EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION PROVIDER MEETING

January 28, 2025

2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

Ohio THE HEART OF IT ALL™

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

AGENDA

1. Curriculum Implementation
2. Inclusion Initiatives
3. Program/Event Updates
   - Science of Reading Grants
   - Exit Surveys in the Ohio Professional Registry
   - Public Private Partnerships
   - Early Childhood Education Grantee Meeting

CURRICULUM IMPLEMTATION

Dr. Wendy Grove, Senior Advisor, Research, Evaluation and Impact
Sophie Hubbell, Chief, Bureau of Early Childhood Practice Advancement

THE IMPORTANCE OF STANDARDS

- Standards inform us—teachers, aides, and volunteers—about how skills build on one another through developmentally appropriate instruction, activities, and environments.
- Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards are:
  - Aligned to the Science of Reading knowledge, strategies, and resources
  - Aligned with the CDC's Milestones for Development
  - No longer age anchored, which removed bias for English Learners, Children with Disabilities, any child with developmental delay in a single domain
- Resources are abundant
  - Resource Guides by developmental domain
  - There is also an Infant and Toddler Resource Guide and a Family Child Care and Mixed Age Groups Resource Guide

THE IMPORTANCE OF CURRICULUM

- At least one research-based curriculum aligned to the ELDS is required in Birth – Kindergarten entry classrooms
- Why? It is essential for kindergarten readiness! Read our Issue Brief on the topic!
- Curricula should guide the teacher so that their instruction is:
    - play-based,
    - developmentally appropriate,
    - adaptable to include all, and
    - progressed in structured, sequential, and skill-building ways
- See Resources for choosing curriculum that are aligned as required
- See the list of approved Preschool High Quality Instructional Materials for Literacy
- See the Research evidence

THE IMPORTANCE OF ASSESSMENT

- How do we know if we are achieving our goals in an early childhood program? We measure children's progress through assessment!
- Research evidence tells us the Birth – Kindergarten years are when:
  - Explosive brain development happens
  - The foundation of all later learning happens
  - The basis of all social and emotional behavior happens
- Developmentally appropriate assessment should be happening all the time
- Teachers observe, mentally (*or electronically*) recording the skills, knowledge and behaviors they see
- Adjust instruction and provide opportunities for learning to reach each child

STANDARDS, CURRICULUM, AND ASSESSMENT LINK

- The link is clear in the research literature
- Without one, the others cannot be effective in getting children kindergarten ready
- Quality, Alignment, and Validity are essential to all three
    - Standards: What is expected for typically developing children
    - Curriculum: What the teachers do to provide opportunity for skill building
    - Assessment: Measurement of where each child is on his learning and development journey
- Why?
    - Explosive brain development (architecture is forever once it is built)
    - Prevents and Mitigates adverse home conditions and experiences (ACES)
    - Linked with better school and life outcomes (Child Development 93(2): 502-523)

CURRICULUM ROLL-OUT

Department of Children and Youth

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CURRICULUM VENDOR SELECTED-CENTER-BASED/SCHOOLS

- Teaching Strategies selected for curriculum and assessment contract
- Infant, toddler, and preschool editions of Creative Curriculum, 6th Edition, available for child care centers and schools to order
- Free curriculum includes:
  - One hard copy curriculum set, per age group, per licensed site
  - Digital subscription to Creative Curriculum Cloud for each teacher at the site good through September 2027
  - Digital subscription to Professional Development Teacher Membership for each teacher at the site through September 2027
  - Materials are available in Spanish

FAMILY CHILD CARE CURRICULUM

- During the first RFP process, there was not a family child care specific curriculum that was approved.
- A new solicitation will be released shortly.
- Until a family child care specific curriculum is approved and announced, family child care providers can continue to use the following:
  - Creative Curriculum Family Child Care, 2nd Edition
  - Any curriculum on the approved list for the age group you are currently serving (the list to follow).

