b)(2) Be Have completed a high school education or be at least a high school junior (on or after the start of high school junior year) and enrolled in or completed one of the following: the second year of or have completed a two year career-technical program in child development or early childhood education or be a high school senior and also enrolled in a college credit program in child development or early childhood education.~~

~~(a) An early childhood education or child development career technical program.~~

~~(b) A child development associate (CDA) training program or achieved a CDA credential for the age group in which the high school student is working.~~

~~(c) A college credit program with early childhood education or child development focus.~~

~~(i) Enrollment or completion of a two year career technical program shall be verified by a signed statement from student's teacher/coordinator of the training program verifying that the student is enrolled in the program and receiving supervision by the training program.~~

~~(ii) Enrollment in a college credit program shall be verified by written documentation from the college credit program.~~

~~(3) Follow the limitations on child supervision and safety outlined in appendix D to this rule when the child care staff member is a high school student and high school graduate under the age of eighteen.~~

~~(iii)(4) Verification Provide verification of education shall be on file on or before the child care staff member's first day of employment.~~

~~(a) Verification is to be kept on file at the center or in the Ohio professional registry (OPR).~~

(b) High school education is defined in appendix B to this rule.

(c) For high school students, documentation of high school grade level and enrollment in or completion of a technical, training or college credit program as described in paragraph (B)(2) of this rule is to be verified.

~~(2)~~(5) Have on file, on or before the child care staff member's first day of employment, a completed medical statement that meets the requirements detailed in appendix A to this rule.

~~(3)~~(6) Have written documentation on file of current immunization against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) from a licensed physician, as defined in Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code, physician's assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, certified nurse midwife, certified nurse practitioner or licensed pharmacist. The child care staff member may be exempt from the immunization requirement for religious reasons with written documentation signed by the individual and for medical reasons with written documentation signed by a licensed physician.

~~(4)~~(7) For the purpose of TB screening, notify the child care center if the person has both resided in a country identified by the WHO as having a high burden of TB and arrived in the United States within the five years immediately preceding the date of application for employment.

(a) Notification is to be made on a completed medical statement that meets the requirements detailed in appendix A to this rule.

(b) If the person meets the criteria described above, the child care center is to comply with the testing requirements of section 5104.037 of the Revised Code before employment. The TB test is either a two-step mantoux tuberculin skin test or a blood assay for m. tuberculosis.

(i) If the result of the TB test is negative, the child care center may employ the person.

(ii) If the result of any TB test performed is positive, the child care center is to follow the requirements outlined in appendix C to this rule.

(C) What are the orientation requirements for child care staff members?

(1) Child care staff members, including substitute child care staff members, shall complete the child care center staff orientation training as prescribed by the ODJFS within thirty days of starting employment at the center as a child

care staff member unless the child care staff member has documentation of completion of the training after December 31, 2016.

- (2) Completion of the training shall be documented with verification from the OPR.
- (3) The child care staff member may be used in ratio, but is not to be left alone with children until the orientation is completed.

(D) What are the Ohio professional registry (OPR) requirements for employees and child care staff members in a child care center?

All employees and child care staff members, including substitute child care staff members, are to:

- (1) Create or update their individual profile in the OPR.
- (2) Create an employment record for the child care center on or before the first day of employment, including date of hire.
- (3) Update their individual profiles or employment records in the OPR within five calendar days of a change, including:
 - (a) Contact information.
 - (b) Positions or roles, and related dates.

(E) Do employees and child care staff members have whistle blower protection?

Yes, an employer is not to discharge, demote, suspend or threaten to discharge, demote, suspend or in any manner discriminate against any employee or child care staff member based solely on the employee taking any of the following actions:

- (1) Making any good faith oral or written complaint to the ODJFS or other agency responsible for enforcing Chapter 5104. of the Revised Code regarding a violation of this chapter or the rules adopted pursuant to Chapter 5104. of the Revised Code;
- (2) Instituting or causing to be instituted any proceeding against the employer under section 5104.04 of the Revised Code;
- (3) Acting as a witness in any proceeding under section 5104.04 of the Revised Code;
- (4) Refusing to perform work that constitutes a violation of Chapter 5104. or the rules adopted pursuant to Chapter 5104. of the Revised Code.

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(Emer.), 04/01/1992, 04/01/2003, 01/01/2007,
09/01/2007, 09/29/2011, 12/31/2016, 10/29/2017,
10/29/2021

Appendix A to Rule 5101:2-12-08

**Medical Statement Requirements for Administrator, Employees, and Child Care Staff
Members in a Licensed Child Care Center**

The following items are to be contained in a medical statement:

- The date of the examination (must be within the previous twelve months).
- The signature, business address, telephone number of the licensed physician, as defined in Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code, physician's assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, certified nurse midwife or certified nurse practitioner who completed the examination.
- A statement that verifies that the individual is:
 - Physically fit for employment in a center caring for children.
 - Immunized against measles, mumps and rubella (MMR), except that for persons born on or before December 31, 1956, a history of measles or mumps disease may be substituted for the vaccine. A history of rubella disease shall not be substituted for rubella vaccine. Only a laboratory test demonstrating detectable rubella antibodies shall be accepted in lieu of rubella vaccine.
 - Immunized against tetanus, diphtheria-and pertussis (Tdap) from a licensed physician as defined in Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code, physician's assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, certified nurse midwife, certified nurse practitioner or licensed pharmacist.
 - The person may be exempt from the immunization requirement for religious reasons with written documentation signed by the individual, and for medical reasons with written documentation signed by a licensed physician.
 - Screened for TB as outlined in rule 5101:2-12-08 of the Administrative Code, including the following information:
 - Has the individual resided in a country identified by the world health organization (WHO) as having a high burden of TB?
 - Has the individual arrived in the United States within the five years immediately preceding the date of application for employment?
 - If the answer to both questions above are yes, the individual is to be tested for TB.
 - If tested for TB, the medical statement is to include the TB test date and TB test results as positive or negative.
- An additional report or examination by a licensed physician or mental health professional may be required when there is concern about an employee's ability to perform required duties.

