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#### Directors Forum – November 2, 2023

#### Katie Thompson – 4C for Children

Katie reminded directors to update their program information in the OCCRRA Work Life System Child Care Program Portal. This information is used by 4C Family and Community Services specialists to match families looking for care with local programs. To market your program and update vacancies, visit https://www.4cforchildren.org/providers/program-portal/. You can contact Family and Community Services at <a href="mailto:families@4cforchildren.org">families@4cforchildren.org</a> or 937-220-9660 x1330.

Coaches continue to work with programs to help with SUTQ. If you need to know who your coach is, contact Ashley Chiles at 937-723-2718.

The second year of the LENA project has begun and 4C is recruiting more programs to reach the goal of 40 classrooms. If you are interested in participating in the LENA project, contact Katie at kthompson@4cforchildren.org.

Katie reported that the CDA team is recruiting for a virtual, fast-track CDA that will begin on January 2 and end May 2, 2024. This cohort will meet on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday each week from 6:30 to 9 p.m. For more information, email <a href="mailto:cda@4cforchildren.org">cda@4cforchildren.org</a>.

If you are interested in increasing learning time outdoors but aren't sure where to begin, then you will not want to miss the upcoming *All Together on the Trail* PD sessions. The sessions take place in February and March; a flier with details is attached. You can also get details for the first session here.

The Hub team is working hard to bring awareness that more foster homes are needed for children in care. November is National Adoption Month. More than 3,300 children in Ohio are waiting to be adopted. On any given day, nearly 14,000 children in Ohio are being cared for away from their parents. If you are interested in becoming a foster parent or know a group the Hub team can speak with, please reach out to Lakisha Ancrum at 937-723-2732 or lancrum@4cforchildren.org.

Child Care Careers is launching a substitute platform soon. The program is being piloted in Shelby and Butler Counties and we hope to expand it to other counties early in 2024. For more information, administrators can reach out to Lisa McMillion at <a href="mailto:lmcmillion@4cforchildren.org">lmcmillion@4cforchildren.org</a> or 513-758-1305.

#### Katy Minnick - Colonial Life

Colonial Life offers a variety of policies including vision, dental, disability, accident, and cancer. See the Colonial Life attachments for information on each. Contact Katy for additional detail: Katy.Minnick@coloniallifesales.com or 574-270-0270.

#### <u>Jackie Griffin – Dayton Arts Alliance</u>

Dayton Performing Arts Alliance (DPAA) believes the arts are for everyone. Educational programming is designed to inspire and nurture a lifelong love of the performing arts in as many people as possible of every age and background. DPAA offers 3 types of education programs, and your Quality dollars can be used for the first 2 of these programs.

- 1. Field Trip Concerts:
  - a. Magic Carpet Concert: Once Upon a Time Peter and the Wolf on Feb 27, 28, 29 at the Masonic Temple, 10 am and 11:30 am each day. Tickets are \$7 each. There will be a sensory-friendly performance on Feb 27 at 11:30.
- 2. In-school programs are offered by all three art forms:
  - a. Once Upon a Time Cinderella goes to the Opera.
  - b. Wee Three Dayton Philharmonic Trio
  - c. Ballet 101 Dayton Ballet
  - d. And more!
- 3. Participatory programs. We also offer ballet classes for 3-5 year olds at our downtown studio and at the Kettering YMCA.

Please reach out to us if you have any questions and to make your reservations for either one via this link or sending an email to <a href="mailto:education@daytonperformingarts.org">education@daytonperformingarts.org</a>.

#### **ECE Grant updates - Megan Shuler, Katie Pappas, Starre Cox**

Staff from the Office of Early Learning and School Readiness joined the call to provide some information about the ECE slots. They noted they will be transferred to the newly created Department of Children and Youth.

CCIP (not to be confused with CIP for SUTQ) - Where you are going to put your budget if you are an early childhood education grantee. Everybody should have access to the portal. Click here for the CCIP manual.

For information regarding the ECE Grant Requirements and implementation. Information specifically regarding allowable and unallowable cost that can be charged to the Grant can be found in the Early Childhood Education Grant FY24 Grantee Manual in Section 4: The Budget.

SSID – student applications can take between a week and a month. There's a third party that creates the SSID after the application is reviewed. We are working hard to get them processed. Once you start serving the child, everything is backdated.