TEACHING STRATEGIES RESOURCES

- Teaching Strategies Professional Development Teacher Membership (PDTM)
- All teachers will have access through September 30, 2027:
  - Over 400 hours of training on current best practices in early childhood education.
  - Courses specific to The Creative Curriculum® and GOLD® assessment system
  - All the course content needed for the Childhood Development Associate (CDA) credential and Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) health and safety requirements
  - Community of practice (The Hub)
  - Teacher Acceleration Program (TAP), an 8-week structured onboarding experience with live coaching to enhance the implementation of The Creative Curriculum® and provide teachers with insight into child development, formative assessment, pedagogy, and classroom arrangement

GOLD ASSESSMENT

- The Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment digital portfolio is included in the contract.
- Digital portfolios can be requested for individual children in the infant, toddler, and preschool age groups.
- The ordering process will be integrated with the curriculum order.
- Programs currently using the Creative Curriculum may request the GOLD Assessment without ordering the curriculum.

ORDERING AND NEXT STEPS

- Guidance and online forms will be available by February 14th.
- The guidance will include clear instructions for the following categories:
  - Programs that previously received a copy of the 6th Edition through the State of Ohio.
  - Programs that previously received an earlier edition of the Creative Curriculum through the State.
  - Programs that did not previously receive a copy of the 6th Edition through the State of Ohio.
  - Prioritization for ordering, if necessary (e.g., rated and non-rated programs, PFCC Provider Agreements, etc.).

UPDATED CURRICULUM REVIEW PROCESS

DCY Integrated Science of Reading and ELDS Alignment Review

- Infant and Toddler Curricula
- Family Child Care Curricula
- All Proprietary and Self-Created Curricula

DCY ELDS Alignment Review + DEW Science of Reading (HQIM) Review

- All Published Preschool and Prekindergarten Curricula

DEW – Department of Education and Workforce
ELDS – Early Learning and Development Standards
HQIM – High Quality Instructional Materials

SUTQ APPROVED INFANT AND TODDLER CURRICULA

- Creative Curriculum for Infants, Toddlers and Twos
- Experience Early Learning
- Learning Beyond Paper

SUTQ APPROVED PRESCHOOL CURRICULA

- Creative Curriculum for Preschool, 6th Edition
- Frog Street PreK (2020)
- High Scope Preschool 2nd Edition
- PreK On My Way (2020)
- Ready to Advance (2012; Preschool)
- World of Wonders (2017)

SUTQ APPROVED- FAMILY CHILD CARE (IN PROCESS)

- Vendors have been notified and asked to submit documentation for review.

EARLY LEARNING ASSESSMENT

- The Early Learning Assessment spring window opens on February 15 and closes on May 14.
- DCY will hold an informational webinar for administrators and data managers to review ELA policies and procedures for the Spring 2025 administration window, including the data reporting process. No preregistration is required.

Early Learning Assessment Administrator/Data Manager Webinar	
February 11, 2025 10:30 am - 11:30 am	Click **join the meeting now.**

Department of Children and Youth

INCLUSION UPDATES

Dr. Wendy Grove, Senior Advisor, Research, Evaluation and Impact, DCY
Dr. Laura Maddox, Program Director, Center for the Young Child, OCALI

OCALI
Center for the Young Child

Laura Maddox, Ph.D., BCBA, COBA

Program Director, Center for the Young Child

Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence, OCALI

27 years working with children and families in various roles:

- Early childhood special educator
- District administrator of Early Intervention and Preschool Special Education
- Federal and state grants and programs related to children's health and education:
  - Autism/Disabilities
  - Child development
  - Foster care
  - Health

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

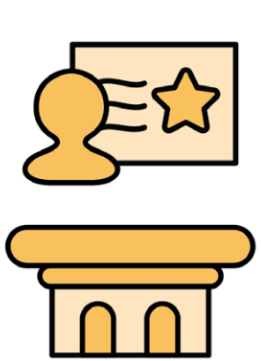
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

OHIO PROMISE

Ohio PROMISE is a statewide initiative that **p**romotes **r**esources, **o**pportunities, and **m**eaningful **i**nclusion through **s**upport and **e**ducation (PROMISE)

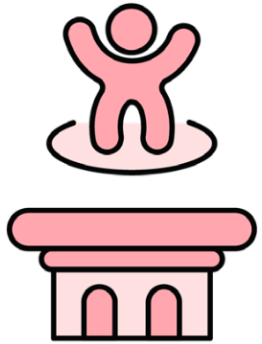
Investments of resources, expertise, and a robust infrastructure will move Ohio to **realize the vision** that each Ohioan, from birth, has a strong foundation of support, acceptance, and empowerment where they live, play, learn, and work