Appendix B to Rule 5101:2-12-08

Verification of High School Education

Verification of a high school education is to be one of the following:

1. A copy of a high school diploma recognized by the state board of education or the appropriate agency of another state or country as equivalent to the completion of a high school education.
2. A copy of other written documentation verifying high school completion or equivalency, such as the Ohio high school equivalence diploma.
3. A copy of the degree or transcript verifying completion of an associate's degree or higher from an accredited college, university or technical college.
4. For a home schooled student or a graduate of a non-chartered non-public school, documentation as required by section 3313.6110 of the Revised Code.
5. If the person does not have a copy of his or her high school diploma because of being a refugee, he or she may submit both of the following instead:
 - a. Documentation from the federal government that the person was admitted to the United States of America as a refugee.
 - b. A notarized statement that the person received a high school diploma (or equivalent) in his or her home country prior to being admitted to the United States as a refugee.

Appendix C to Rule 5101:2-12-08

Center Requirements for Positive Tuberculosis (TB) Test Results

The child care center is to take the following actions when a **positive** TB test result is received for a prospective administrator, employee or child care staff member:

If the result of any TB test performed is positive	Prior to employment, the child care center is to require the person to undergo additional testing for TB, which may include a chest radiograph or the collection and examination of specimens.
If additional testing indicates active TB	<p>Until the county or district TB control unit determines that the person is no longer infectious, the child care center is to not employ the person or, if employed, the center is to not allow the person to be physically present at the program's location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence that a person is no longer infectious is to consist of a written statement to that effect signed by a representative of the TB control unit.
If additional testing indicates latent TB	<p>Until the person submits to the child care center evidence that the person is receiving treatment as prescribed by a licensed health professional, the child care center is to not employ the person or, if employed, the center is to not allow the person to be physically present at the program's location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Once the person submits to the program evidence of a TB treatment regimen, the child care center may employ the person and allow the person to be physically present at the program's location. • Evidence is to consist of a written statement to that effect signed by a representative of the TB control unit that is overseeing the person's treatment.

Licensed health professionals that meet the qualifications to prescribe TB treatment include the following: licensed physicians, licensed physician assistants, certified nurse practitioners, and clinical nurse specialists.

Child care centers may check with their local board of county commissioners to locate the county TB control unit.

Appendix D to Rule 5101:2-12-08

**High School Students and Graduates Working as Child Care Staff Members (CCSM)
Limitations on Child Supervision and Safety Requirements**

Child Supervision and Safety Requirements for high school students/graduates working as a CCSM	High school juniors (On or after start of high school junior year)	High school seniors (After completion of high school junior year)	High school graduates under eighteen years of age
Permitted to be left alone with children?	No	Yes	Yes
Permitted to be counted in ratio when the CCSM is at least two years older than the child(ren) they supervise?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Permitted to transport children?	No	No	No
Permitted to be alone on routine trips or field trips?	No	No	No
Permitted to administer medication or medical procedures?	No	No	No
Permitted to be an administrator, provider, or designee?	No	No	No

Supervision of the high school students is the responsibility of the child care center administrator.

The center administrator is responsible for ensuring that another CCSM is assigned to work with high school juniors and does not leave them alone at any time when supervising children, as permitted in the table.

5101:2-13-08

Employees and child care staff members responsibilities and qualifications for a licensed family child care provider.

(A) What are the requirements for an employee of a family child care provider?

Employees are to:

- (1) Have on file, on or before the employee's first day of employment, a completed medical statement that meets the requirements of appendix B to rule 5101:2-13-02 of the Administrative Code.
- (2) Have written documentation on file of current immunization against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) from a licensed physician as defined in Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code, physician's assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, certified nurse midwife, certified nurse practitioner or licensed pharmacist. The employee may be exempt from the immunization requirement for religious reasons with written documentation signed by the individual and for medical reasons with written documentation signed by a licensed physician.

(B) What are the requirements for a child care staff member of a family child care provider?

Child care staff members, including substitute child care staff members:

- (1) Are to meet all of the requirements detailed in appendix A to this rule.
- (2) Are to have on file, on or before the child care staff member's first day of employment, a completed medical statement that meets the requirements of appendix B to rule 5101:2-13-02 of the Administrative Code.
- (3) Are to have written documentation on file of current immunization against tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis (Tdap) from a licensed physician as defined in Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code, physician's assistant, advanced practice registered nurse, certified nurse midwife, certified nurse practitioner or licensed pharmacist. The child care staff member may be exempt from the immunization requirement for religious reasons with written documentation signed by the individual and for medical reasons with written documentation signed by a licensed physician.
- (4) Are to complete the family child care staff orientation training as prescribed by the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS) within thirty days of starting employment unless the child care staff member has documentation of completion of the training after December 31, 2016. Completion of the training is to be documented with verification from the OPR.

(5) May be used to meet group size and supervision requirements but are not to be left alone with the children until the orientation training is completed.

(6) May act in the provider's place during an inspection if the provider is not present.

(C) What are the requirements for a high school graduate working as a child care staff member in a family child care home?

All high school graduates under the age of eighteen years old working in a family child care home:

(1) Are to be at least sixteen years of age or older.

(2) Are to maintain compliance with the requirements of a child care staff member in Chapter 5101:2-13 of the Administrative Code.

(3) Are not to be the administrator, provider, or designee of a family child care home.

(4) Are not permitted to transport children or act as a driver of a family child care home.

(5) Are not permitted to be left alone with the children on routine trips or field trips.

(6) Are not permitted to administer medication or medical procedures.

(7) May be counted in ratio when the high school graduate is at least two years older than the child(ren) in their care.

~~(C)~~(D) What are the OPR and documentation requirements for employees and child care staff members in a family child care home?

All employees and child care staff members, including substitute child care staff members are to:

(1) Create or update their individual profile in the OPR.

(2) Create an employment record for the family child care program on or before the first day of employment, including date of hire.

(3) Update their individual profiles or employment records in the OPR within five calendar days of a change, including:

(a) Contact information.

(b) Positions or roles, and related dates.

~~(D)~~(E) Do employees and child care staff members have whistle blower protection?