There is a job aide on the website about getting started in KREADY and the ELA. Once you have an account, you will have professional development resources. They also hold ELA open office hours and various PD for data managers.

#### Links from chat:

- https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Early-Childhood-Education-Grant
- General Questions regarding the Grant can be sent to <u>EarlyChildhoodEducation@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov</u>
- For more information visit <a href="https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Early-Childhood-Education-Grant/Early-Childhood-Education-Grants-for-Administrator">https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Early-Learning/Early-Childhood-Education-Grants-for-Administrator</a>
- Katie.Pappas@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov or Megan.Shuler@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov

#### **ODJFS Licensing updates - Trentae Taylor and Kelly Paull**

Kelly acknowledged staffing and other challenges and thanked providers for supporting children and families. As always there are numerous updates and resources to share. Documents and links will be shared as a follow-up after the meeting today.

**New Early Childhood Inclusion Credential.** A free, on-demand Early Childhood Inclusion Credential is now available for all early care and education professionals!

- With Ohio PROMISE, Ohio is on its way to ensuring that every Ohio family is healthy
  and supported when needed. Children with disabilities must be included with their
  friends, neighbors, and peers from birth so they can thrive wherever they live, play, and
  learn. The Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Credential (PECIC) was created to
  raise the level of awareness, knowledge, competency, and confidence of professionals
  attending to the needs of children with disabilities, their families, and creating an
  inclusive environment for all children. o
- The credential will eventually include three levels of professional learning, with Tier 1 available now and Tiers 2 and 3 coming later this calendar year. The credential is free, completely on-demand, and has Ohio Approved hours associated with completion. Click on the link above to learn what it takes to complete the initial level of the credential, how earning the credential will benefit you, and answers to other questions you may have. No experience, level of education, or workplace affiliation is necessary to benefit from completing the credential.

**New Inclusive Child Care Program Designation.** A new Inclusive Child Care (ICCP) designation is now available for all early care and education programs!

- Ohio PROMISE is a new statewide initiative that will Promote Resources, Opportunities, and Meaningful Inclusion through Support and Education. This inclusive child care initiative is focused on increasing access for children with special needs through new professional development, a program designation to create awareness for families, and through services and supports for both families and programs.
- Please see the manual procedure letter that we have attached that outlines the details.
   Programs with the ICCP designation will be identified on the Ohio Search for Early Care

- and Education Programs webpage (childcaresearch.ohio.gov), as of Oct 2023, to assist families in locating inclusive child care.
- If you have questions about the procedure letter, please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

We are excited to share that the first 50 providers have earned this designation.

It's important to note there is no longer a paper application (since September 22). Programs must log in to OCLQS at <a href="https://oclqs.my.site.com">https://oclqs.my.site.com</a> to apply. Child Care Manual Procedure Letter #171 has been posted on our website and includes updates on the application process (also attached).

Please note: Once a professional completes the required training, then **the professional must apply** for the Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Credential **then the child care program must apply** for the ICCP designation. Please visit the child care website <u>ifs.ohio.gov/child-care</u>, scroll down and select the "Special Needs Tile" to view all resources, including the steps to obtain the credential and designation.

**Inclusive Child Care Program Designation FAQs**. Please see the attached frequently asked question document for the Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) designation with these reminders:

- The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services is issuing funds for the designation, as outlined in the Manual Procedure Letter (MPL).
- Prior to applying for the designation, your program must have individuals who meet the eligibility criteria outlined in the MPL.
- OCCRRA should only be contacted for questions specific to the Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Credential.

CCMPL 169, Ohio PROMISE ICCP Scholarships and Program Supports for Inclusive Child Care. CCMPL 169 has been posted to eManuals. This MPL outlines the new Ohio PROMISE – Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) Pilot Special Needs Child Scholarships and Program Supports for Inclusive Child Care. The related new form JFS 00601 "Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) Child Scholarship Application" is available on Forms Central as well as an updated Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) designation FAQ's. Please review the attached letter, form, and FAQ's documents for additional guidance.