FIVE COMPONENTS OF OHIO PROMISE

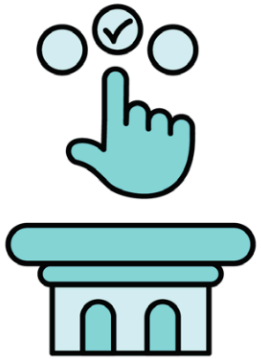


Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Credential

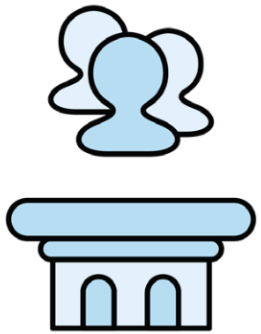
Inclusive Child Care Program Designation



Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence



Child Care Choice Voucher



Ohio PROMISE Advisory Council

Programs

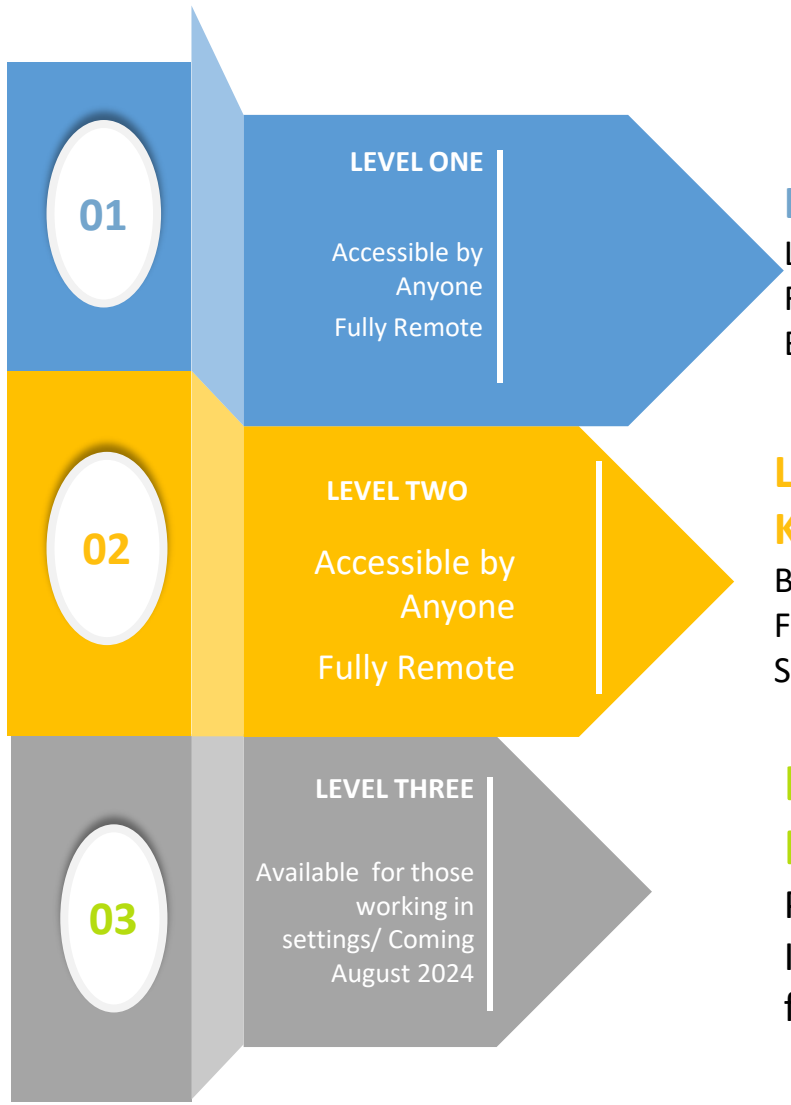
Professionals

Families

PROFESSIONAL EARLY CHILDHOOD INCLUSION CERTIFICATE (PECIC)

The Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Certificate is Specialized Learning at three-levels

- Aim is to raise awareness and build skills at the individual professional level
- Available on demand and at no cost
- Ohio Approved
- Linked to designation, potential incentives