Yes, an employer is not to discharge, demote, suspend or threaten to discharge, demote, suspend or in any manner discriminate against any employee or child care staff member based solely on the employee or child care staff member taking any of the following actions:

- (1) Making any good faith oral or written complaint to the ODJFS or other agency responsible for enforcing Chapter 5104. of the Revised Code regarding a violation of this chapter or the rules adopted pursuant to Chapter 5104. of the Revised Code;
- (2) Instituting or causing to be instituted any proceeding against the employer under section 5104.04 of the Revised Code;
- (3) Acting as a witness in any proceeding under section 5104.04 of the Revised Code;
- (4) Refusing to perform work that constitutes a violation of Chapter 5104., or the rules adopted pursuant to Chapter 5104. of the Revised Code.

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07/01/2003, 01/01/2007, 06/01/2007, 08/14/2008,
07/01/2011, 12/01/2011, 01/01/2014, 12/31/2016,
10/29/2017, 10/29/2021

Appendix A to Rule 5101:2-13-08

Family Child Care Staff Member

A child care staff member, including substitute child care staff members and high school graduates working in a family child care home are to meet the following requirements prior to caring for children:

1. Be at least sixteen years of age.
2. Provide verification of a high school education, a high school diploma or Ohio high school equivalence diploma in accordance with the guidelines in appendix A to rule 5101:2-13-07 of the Administrative Code.
3. Provide a medical statement that meets the requirements detailed in appendix B to rule 5101:2-13-02.



**Child Care Center Manual Transmittal Letter No. 36
Child Care Day Camp Manual Transmittal Letter No. 18
Family Child Care Manual Transmittal No. 26**

TO: All Child Care Center Manual Holders
All Child Care Day Camp Manual Holders
All Family Child Care Manual Holders

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

SUBJECT: Updates to the Prohibitive Convictions for Child Care Centers, Child Care Day Camps, Family Child Care Home Providers, and Ohio Department of Education Licensed Preschool and School-age Child Care Programs Providing Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC)

Background

The Office of Family Assistance completed a five-year review of child care center and family child care licensing rules 5101:2-12-09 and 5101:2-13-09. Rule 5101:2-18-07 was revised to align with the other chapters.

Rules 5101:2-12-09 and 5101:2-13-09 were revised to remove revision dates from JFS form citations as the most recent version of all Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) forms can be accessed through [Forms Central](#).

Per Sections 109.572 and 5104.013 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC), anyone who has been convicted of or plead guilty to certain offenses are prohibited from owning, operating, or working in a child care business. Appendix A to the rules was revised to add prohibitive offenses already existing in ORC. If an individual has been convicted of or plead guilty to one of the offenses below, they are not eligible to own or work in a child care program.

Individuals are not required to submit a request for new background checks as result of this letter.

Remember, a new request for background checks should be submitted only if the following situations apply:

- The current background checks are expired on the JFS 01176 "Program Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care" and JFS 01177 "Individual Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care"
- The background check is no longer valid due to an employment gap of more than 180 days.

- The individual changes employment or plans to reside in another licensed child care program but has an unexpired background check determination by ODJFS. (New fingerprints are not required).

ODJFS will no longer allow rehabilitation for the prohibitive offenses being added to Appendix A for all background checks submitted on or after the rule's effective date January 27, 2024.

Changes to Rules 5101:2-12-09 and 5101:2-13-09

Removed revision dates from the following forms:

- JFS 01176 "Program Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care"
- JFS 01177 "Individual Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care"
- JFS 01178 "Request for Review of Background Check Decision for Child Care"

Changes to Appendix A – Standards for Rehabilitation for Rules 5101:2-12-09, 5101:2-13-09, and 5101:2-18-07

Relocated and revised the following statement in 2(c):

- "The felony was not an existing or former offense of any municipal corporation, this state, or any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of these offenses, or that would meet the ineligibility requirements under 45 CFR Section 98.43 or one of the following"
- Added the following convictions that currently exist in ORC to the prohibitive offenses list in OAC to align
 - R.C. 2903.03 – Voluntary manslaughter
 - R.C. 2903.04 – Involuntary manslaughter
 - R.C. 2905.32 – Trafficking in persons
 - R.C. 2907.04 – Unlawful sexual conduct with minor
 - R.C. 2907.05 – Gross sexual imposition
 - R.C. 2907.19 – Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor
 - R.C. 2907.21 – Compelling prostitution
 - R.C. 2907.31 – Disseminating matter harmful to juveniles
 - R.C. 2911.01 – Aggravated robbery
 - R.C. 2911.02 – Robbery
 - R.C. 2911.11 – Aggravated burglary
 - R.C. 2911.12 – Burglary
 - R.C. 2919.23 – Interference with custody
 - R.C. 2919.24 – Contributing to unruliness or delinquency of a child
 - R.C. 2923.13 – Having weapons while under disability
 - R.C. 2923.161 – Improperly discharging firearm at or into a habitation, in a school safety zone or with intent to cause harm or panic to persons in a school building or at a school function

Questions

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk with questions at childcarepolicy@jfs.ohio.gov or 1-877-302-2347 option 4.

5101:2-12-09

Background check requirements for a licensed child care center.**(A) What records are included in a background check?**

- (1) Bureau of criminal investigation (BCI) records pursuant to section 5104.013 of the Revised Code.
- (2) Federal bureau of investigation (FBI) records pursuant to section 5104.013 of the Revised Code.
- (3) National sex offender registry.
- (4) State sex offender registry.
- (5) Statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS) records.

(B) Who shall have a background check?

- (1) An owner and administrator of a licensed child care center or applicants to be licensed as a child care center.
- (2) An employee in a licensed child care center as defined in rule 5101:2-12-01 of the Administrative Code.
- (3) A child care staff member in a licensed child care center as defined in rule 5101:2-12-01 of the Administrative Code, including substitutes.

(C) When is a background check required?

- (1) At application for a child care center license.
- (2) Prior to the first day of employment for employees and child care staff members.
- (3) Every five years from the date of the most recent BCI records check.

(D) How is a background check obtained?

The individual shall:

- (1) Create a profile in the Ohio professional registry (OPR).
- (2) Submit fingerprints electronically according to the process established by BCI and have the BCI and FBI results sent directly to the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS). Information on how to obtain a background check can be found at <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Business/Services-for-Business/WebCheck>.