Free Communicable Disease Training. The Management of Communicable Disease prescribed training that follows the curriculum developed by ODJFS and the Ohio Department of Health has been updated. Child care professionals are required to complete the prescribed training to meet rule requirements. The training is now available in a recorded format at no charge to the professional through the Ohio Professional Registry. Instructions on how trainers can obtain the updated curriculum are also included in the manual procedure letter. Details can be found in the manual procedure letter #166 or at the following link: <a href="here">here</a> and attached.

- If it is not time for a staff member to retake the training, then no action is needed.
- Rules have not changed about which staff members are required to complete the training.

• The ODJFS prescribed course must be retaken every three years by individuals required to complete the training.

**Quarterly Child Care Newsletter**- Please see the attached quarterly newsletter (#19). Check out the new section spotlighting early care and education professionals who have worked in the field for 20 years or longer. We are excited about these spotlights and look forward to future nominations. Submission instructions are in the newsletter. Also, please share the "Resources for Families" section with your families. The newsletter will be posted to our website for both families and providers to access.

**Step Up to Quality (SUTQ) Updates.** Updates to the education requirements for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) are being implemented due to Ohio Revised Code changes that occurred during the budget. Please review Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No 170 for details. This document also includes the revised standards for SUTQ for child care centers and family child care home providers. Contact the Child Care Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4 with questions.

**SUTQ Reinstatement of Rating after Temporary Closure**- Manual procedure letter #164 is now available online in the eManual. This letter outlines the process for reinstating the SUTQ rating after a temporary closure.

- Programs will not be required to request reinstatement of their star rating when
  reactivating their license when a program has been temporarily closed for more than 90
  days. The rating will be reinstated automatically to the previous rating when the license
  is reactivated. The new rating effective date will be the Sunday following the reactivation
  date. To continue the star rating the program must:
  - a. Submit an ongoing registration within 60 days of the new rating begin date; and
  - b. Comply with a desk review including documents returned for revision and the on-site verification visit.
- If the program fails to submit an ongoing registration, the rating will be discontinued 61 days after the rating is reinstated.

Assessing Rates in OCLQS- As stated in rule 5101:2-12-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code, child care centers are required to keep private pay rates current in the Ohio Child Care Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS). Previously, this data was assessed annually by ODJFS via a desk review. ODJFS will begin assessing current rates in OCLQS during on-site annual inspections at the center. Child care centers will receive technical assistance regarding rates for inspections completed prior to July 1, 2024. Beginning July 1, 2024, child care centers may receive a non-compliance if current rates are not entered in OCLQS. For more information on how to enter or update rates in OCLQS, please refer to the attached job aid.

**Collecting PFCC Copayment Guidance-** It was discovered that the co-payment amount on notices being sent to families is not the same as what is displayed in the Time, Attendance and Payment (TAP) System.

- What You Need to Know You need to collect the co-payment that is assigned in TAP to receive the full payment. We are working with the county agencies to ensure the notices and TAP reflect the same co-payment amount. The county agency will work with families affected to correct co-payments.
- What Families Need to Know Families should pay the co-payment amount identified in TAP. The county agency will work directly with families to correct any co-payment discrepancies.

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

**ACA Accreditation and Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC).** The following communication was sent to all registered and ACA approved day camps: We hope you had a wonderful, safe summer! Did you know that day camps that are accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) are eligible to provide publicly funded child care (PFCC) to Ohio's families?

Getting your **ACA accreditation** will help your program to provide the safest and best day camp experience for your campers! Becoming accredited now will help you prepare for next year's summer camp program. You are encouraged to contact the ACA well in advance of the summer months to plan and earn accreditation before camp starts. Please see the below links to get more information.

- Introduction to ACA Accreditation
- Camps Seeking Accreditation
- Purpose and Value of ACA Accreditation (this includes eligibility requirements)
- Timeline for On-Site Visits
- Fun & Safety: ACA-Accredited Camps Set the Standard

Providing **publicly funded child care** will allow your program to be available to all children. Once a registered day camp is accredited by the ACA, the day camp can request to become an approved day camp and then be able to provide PFCC. For more information on becoming an approved day camp and publicly funded child care view the resources below. Please review the attached Technical Assistance document that provides information, including timelines, for becoming an approved day camp.