Level 1: Awareness
Learning Focuses on Raising Awareness and Basic Knowledge

Level 2: Implement Knowledge
Builds on Level 1 Foundation to Advance Specialized Knowledge

Level 3: Implement Best Practices
Provides Skills Needed to Implement Best Practices for Childhood Inclusion

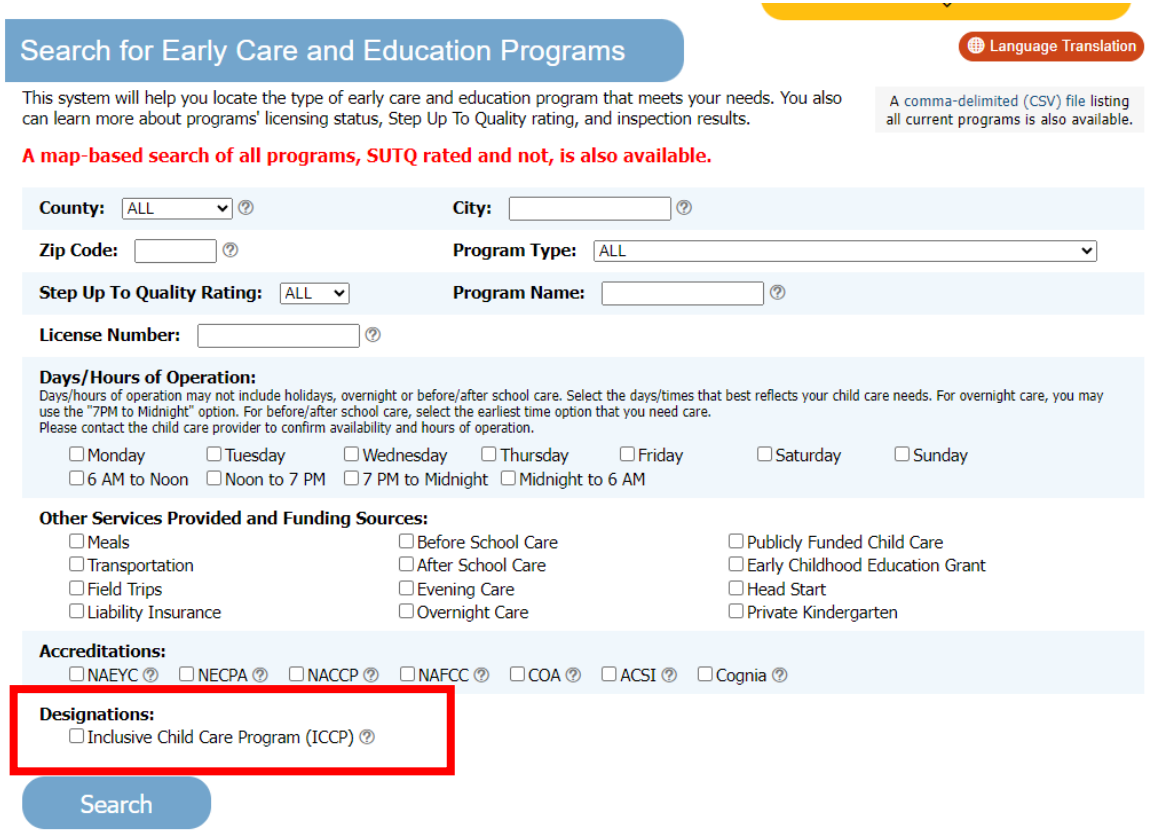
Department of Children and Youth

INCLUSIVE CHILD CARE PROGRAM (ICCP) DESIGNATION

- PROGRAM-level designation
- Open to any licensed center, school, family child care home
- Requires *Administrator and one Lead Teacher* to complete PECIC or the Owner for Family Child Care Homes
  - Currently, just this one level of designation is available
  - At least one more level is in development
- Over 1,000 programs have achieved the designation
- Designation is valid for 2 years

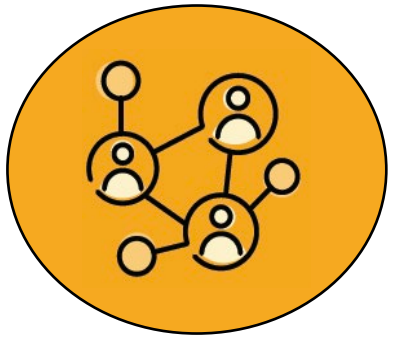
INCLUSIVE CHILD CARE PROGRAM (ICCP) DESIGNATION

Allows families to search for programs with the designation using Ohio's Child Care Search Page