- (3) Complete and submit the request for a background check for child care in the OPR.
- (E) What if an individual previously resided in a state other than Ohio?
- (1) ODJFS will contact any states in which the individual resided in the previous five years to request the information required in paragraph (A) of this rule.
 - (2) Any information received from other states will be reviewed and considered by ODJFS as part of the background check review pursuant to paragraph (G) of this rule.
- (F) What happens if an individual does not complete the full background check determination process?
- (1) If the individual completes only the requirements in paragraph (D)(2) of this rule or only the requirements in paragraph (D)(3) of this rule and does not submit the other component within forty-five days, the background check process will end and a determination of eligibility will not be made.
 - (2) ODJFS will notify the individual and the program that the background check determination process has ended.
 - (3) The individual will need to complete the requirements of paragraphs (D)(2) and (D)(3) of this rule to restart the background check determination process in the future.
- (G) What makes an individual ineligible to own or be employed in a center?
- (1) A conviction or guilty plea to an offense listed in division (A)(5) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code, unless the individual meets the rehabilitation criteria in appendix A to this rule.
 - (a) Section 109.572 of the Revised Code requires that this rule applies to records of convictions that have been sealed pursuant to section 2953.32 of the Revised Code.
 - (b) A conviction of or a plea of guilty to an offense listed in division (A)(5) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code is not prohibitive if the individual has been granted an unconditional pardon for the offense pursuant to Chapter 2967. of the Revised Code or the conviction or guilty plea has been set aside pursuant to law. For purposes of this rule, "unconditional pardon" includes a conditional pardon to which all conditions have been performed or have transpired.

- (2) Being registered or required to be registered on the national or state sex offender registry or repository.
 - (3) The individual is identified in SACWIS as the perpetrator for a substantiated finding of child abuse or neglect in the previous ten years from the date the request for background check was submitted or the individual has had a child removed from their home in the previous ten years pursuant to section 2151.353 of the Revised Code due to a court determination of abuse or neglect caused by that specific person.
- (H) What happens after the individual requests the background check in the OPR and submits fingerprints through a webcheck location?
- (1) The program and individual will receive notification of preliminary approval generated from the OPR.
 - (2) The center will receive the JFS 01176 "Program Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care" (~~rev. 9/2019~~) from ODJFS and shall keep it on file, if not available in the OPR.
 - (a) For those individuals not eligible for employment, the center shall not hire the individual or shall terminate them from employment immediately upon receipt of the JFS 01176.
 - (b) Until preliminary approval is received from ODJFS, an administrator, child care staff member or employee hired on or after the effective date of this rule cannot engage in any assigned duties or be near children.
 - (c) A child care staff member with preliminary approval but not a JFS 01176 on file at the center or in the OPR shall not be left alone with children and shall be supervised at all times by another child care staff member with a JFS 01176 on file or in the OPR.
 - (d) Only child care staff members with a JFS 01176 on file at the center or in the OPR may be left alone with children.
 - (3) The individual will receive the JFS 01177 "Individual Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care" (~~rev. 9/2019~~) from ODJFS.
 - (a) If the individual believes the information received is not accurate, the individual may directly contact the agency that contributed the questioned information.

- (b) If the individual disagrees with the employment eligibility decision made by ODJFS, a JFS 01178 "Request for Review of Background Check Decision for Child Care" (~~10/2017~~) shall be completed to request a review of the decision. The JFS 01178 shall be submitted within fourteen business days from the date on the JFS 01177.

(I) What happens after an individual submits a JFS 01178 to ODJFS?

If an individual requests a review of a background check decision pursuant to paragraph (H)(3)(b) of this rule:

- (1) The program shall not allow the individual to be on-site at the program during the review by ODJFS.
- (2) If the individual is determined to be eligible for employment, the program may allow the individual to be employed and shall keep the updated JFS 01176 on file pursuant to paragraph (H)(2) of this rule.

(J) What are the background check requirements if an individual becomes employed at another licensed program?

- (1) Only the request for a background check for child care in the OPR is required if the individual meets all of the following:
 - (a) The individual has a current background check determination by ODJFS completed in the previous five years pursuant to this rule.
 - (b) The individual has been employed by a licensed child care center, licensed type A home, licensed type B home, approved day camp, a preschool or school-age program approved to provide publicly funded child care or certified as an in-home aide or was a resident of a licensed type A home or licensed type B home in the previous one hundred eighty consecutive days.
- (2) Upon receipt of the request, ODJFS will provide the JFS 01176 based on the existing background check determination to the new employer.

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09/01/2008, 07/01/2010, 09/29/2011, 11/01/2015,
12/31/2016, 10/29/2017, 09/29/2019

Appendix A to Rule 5101:2-12-09

Standards for Rehabilitation

An applicant, employee, child care staff member, owner or administrator of a licensed child care center who has a prohibited offense shall meet the following standards for rehabilitation:

1. If the offense was a misdemeanor:
 - a. At least three years have elapsed from the date the individual was fully discharged for imprisonment, probation or parole, unless the records were sealed.
 - b. All fines imposed by the court as part of the sentence have been paid in full.

2. If the offense was a felony:
 - a. At least 10 years have elapsed since the individual was fully discharged from imprisonment, probation or parole, unless the records were sealed.
 - b. All fines imposed by the court as part of the sentence have been paid in full.
 - c. The felony was not an existing or former offense of any municipal corporation, this state, or any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of these offenses, or that would meet the ineligibility requirements under 45 CFR Section 98.43 or one of the following:

R.C. 2903.01 – Aggravated murder

R.C. 2903.02 – Murder

R.C. 2903.03 – Voluntary manslaughter

R.C. 2903.04 – Involuntary manslaughter

R.C. 2903.11 – Felonious assault

R.C. 2903.12 – Aggravated assault

R.C. 2903.13 – Assault

R.C. 2905.01 – Kidnapping

R.C. 2905.32 – Trafficking in persons

R.C. 2907.02 – Rape

R.C. 2907.03 – Sexual battery

R.C. 2907.04 – Unlawful sexual conduct with minor

R.C. 2907.05 – Gross sexual imposition

R.C. 2907.12 – Felonious sexual penetration (as this former section of law existed)