- Child Care Day Camp Rules
- Staff Requirements
- Background Check Process
- Chapter 16: Publicly Funded Child Care rules
- Publicly Funded Child Care Resources

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

**Department of Children and Youth Updates.** The Department of Children and Youth (DCY) invites you to attend a regular cadence of meetings to share early care and education updates and hear directly from you as we build the infrastructure of programs for the new agency. Two of the guiding principles of DCY are transparency and accountability; therefore these meetings will be an opportunity for strengthening our relationship with our partners. These meetings will occur on the 4th Tuesday of every month from 2-3 pm. Each month you

will receive a team's live link to join. For your reference, we have attached the PowerPoint presentation from the first of the meetings. We look forward to continuing our partnership as we transition to DCY.

Ashley Marshall with Preschool Promise asked what should be done to ensure facilities improvements being made by providers meet ODJFS requirements. Trentae stated the provider should always start with the licensing specialist to let them know about changes to the environment (diagrams, etc.). They should work with you through the process to ensure you are following ODJFS rules. If the changes result in capacity changes, then a capacity amendment will need to be done. Getting a new certificate of occupancy and fire approval is critical and can be the more challenging part of process. If your specialist isn't sure about something, they can contact Trentae or Kelly who can consult the leadership team. Trentae stressed the importance of zoning and building codes.

No further questions. Sandra noted the Preschool Promise Directors Forum web page will have a summary of the information presented along with attachments sent in follow-up communication from Trentae and Kelly.

#### **Preschool Promise updates**

Ashley Marshall thanked providers for getting through count day. That does not mean you have to stop enrolling children. If you have eligible children, be sure to enroll them.

We heard your feedback about Quality Dollars and changes have been made. Sandra noted that eligible Preschool Promise providers should have received an email yesterday about the new process. The next step is that you will receive another email with your total amount available based on your enrollment. The final step is we will send you a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), which will be an agreement between you and Preschool Promise about how and when you can access those funds. The plan is to provide six monthly installments starting Dec. 15. This is dependent on receiving a signed MOU from you by Dec. 1. Sandra is available for questions now or in the future.

Ashley reminded everyone that public schools and MVCDC sites do not receive Preschool Promise Quality Dollars. We are using an equity lens to distribute limited dollars to programs that have fewer resources than public schools and MVCDC.

Sandra noted that for those Preschool Promise providers who attended a screening of the Black Boys film, all of the W-9 forms have gone out. Watch for an email from Christine Yeary using Acrobat Adobe Sign and return the form as soon as possible. It is important to complete the form on a computer rather than a cell phone; the form doesn't display well on a phone screen.

#### **Questions:**

Palmer Jason asked about Phase 4 grants going out. Katie Thompson (4C) has heard it is coming soon but no other details. She suggested watching the OCCRRA home page for information.

Terri Sims reported she was at a community meeting recently and people commented how much they appreciate PP and what is done for children. Sandra thanked Terri for sharing that feedback.

Sandra thanked everyone for participating in the forum. The meeting ended at 11:23 a.m.

# Let's Get Outdoors: All Together On the Trail



f you are interested in increasing learning time outdoors but aren't sure where to begin, then you will not want to miss the upcoming All Together On the Trail training sessions.

Led by Meredith Florkey, the eight sessions are designed to build on each week. *You can earn nine Ohio Approved hours if you attend all sessions*. Not only will the sessions up your knowledge of nature, but you'll learn the best practices of creating and evaluating outdoor classroom environments.

#### **About the Instructor**

Meredith Florkey has 15 years experience in early childhood education, including founding and operating nature schools, coaching nature based education in public and private sectors. In addition, she serves on the Miami Valley Leave No Child Inside Collaborative and the Ohio Nature-Based ECE Collaborative.

#### **Session Information**

#### Location:

Jones Pavilion at Armco Park 1223 North State Route 741 Lebanon, OH 45036

Cost: \$10 per hour

Register for all 8 sessions and receive a \$10 discount

#### Registration:

Visit the Ohio Professional Registry at occrra.org/ohio-professional-registry and search by the ST numbers below.