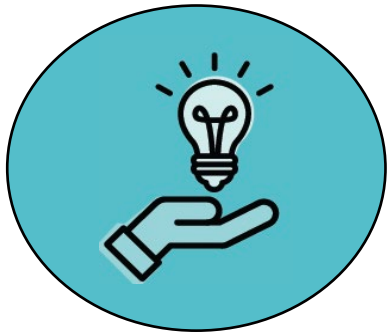
Department of Children and Youth

THE EARLY CHILDHOOD INCLUSION CENTER OF EXCELLENCE



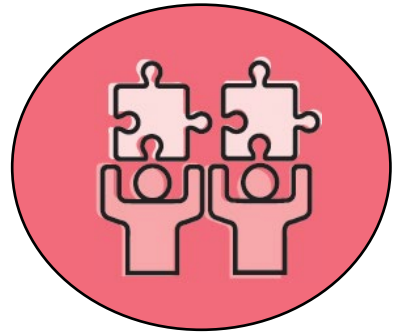
Support

Offer innovative guidance on inclusive policies and practices as well as access to assistive technology and accessible materials.



Educate

Provide a variety of learning opportunities through webinars, in-person technical assistance and coaching, and outreach events.



Collaborate

Partner with you to expand inclusion in your setting through resources and training.

INCLUSION SUPPORT SPECIALISTS ARE AVAILABLE TO:

- Provide Consultation and Technical Assistance
- Work with Professionals as Practice-Based Coaches
- Conduct Professional Development and Training
- Facilitate Program and Community Inclusion Quality Improvement
- Disseminate Materials and Equipment

Visit Us Here
https://ohiopromise.org/ec-inclusion

ACCESS MATERIALS AND RESOURCES

Ready to try something new?

Explore and borrow equipment, materials, and assistive technology.

Explore Resources

Not sure where to start?

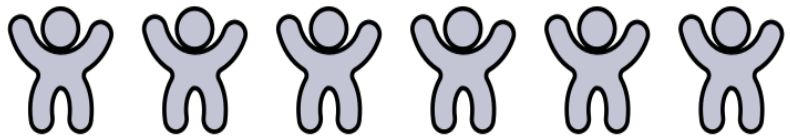
Take a look at our SPARK Guides for ideas.