R.C. 2907.19 – Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor

R.C. 2907.21 – Compelling prostitution

R.C. 2907.31 – Disseminating matter harmful to juveniles

R.C. 2907.321 – Pandering obscenity involving a minor or impaired person

R.C. 2907.322 – Pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor or impaired person

R.C. 2907.323 – Illegal use of a minor or impaired person in nudity-oriented material or performance

R.C. 2909.02 – Aggravated arson

R.C. 2909.03 – Arson

R.C. 2911.01 – Aggravated robbery

R.C. 2911.02 – Robbery

R.C. 2911.11 – Aggravated burglary

R.C. 2911.12 – Burglary

R.C. 2919.22 – Endangering children

R.C. 2919.23 – Interference with custody
R.C. 2919.24 – Contributing to unruliness or delinquency of a child
R.C. 2919.25 – Domestic violence
R.C. 2923.13 – Having weapons while under disability
R.C. 2923.161 – Improperly discharging firearm at or into a habitation, in a school safety zone or with intent to cause harm or panic to persons in a school building or at a school function

3. The victim of the offense (misdemeanor or felony) was not one of the following:
 - a. Under 18 years of age.
 - b. Functionally impaired as defined in section 2903.10 of the Revised Code.
 - c. Intellectually disabled or developmentally disabled as defined in section 5123.01 of the Revised Code.
 - d. Mentally ill as defined in section 5122.01 of the Revised Code.
 - e. 60 years of age or older.

4. The following additional factors shall also be considered:
 - a. The age of the person at the time of the offense.
 - b. The nature and seriousness of the offense.
 - c. The time elapsed since discharge from imprisonment, probation or parole.
 - d. Whether the person is a repeat offender.

5101:2-13-09

Background check requirements for a licensed family child care provider.

(A) What records are included in a background check?

- (1) Bureau of criminal investigation (BCI) records pursuant to section 5104.013 of the Revised Code.
- (2) Federal bureau of investigation (FBI) records pursuant to section 5104.013 of the Revised Code.
- (3) National sex offender registry.
- (4) State sex offender registry.
- (5) Statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS) records.

(B) Who shall have a background check?

- (1) Licensed family child care providers and applicants to be licensed family child care providers.
- (2) Adults (age eighteen and older) residing in the home of the family child care provider or applicant.
- (3) Employee of a family child care provider or applicant as defined in rule 5101:2-13-01 of the Administrative Code.
- (4) Child care staff member of the family child care provider or applicant as defined in rule 5101:2-13-01 of the Administrative Code, including substitutes.

(C) When is a background check required?

- (1) At application for a family child care license.
- (2) Within ten business days after a resident of the home turns eighteen years old.
- (3) Within ten business days of an adult moving into the home.
- (4) Prior to the first day of employment for the employee or child care staff member.
- (5) Every five years from the date of the most recent BCI records check.

(D) How is a background check obtained?

The individual shall:

- (1) Create a profile in the Ohio professional registry (OPR).
 - (2) Submit fingerprints electronically according to the process established by BCI and have the BCI and FBI results sent directly to the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS). Information on how to obtain a background check can be found at <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Business/Services-for-Business/WebCheck>.
 - (3) Complete and submit the request for a background check for child care in the OPR.
- (E) What if an individual previously resided in a state other than Ohio?
- (1) ODJFS will contact any states in which the individual resided in the previous five years to request the information required in paragraph (A) of this rule.
 - (2) Any information received from other states will be reviewed and considered by ODJFS as part of the background check review pursuant to paragraph (G) of this rule.
- (F) What happens if an individual does not complete the full background check determination process?
- (1) If the individual completes only the requirements in paragraph (D)(2) of this rule or only the requirements in paragraph (D)(3) of this rule and does not submit the other component within forty-five days, the background check process will end and a determination of eligibility will not be made.
 - (2) ODJFS will notify the individual and the program that the background check determination process has ended.
 - (3) The individual will need to complete the requirements of paragraphs (D)(2) and (D)(3) to restart the background check determination process in the future.
- (G) What makes an individual ineligible to own, reside or be employed in a licensed family child care home?
- (1) A conviction or guilty plea to an offense listed in division (A)(5) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code, unless the individual meets the rehabilitation criteria in appendix A to this rule.
 - (a) Section 109.572 of the Revised Code requires that this rule applies to records of convictions that have been sealed pursuant to section 2953.32 of the Revised Code.

- (b) A conviction of or a plea of guilty to an offense listed in division (A)(5) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code is not prohibitive if the individual has been granted an unconditional pardon for the offense pursuant to Chapter 2967. of the Revised Code or the conviction or guilty plea has been set aside pursuant to law. For purposes of this rule, "unconditional pardon" includes a conditional pardon with respect to which all conditions have been performed or have transpired.
 - (2) Being registered or required to be registered on the national or state sex offender registry or repository.
 - (3) The individual is identified in SACWIS as the perpetrator for a substantiated finding of child abuse or neglect in the previous ten years from the date the request for background check was submitted or the individual has had a child removed from their home in the previous ten years pursuant to section 2151.353 of the Revised Code due to a court determination of abuse or neglect caused by the person.
- (H) What happens after the individual requests the background check and submits fingerprints through a webcheck location?
- (1) The provider, county agency, and individual will receive a notification of preliminary approval generated from the OPR.
 - (2) The provider and county agency will receive the JFS 01176 "Program Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care" (~~rev. 9/2019~~) from ODJFS and shall keep it on file, if not available in the OPR.
 - (a) For those individuals not eligible for employment the provider shall not hire the individual or shall terminate them from employment immediately upon receipt of the JFS 01176.
 - (b) For those individuals not eligible for residence in a licensed family child care home, the resident shall immediately cease living in the family child care home upon receipt of the JFS 01176.
 - (c) Until preliminary approval is received from ODJFS, an employee or child care staff member hired on or after the effective date of this rule shall not engage in any assigned duties or be near children.
 - (d) A child care staff member with preliminary approval but not a JFS 01176 on file at the home or in the OPR shall not be left alone with children and shall be supervised at all times by the provider or another child care staff member with a JFS 01176 on file at the home or in the OPR.