#### For More Information:

Kim Allen

kallen@4cforchildren.org | 513-758-1208

#### Brought to you by





## All Together On the Trail Session Details

Session	Date	Time	ST Number
Exploring the Power of Learning Outdoors	Thursday, Feb. 29	6:30-7:30pm	ST 10138534
Enhancing Learning with the Power of Our Senses Outdoors	Thursday, Feb. 29	7:30-8:30pm	ST 10138535
Risks vs Hazards in the Outdoors	Tuesday, March 5	6:30-7:30pm	ST 10138536
Teacher & Child Skills for Risks Found Outdoors	Tueday, March 5	7:30-8:30pm	ST 10138540
Outdoor Classroom Landscape Analysis and Design	Thursday, March 7	6:30-7:30pm	ST 10138537
Optimizing Learning in Your Outdoor Play Space	Thursday, March 7	7:30-8:30pm	ST 10138538
The Low Down on Fall & Winter Slow Down	Tuesday, March 12	6:30-8:30pm	ST 10138539
What's in your backpack? Stakeholders, Roadblocks, Advocacy-Oh My!	Tuesday, March 14	6:30-7:30pm	To Register: Call Kim Allen at 513-758-1208

See reverse side for session descriptions

# All Together On the Trail Session Info



#### **Exploring the Power of Learning Outdoors**

By exploring the power of learning outdoors, we will discover the rationale and research supporting creating nature connections and enhancing child development by moving outdoors as much as possible. Participants will establish their own connections and identify roadblocks with working with children outdoors.

#### **Enhancing Learning with the Power of Our Senses Outdoors**

Beyond just the usual five senses, we'll explore how our body, emotions, and brain are all activated when we spend time learning outdoors. This fun and invigorating session will walk participants through these benefits as well!

#### **Risks vs Hazards in the Outdoors**

What is safe? In this practical session, we'll explore some definitions in the context of early childhood care and education in regards to licensing and best practice.

#### **Teacher & Child Skills for Risks Found Outdoors**

When we work outdoors with natural materials either in the outdoor classroom or in natural areas, there will be opportunity for developmentally appropriate risks. This training will help participants see the link between both social-emotional skills and executive function in these natural environments. We will learn how to anticipate and plan for engaging with natural materials and phenomenon.

#### **Outdoor Classroom Landscape Analysis and Design**

Teachers, family child care providers and administrators will examine the current outdoor spaces at their center or home, analyze the positives for nature play, troubleshoot negative aspects to the current set up, and think creatively about additions. Practical and low cost solutions will be suggested and resources shared.

#### **Optimizing Learning in Your Outdoor Play Space**

Discover amazing ways to take learning outside and to begin thinking of your playground as an outdoor classroom! An emphasis on play and loose parts will be enjoyed by participants while we discuss how working outdoors offers creative and beneficial ways to access mental health, cognitive, and social-emotional support. Practical ideas will be shared in order to take action right away.

#### The Low Down on Fall & Winter Slow Down

Participants will explore how developmentally appropriate practice meets Fall phenology (the cycles of the climate, plants and animals) in the Ohio hedge, meadow, and forest. This content-rich workshop will have participants immersed in literacy, trail games, math activities with natural items, tracking (reading symbols), science information and song and dance. Participants are invited to bring a favorite nature picture book. Come ready to play and learn!

#### What's in Your Backpack? Stakeholders, Roadblocks, Advocacy-Oh My!

When you are ready to move your teaching practice outside more, you may experience a lack of support or the task seems insurmountable. In this session we will co-create lists of resources (time, treasure, and talent) to help support your next step. Participants will also be invited to join the nature-based community to help you and/or your program forward into the new year.



### Dental PPO Insurance

Plan 5 - \$1,500 | 100% | 80% | 50%



Life is full of unexpected smiles, and good oral health helps maintain them. Colonial Life dental insurance helps you pay for routine and costly dental care for you and your family, so you can focus on what's important.

#### **Policy details**

The policy year maximum benefit for this policy is \$1,500 per person.

Class A, B and C services apply toward the maximum.

This policy has a deductible of \$50 per person, per policy year for class B and C services.

Each covered family member pays a deductible up to a maximum of three members each policy year.

#### The coinsurance for this policy is:

CLASS	TYPE OF SERVICE	INSURANCE PAYS
Class A	Preventive services	100%
Class B	Basic services	80%
Class C	Major services	50%

#### Large national network

- Save more with 120,000+ unique providers<sup>1</sup>
- Claims filed for members by providers
- Easy provider search on ColonialLifeDental.com
- In-house recruiting team dedicated to expanding the network

# How does this policy pay benefits for network and out-of-network care?

#### **Network benefits**

Network providers have agreed to charge discounted rates for covered services. You receive the benefit of discounted services, and pay only your coinsurance portion and any applicable deductible. Plus, network providers will file your claim for you, so you don't have to deal with the paperwork.