Explore Ideas

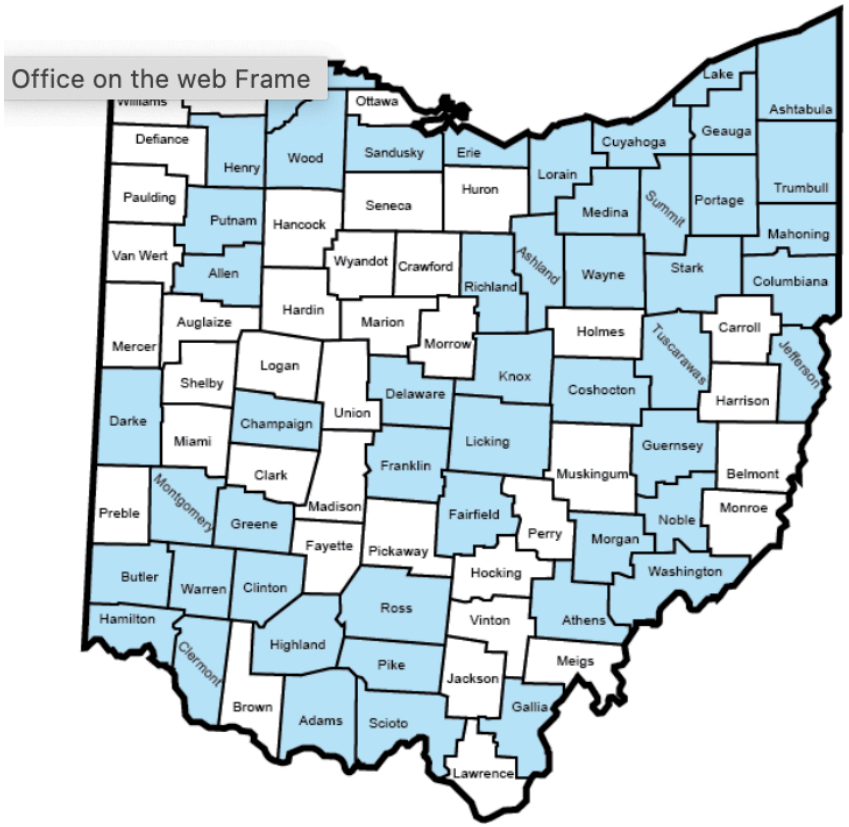
Ohio Department of Children and Youth

IN OUR FIRST 11 MONTHS OF COE SERVICES:

- Provided services to more than 1,700 professionals
- Disseminated 1000s of materials and resources from The Collection



More than 14,600 children have been impacted by COE services*



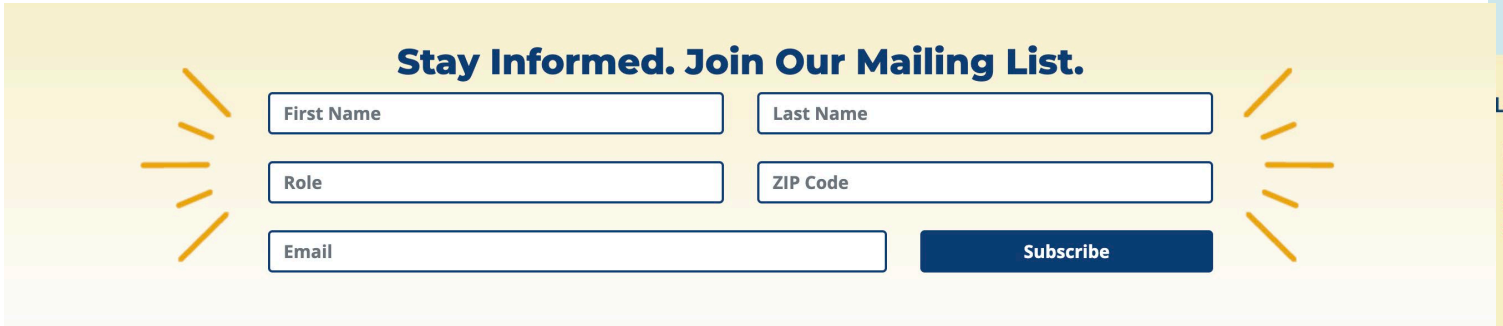
Requests By County: 49 out of **88** counties

* based on an average of 12 children per professional participating in services

Department of Children and Youth

NEXT STEPS

- Visit the Ohio PROMISE website (www.ohiopromise.org)
  - **Click** on Learn more about the COE
  - **Submit** a Service Request or browse The Collection



Department of Children and Youth

PROGRAM AND MEETING UPDATES

Alicia Leatherman, Chief Strategy Officer

SCIENCE OF READING GRANT - BACKGROUND

The Ohio Department of Education and Workforce required the completion of Science of Reading training under Section 265.330(A)(2) of House Bill 33 of the 135th General Assembly. The law awarded $43 million to reimburse school districts and community schools established under Chapter 3314 of Revised Code, and STEM schools established under Chapter 3326 of Revised Code to provide stipends for teachers which completed the training.

SCIENCE OF READING GRANT - NEW FUNDING

The Governor, through the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY), is committed to supporting emergent language development and early literacy for children in all learning environments.

- DCY will be launching a parallel grant opportunity for eligible early care and education programs not covered by DEW.
- Administrators and lead teachers are required to complete at least 10 hours of Science of Reading training.
- Approximately $5 million has been made available through the Preschool Development Grant and CCDF Quality.
- **Funding is only available until resources are exhausted.**
- These trainings may also be used to meet professional development requirements for the revised Step Up To Quality program.