- (e) Only child care staff members with a JFS 01176 on file at the home or in the OPR may be left alone with children.
 - (3) The individual will receive the JFS 01177 "Individual Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care" (~~rev. 9/2019~~) from ODJFS.
 - (a) If the individual believes the information received is not accurate, the individual may directly contact the agency that contributed the questioned information.
 - (b) If the individual disagrees with the employment/residency eligibility decision made by ODJFS, a JFS 01178 "Request for Review of Background Check Decision for Child Care" (~~10/2017~~) shall be completed to request a review of the decision. The JFS 01178 shall be submitted within fourteen business days from the date on the JFS 01177.
- (I) What happens after an individual submits a JFS 01178 to ODJFS?

If an individual requests a review of a background check decision pursuant to paragraph (H)(3)(b) to this rule:

- (1) The program shall not allow the individual to be on-site at the program or reside in the home during the review by ODJFS.
 - (2) If the individual is determined to be eligible for employment or residence, the program may allow the individual to be employed or reside in the home and shall keep the updated JFS 01176 on file pursuant to paragraph (H)(2) of this rule.
- (J) What are the background check requirements if an individual becomes employed at another licensed program ?

- (1) Only the request for a background check for child care in the OPR is required if the individual meets all of the following:
 - (a) The individual has a current background check determination by ODJFS completed in the previous five years pursuant to this rule.
 - (b) The individual has been employed by a licensed child care center, licensed type A home, licensed type B home, approved day camp, a preschool or school-age program approved to provide publicly funded child care or certified as an in-home aide or was a resident of a licensed type A home or licensed type B home in the previous one hundred eighty consecutive days.

- (2) Upon receipt of the request, ODJFS will provide the JFS 01176 based on the existing background check determination to the new employer.

Effective: 1/27/2024
Five Year Review (FYR) Dates: 11/8/2023 and 01/27/2029

CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Certification

01/17/2024

Date

Promulgated Under: 119.03
Statutory Authority: 5104.013
Rule Amplifies: 5104.013, 5104.03
Prior Effective Dates: 09/05/1986, 07/01/1995, 10/01/1997 (Emer.),
12/30/1997, 04/01/2003, 07/01/2003, 09/01/2005,
01/01/2007, 08/14/2008, 03/01/2009, 07/01/2010,
09/29/2011, 01/01/2014, 11/01/2015, 12/31/2016,
10/29/2017, 09/29/2019

Appendix A to Rule 5101:2-13-09

Standards for Rehabilitation

An applicant, employee, child care staff member, resident, owner or administrator of a licensed family care home who has a prohibited offense shall meet the following standards for rehabilitation:

1. If the offense was a misdemeanor:
 - a. At least three years have elapsed from the date the individual was fully discharged for imprisonment, probation or parole, unless the records were sealed.
 - b. All fines imposed by the court as part of the sentence have been paid in full.

2. If the offense was a felony:
 - a. At least 10 years have elapsed since the individual was fully discharged from imprisonment, probation or parole, unless the records were sealed.
 - b. All fines imposed by the court as part of the sentence have been paid in full.
 - c. The felony was not an existing or former offense of any municipal corporation, this state, or any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of these offenses, or that would meet the ineligibility requirements under 45 CFR Section 98.43 or one of the following:

R.C. 2903.01 – Aggravated murder

R.C. 2903.02 – Murder

R.C. 2903.03 – Voluntary manslaughter

R.C. 2903.04 – Involuntary manslaughter

R.C. 2903.11 – Felonious assault

R.C. 2903.12 – Aggravated assault

R.C. 2903.13 – Assault

R.C. 2905.01 – Kidnapping

R.C. 2905.32 – Trafficking in persons

R.C. 2907.02 – Rape

R.C. 2907.03 – Sexual battery

R.C. 2907.04 – Unlawful sexual conduct with minor

R.C. 2907.05 – Gross sexual imposition

R.C. 2907.12 – Felonious sexual penetration (as this former section of law existed)

R.C. 2907.19 – Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor

R.C. 2907.21 – Compelling prostitution

R.C. 2907.31 – Disseminating matter harmful to juveniles

R.C. 2907.321 – Pandering obscenity involving a minor or impaired person

R.C. 2907.322 – Pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor or impaired person

R.C. 2907.323 – Illegal use of a minor or impaired person in nudity-oriented material or performance

R.C. 2909.02 – Aggravated arson

R.C. 2909.03 – Arson

R.C. 2911.01 – Aggravated robbery

R.C. 2911.02 – Robbery

R.C. 2911.11 – Aggravated burglary

R.C. 2911.12 – Burglary

R.C. 2919.22 – Endangering children

R.C. 2919.23 – Interference with custody

R.C. 2919.24 – Contributing to unruliness or delinquency of a child

R.C. 2919.25 – Domestic violence

R.C. 2923.13 – Having weapons while under disability

R.C. 2923.161 – Improperly discharging firearm at or into a habitation, in a school safety zone or with intent to cause harm or panic to persons in a school building or at a school function

3. The victim of the offense (misdemeanor or felony) was not one of the following:
 - a. Under 18 years of age.
 - b. Functionally impaired as defined in section 2903.10 of the Revised Code.
 - c. Intellectually disabled or developmentally disabled as defined in section 5123.01 of the Revised Code.
 - d. Mentally ill as defined in section 5122.01 of the Revised Code.
 - e. 60 years of age or older.

4. The following additional factors shall also be considered:
 - a. The age of the person at the time of the offense.
 - b. The nature and seriousness of the offense.
 - c. The time elapsed since discharge from imprisonment, probation or parole.
 - d. Whether the person is a repeat offender.

5101:2-18-07 **Background check requirements for an approved child day camp.**

(A) What records are included in a background check?

- (1) Bureau of criminal investigation (BCI) records pursuant to section 5104.013 of the Revised Code.
- (2) Federal bureau of investigation (FBI) records pursuant to section 5104.013 of the Revised Code.
- (3) National sex offender registry.
- (4) State sex offender registry.
- (5) Statewide automated child welfare information system (SACWIS) records.

(B) Who shall have a background check?

- (1) An owner and administrator of an approved child day camp or applicant to be approved as a child day camp.
- (2) An employee of an approved child day camp as defined in rule 5101:2-18-01 of the Administrative Code.
- (3) A child day camp staff member as defined in rule 5101:2-18-01 of the Administrative Code.

(C) When is a background check required?

- (1) At initial application for approval of a child day camp.
- (2) Prior to the first day of employment for employees and child day camp staff members.
- (3) Every five years from the date of the most recent BCI records check.

(D) How is a background check obtained?

The individual shall:

- (1) Create a profile in the Ohio professional registry (OPR) at <https://occr.org>.
- (2) Submit fingerprints electronically according to the process established by BCI, and have the BCI and FBI results sent directly to the Ohio department of job and family services (ODJFS). Information on how to obtain a background check

can be found at <https://www.ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Business/Services-for-Business/WebCheck>.

- (3) Complete and submit the request for a background check for child care in the OPR.
- (E) What if an individual previously resided in a state other than Ohio?
- (1) ODJFS will contact any states in which the individual resided in the previous five years to request the information required in paragraph (A) of this rule.
 - (2) Any information received from other states will be reviewed and considered by ODJFS as part of the background check review pursuant to paragraph (G) of this rule.
- (F) What happens if an individual does not complete the full background check determination process?
- (1) If the individual completes only the requirements in paragraph (D)(2) of this rule or only the requirements in paragraph (D)(3) of this rule and does not submit the other component within forty-five days, the background check process will end and a determination of eligibility will not be made.
 - (2) ODJFS will notify the individual and the program that the background check determination process has ended.
 - (3) The individual will need to complete the requirements of paragraphs (D)(2) and (D)(3) of this rule to restart the background check determination process in the future.
- (G) What makes an individual ineligible to own or be employed by an approved day camp?
- (1) A conviction or guilty plea to an offense listed in division (A)(5) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code, unless the individual meets the rehabilitation criteria in appendix A to this rule.
 - (a) Section 109.572 of the Revised Code requires that this rule applies to records of convictions that have been sealed pursuant to section 2953.32 of the Revised Code.
 - (b) A conviction or a plea of guilty to an offense listed in division (A)(5) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code is not prohibitive if the individual has been granted an unconditional pardon for the offense pursuant to Chapter 2967. of the Revised Code or the conviction or guilty plea has been set aside pursuant to law. For purposes of this rule, "unconditional

pardon" includes a conditional pardon with respect to which all conditions have been performed or have transpired.

- (2) Being registered or required to be registered on the national or state sex offender registry or repository.
 - (3) The individual is identified in SACWIS as the perpetrator for a substantiated finding of child abuse or neglect in the previous ten years from the date the request for background check was submitted or the individual has had a child removed from their home in the previous ten years pursuant to section 2151.353 of the Revised Code due to a court determination of abuse or neglect caused by that specific individual.
- (H) What happens after the individual requests the background check in the OPR and submits fingerprints through a webcheck location?
- (1) The approved child day camp and individual will receive notification of preliminary approval generated from the OPR.
 - (2) The approved child day camp will receive the JFS 01176 "Program Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care" from ODJFS and shall keep it on file if not available in the OPR.
 - (a) For those individuals not eligible for employment, the approved child day camp shall not hire the individual or shall terminate them from employment immediately upon receipt of the JFS 01176.
 - (b) Until preliminary approval is received from ODJFS, an administrator, employee or child day camp staff member hired on or after the effective date of this rule shall not engage in any assigned duties or be near children.
 - (c) A child day camp staff member with preliminary approval but not a JFS 01176 on file at the child day camp or in the OPR shall not be left alone with children and shall be supervised at all times by another child day camp staff member with a JFS 01176 on file or in the OPR.
 - (d) Only child day camp staff members with a JFS 01176 on file at the child day camp or in the OPR may be left alone with children.
 - (3) The individual will receive the JFS 01177 "Individual Notification of Background Check Review for Child Care" from ODJFS.

- (a) If the individual believes the information received is not accurate, the individual may directly contact the agency that contributed the questioned information.
- (b) If the individual disagrees with the employment eligibility decision made by ODJFS, a JFS 01178 "Request for Review of Background Check Decision for Child Care" shall be completed to request a review of the decision. The JFS 01178 shall be submitted within fourteen business days from the date on the JFS 01177.

(I) What happens after an individual submits a JFS 01178 to ODJFS?

If an individual requests a review of a background check decision pursuant to paragraph (H)(3)(b) of this rule:

- (1) The program shall not allow the individual to be on-site at the program during the review by ODJFS.
- (2) If the individual is determined to be eligible for employment, the program may allow the individual to be employed and shall keep the updated JFS 01176 on file pursuant to paragraph (H)(2) of this rule.

(J) What are the background check requirements if an individual becomes employed at another approved child day camp or licensed child care program?

- (1) Only the request for a background check for child care in the OPR is required if the individual meets all of the following:
 - (a) The individual has a current background check determination by ODJFS completed in the previous five years pursuant to this rule.
 - (b) The individual has been employed by an approved child day camp, licensed child care center, licensed type A home, licensed type B home, a preschool or school-age program approved to provide publicly funded child care or certified as an in-home aide or was a resident of a licensed type A home or licensed type B home in the previous one hundred eighty consecutive days.
- (2) Upon receipt of the request, ODJFS will provide the JFS 01176 based on the existing background check determination on file to the new employer.

Effective: 1/27/2024

Five Year Review (FYR) Dates: 7/1/2028

CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

Certification

01/17/2024

Date

Promulgated Under: 119.03
Statutory Authority: 5104.21, 5104.22
Rule Amplifies: 5104.21, 5104.22
Prior Effective Dates: 04/16/2018, 09/29/2019, 07/01/2023

Appendix A to Rule 5101:2-18-07

Standards for Rehabilitation

An applicant, employee, child day camp staff member, owner or administrator of an approved child day camp who has a prohibited offense shall meet the following standards for rehabilitation:

1. If the offense was a misdemeanor:
 - a. At least three years have elapsed from the date the individual was fully discharged for imprisonment, probation or parole, unless the records were sealed.
 - b. All fines imposed by the court as part of the sentence have been paid in full.