SCIENCE OF READING GRANT - OVERVIEW AND REQUIREMENTS

Program Requirements	Staff Requirements
Be open and in good standing	Must be listed in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) as an Administrator, Lead Teacher, or Family Child Care Owner
Active and serving children	Must complete at least 10 hours of training related to the Science of Reading from an approved lists.
Have an Early Care and Education agreement (previously known as the PFCC Provider Agreement)	Must have the training hours verified in the OPR (that way courses will count towards SUTQ requirement).
Child Care Center, Private Preschool, Non-Public Preschool (example: Religious School, Charter School), Non-Public District Preschool, Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) Preschool	The administrator must have completed the training to receive any funding.

SCIENCE OF READING GRANT – GRANT AMOUNTS

Program Type	Payment	Available Awards
Child Care Centers, Preschools	$750 per staff, up to $3,000	1,450
Family Child Care Homes	$750 for owner/administrator	1,100
School-Age Programs	$750 per staff, up to $3,000	25

SCIENCE OF READING GRANT- APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete Required Training

Review OPR for appropriate roles and training verification

Submit an application for the grant to DCY

Application Requirements
1. Must have a valid license number and program name and e-mail address matching OCLQS
2. Must have staff names and OPIN that match the OPR
3. Must list completed trainings by individual
Note: This is not a competitive grant with a scoring process. The first applications that meet the criteria will be awarded. If an application is denied, the program may re-apply. Review of the new application will occur in the order it was received regardless of the time/date of the original application.

SCIENCE OF READING GRANT - TIMELINE

October

Announcement of opportunity.

November

Guidance letter get published with grant criteria, application process and link.
Application window opened November 20, 2025.

January

Training must be completed by January 31, 2025, to be considered for the grant.

February

Application window closes Friday, February 14, 2025, or **until the funding as been exhausted.**

March

Final notices are completed.

April

Payments are issued.

OHIO PROFESSIONAL REGISTRY (OPR)

Employment Exit Survey

- In November 2024, an exit survey was introduced in the OPR.
- When employment ends or a role changes, either the professional or the program administrator can update the employment or role end date.
- The person updating the information will be asked questions regarding the role change or reason for ending employment.
- The questions vary slightly depending on who completes the survey.

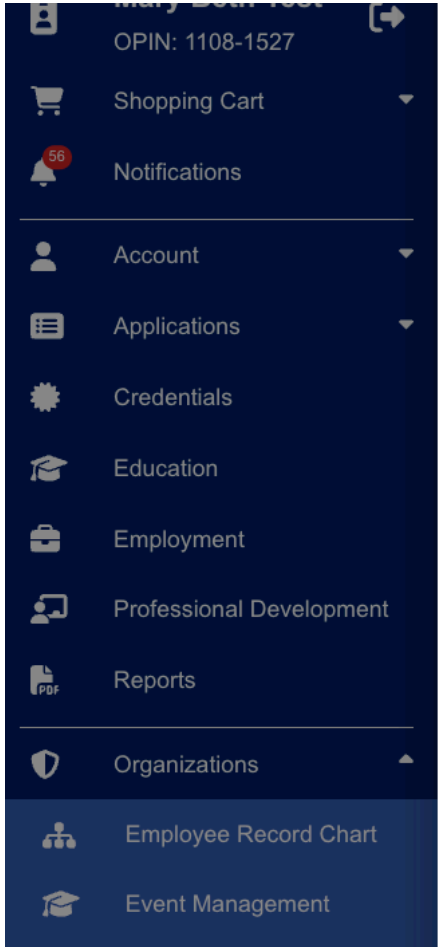
OHIO PROFESSIONAL REGISTRY (OPR)

Employment Exit Survey

- While the questions must still be completed before the end date can be finalized, the survey has recently been updated to include the option 'prefer not to respond.'
- Responses remain anonymous and will not be shared with current or future employers.

OHIO PROFESSIONAL REGISTRY (OPR)

EMPLOYMENT EXIT SURVEY



Program Administrator End Date Employment

Please complete this brief survey regarding the reason(s) for the employee's separation from employment in this role at your program.

1. Was this employee's role separation voluntary?

○ Yes ○ No ○ N/A No separation, role change ○ Prefer not to respond

2. Is this professional eligible for rehire within your organization?

○ Yes ○ No ○ Prefer not to respond

Enter Role End Date:

End Date

CANCEL REMOVE EMPLOYEE

OVERVIEW

- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Businesses, early care and education programs, and non-profit or government agencies work collaboratively.
- **Flexible Models**: Applicants have flexibility to create models that meet the diverse needs of the families and businesses within their community.
- **Increased Child Care Access**: Supports innovative approaches to expanding access to child care.