2. If the offense was a felony:
 - a. At least 10 years have elapsed since the individual was fully discharged from imprisonment, probation or parole, unless the records were sealed.
 - b. All fines imposed by the court as part of the sentence have been paid in full.
 - c. The felony was not an existing or former offense of any municipal corporation, this state, or any other state, or the United States that is substantially equivalent to any of these offenses, or that would meet the ineligibility requirements under 45 CFR Section 98.43 or one of the following:

R.C. 2903.01 – Aggravated murder

R.C. 2903.02 – Murder

R.C. 2903.03 – Voluntary manslaughter

R.C. 2903.04 – Involuntary manslaughter

R.C. 2903.11 – Felonious assault

R.C. 2903.12 – Aggravated assault

R.C. 2903.13 – Assault

R.C. 2905.01 – Kidnapping

R.C. 2905.32 – Trafficking in persons

R.C. 2907.02 – Rape

R.C. 2907.03 – Sexual battery

R.C. 2907.04 – Unlawful sexual conduct with minor

R.C. 2907.05 – Gross sexual imposition

R.C. 2907.12 – Felonious sexual penetration (as this former section of law existed)

R.C. 2907.19 – Commercial sexual exploitation of a minor

R.C. 2907.21 – Compelling prostitution

R.C. 2907.31 – Disseminating matter harmful to juveniles

R.C. 2907.321 – Pandering obscenity involving a minor or impaired person

R.C. 2907.322 – Pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor or impaired person

R.C. 2907.323 – Illegal use of a minor or impaired person in nudity-oriented material or performance

R.C. 2909.02 – Aggravated arson

R.C. 2909.03 – Arson

R.C. 2911.01 – Aggravated robbery

R.C. 2911.02 – Robbery

R.C. 2911.11 – Aggravated burglary

R.C. 2911.12 – Burglary

R.C. 2919.22 – Endangering children

R.C. 2919.23 – Interference with custody
R.C. 2919.24 – Contributing to unruliness or delinquency of a child
R.C. 2919.25 – Domestic violence
R.C. 2923.13 – Having weapons while under disability
R.C. 2923.161 – Improperly discharging firearm at or into a habitation, in a school safety zone or with intent to cause harm or panic to persons in a school building or at a school function

3. The victim of the offense (misdemeanor or felony) was not one of the following:
 - a. Under 18 years of age.
 - b. Functionally impaired as defined in section 2903.10 of the Revised Code.
 - c. Intellectually disabled or developmentally disabled as defined in section 5123.01 of the Revised Code.
 - d. Mentally ill as defined in section 5122.01 of the Revised Code.
 - e. 60 years of age or older.

4. The following additional factors shall also be considered:
 - a. The age of the individual at the time of the offense.
 - b. The nature and seriousness of the offense.
 - c. The time elapsed since discharge from imprisonment, probation or parole.
 - d. Whether the individual is a repeat offender.



Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 173

TO: Child Care Manual Holders
FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director
SUBJECT: Step Up To Quality Updated Curriculum and Alignment Process

Background

Programs participating in Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) that are rated at the two to five-star level must use a curriculum that aligns with the Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS). Programs at the three to five-star level must also use a child assessment that aligns with the curriculum and the ELDS.

Currently, these programs complete and submit the JFS 01590 "Curriculum Standards Assessment Alignment Tool: Infants, Toddlers, and Preschoolers for Step Up To Quality" to show their curriculum and assessment alignment to the standards.

New ELDS were adopted by the State Board of Education on June 14, 2022 and are available for use now.

Updated Process

The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS), in collaboration with the Department of Children and Youth, have implemented a new process to verify alignment of curricula and assessment with the ELDS. This process, along with currently verified curricula and assessments that align with the ELDS, can be found at this link: [Standards-Curriculum-Assessment Alignment | Ohio Department of Education](#). If a curriculum is not fully aligned, the program must complete and have available the supplemental alignment form, also available on that webpage.

By July 1, 2024, all programs must be using curricula and assessments aligned to the new ELDS as detailed in the table below.

Program Rating Status	Process
Your program is currently rated a two-star	The curriculum obtained by the program may be aligned to the old ELDS until June 30, 2024. Beginning July 1, 2024, the curriculum obtained must be aligned to the new ELDS following the process available on the ODE website.
Your program is currently rated a three-star or higher	Program can continue to use curriculum and assessment aligned to the old ELDS

	until June 30, 2024. Beginning July 1, 2024 the program must have obtained verification of alignment to the new ELDS following the process available on the ODE website.
Your program is not currently rated a two-star or higher and you are registering before July 1, 2024 for a two-star or higher	Program must ensure the curricula (for two-star programs) or the curricula and assessment (for three-star programs) selected by the program has been verified on the ODE website. If not, secure verification before submitting SUTQ registration.
Your program plans to register for a two-star or higher after July 1, 2024	Obtain verification of curricula (for two-star programs) or the curricula and assessment (for three-star programs) alignment to the ELDS before submitting SUTQ registration.

Updated Forms

JFS 01590 "Standards, Curriculum, & Assessment Alignment Tool for Step Up To Quality Programs" is no longer available for programs to use.

Three forms updated in CCMPL 162 "Step Up to Quality Forms Updated Due to the New Early Learning Development Standards" are now available in forms central:

JFS 01507 "Curriculum Selection Process for Two to Five-Star Rated Programs for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)"

JFS 01513 "Activity Plan for Step Up To Quality"

JFS 01592 "Individual Child Plan for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)"

Implementation

Programs must upload the verification secured from the ODE website at the time of SUTQ registration. If the program obtains and/or implements a new curricula or assessment the verification must be obtained and maintained onsite. If the curriculum is not fully aligned, the supplemental alignment form must be completed.

Programs must also maintain a copy of the verification from the ODE website on site to be viewed at inspections, as outlined in the standards.

Questions

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at childcarepolicy@jfs.ohio.gov or 1-877-302-2347, option 4, if you have any questions.