Public-Private Partnerships

Flexible Models

Increased Child Care Access

Ohio Department of Children and Youth

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

- Government alone cannot address Ohio's Child Care issues
- Public-Private Partnership brings together child care providers, businesses, non-profits, and government to work together to address this issue offering diverse models to meet needs
- This initiative is designed to benefit parents, businesses, and child care programs

Parents benefit by having access to quality, affordable child care

Businesses benefit by increased employee attendance and reduced turnover

Child Care programs benefit by having greater financial stability

PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

An announcement went out on
January 21, 2025.

The application will be available on
January 29, 2025.

Interested non-profit and government entities can join us for additional information at
Teams Live Link

Department of Children & Youth

January 21, 2025

Dear DCY Partner,

As you know through the Preschool Development Grant, we created a child care public private partnership to expand access to child care services through a partnership with private industry that supports workforce stability. This approach focuses on working families who struggle with child care access and costs, employers seeking to improve employee retention, and the state aiming to boost workforce participation. We are very appreciative of the work and interest our partners have created in Cuyahoga, Franklin, Hamilton, Licking, and Montgomery counties.

In an effort to make this opportunity available statewide there will be a new application for grant opportunity made available. The Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) is excited to continue development of a partnership to bring together businesses, child care providers, and government to find new ways to support employees and child care programs benefitting families, programs, and businesses.

The application for grant opportunity will be available to non-profit and government entities seeking to partner with a private business and child care provider to expand access to child care for employees. Through this opportunity, non-profit or government organizations may enter into partnerships with local businesses fostering collaborations with local child care programs. These partnerships are tailored to meet community needs and encompass flexible and diverse models supporting wage increases, access prioritization, cost sharing, and more.

We know that insufficient child care choices negatively impact parents, employers, and taxpayers. When families do not have the child care they need, parents' work productivity falls, resulting in costs to parents, employers, and ultimately taxpayers. We know that government alone cannot address the child care challenge. Through this partnership, we anticipate increased employee attendance, productivity and reduced turnover rates; enhanced access to consistent, high-quality child care for more children; and greater financial stability for child care programs.

I wanted to make you aware of this opportunity since it is another important tool in the toolbox to support child care programs, businesses, and families to ensure access to quality child care for working families in Ohio.

The application will be available on January 29, 2025. Interested non-profit and government entities can join us for additional information at 1 p.m. on January 29 through a Live Teams event at: Teams Live Link

We hope you will join us to learn more about this opportunity as we all work to DO WHAT'S RIGHT FOR KIDS.

Thanks for your continued partnership.

Kara B. Wente

Director, Department of Children and Youth

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION GRANT

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Grant is an important investment in Ohio's youngest learners. The purpose of the ECE Grant is to maximize a child's early educational experiences. These experiences help to prepare children for success in kindergarten by providing high-quality early learning services to Ohio's preschool age children. The state funded ECE Grant is awarded to early care and education programs who are required to provide developmentally appropriate learning environments that address the outcomes and goals essential for healthy development and academic growth.

Early Childhood Education Grantees

- **546** early care and education programs (grantees) are participating in the ECE grant.
- These grantees have been awarded a total of **29,213** slots.
- In Ohio, **77** counties have at least one grantee.

Enrollment Survey Oct-Dec 2024

21,432 slots filled (73.5% of allocated slots)

Enrollment by Provider Type:

- Child Care Programs: **48%**
- Chartered Non-Public Schools: **81%**
- Educational Service Centers/Boards of DD: **82%**
- Family Child Care: **41%**
- School Districts: **89%**

Full Day Pilot

Full Day Pilot Enrollment:

- **23** counties represented
- **68** participating grantees

Slot Allocation:

- **1,909** full-time slots awarded

Enrollment Update:

- **83%** of total grantee slots filled

ECE Grant Webinar on 2/12/25

- 10:00 am- Grantees who are EMIS users
- 1:00 pm- Community-based grantees

THANK YOU!

Next Call: February 25, 2025
2:00pm-3:00pm

Department of Children and Youth

MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO

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