#### **Out-of-network benefits**

Out-of-network providers haven't agreed to discounted rates, and their fees may vary significantly. Your policy's coinsurance is applied to the lesser of the provider's charge or a percentage of the customary charge in your area (90th percentile), and may not cover the total costs of dental care. You are responsible for your coinsurance portion, deductible and any remaining balance.

#### Covered procedures and waiting periods

#### Preventive services (Class A): no waiting period

- Routine exams and cleanings (twice every 12 months)
  - One additional cleaning per 12 months if member is in second or third trimester of pregnancy<sup>2</sup>
- X-rays
  - Bitewing X-rays (up to four films, once every 12 months)
- Children's services (up to age 14)
  - Fluoride treatment (once every 12 months)
  - Sealants (once every 36 months)
  - Space maintainers (up to age 14, once every 24 months)
- Oral cancer screening (for age 40+, once every 12 months)
- Virtual dental visits through TeleDentistry.com<sup>3</sup>

#### Basic services (Class B): no waiting period

- Full mouth/panoramic X-rays (once every five years)
- Fillings
- · Simple extractions
- · Emergency treatment

#### Major services (Class C): 12-month waiting period<sup>4,5</sup>

- Oral surgery (extractions and impacted teeth)
- Anesthesia (covered with complex oral surgery)
- Repair of crowns, dentures or bridges
- Periodontics (gum treatments)
- Endodontics (root canals)
- Inlays and onlays
- Crowns
- Bridges
- Dentures
- Endosteal implants (in place of a three-unit bridge)

**Missing Tooth Exclusion:** No benefits will be paid for replacement of teeth missing prior to the effective date of coverage.

#### Virtual Dental Visits through TeleDentistry.com

24/7 dental care for dental emergencies when an inperson visit is not an option.

A virtual dental visit can:

- Evaluate the patient's symptoms (jaw pain, chipped or broken tooth, sensitivity)
- Identify needs and determine if emergency treatment is required
- Write prescriptions for antibiotics or pain relief if appropriate<sup>6</sup>

Visit <u>ColonialLifeDental.com</u> and click Virtual Dental Visits or call **(866) 256-2261** to get started.



For more information about this dental policy, talk with your benefits counselor.

- 1. Network360, December 2021.
- 2. Member may have one additional periodontal maintenance in place of an additional cleaning.
- 3. Terms and availability of service from TeleDentistry.com are subject to change. Services are not valid after policy terminates.
- 4. Waiting periods may be waived if takeover applies.
- 5. No waiting period in Maine. Six-month waiting period in Vermont.
- 6. TeleDentistry.com dentists do not prescribe controlled substances or prescribe outside of the United States.

THIS POLICY PROVIDES LIMITED BENEFITS. A NETWORK ACCESS PLAN IS AVAILABLE.

This policy is not available in ZIP codes beginning with 025. For California: Summary of Dental Benefits and Coverage Disclosure (SDBC) is available at www.ColonialLifeDental.com.

This information is not intended to be a complete description of the insurance coverage available. The policy or its provisions may vary or be unavailable in some states. The policy has exclusions and limitations which may affect any benefits payable. Applicable to policy form IDN8000 (including state abbreviations where used, for example: IDN8000-TX). For cost and complete details of coverage, call or write your Colonial Life benefits counselor or the company.

Underwritten by Colonial Life & Accident Insurance Company, Columbia, SC.

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### Dental PPO Insurance

Vision Rider



Life is full of unexpected moments, and healthy vision can help you see them all. Our vision coverage helps you and your family maintain your vision wellness, with coverage for eye exams and optical materials, such as eyeglasses or contact lenses.

VISION BENEFITS	IN-NETWORK	OUT-OF-NETWORK
CO-PAYS		
Exam (once per 12 months)	\$10 co-pay	Up to \$35 allowance
Materials	\$25 co-pay	See below
STANDARD PLASTIC LENSES (once	e per 12 months)	
Single vision	Covered by co-pay	Up to \$25 allowance
Bifocal	Covered by co-pay	Up to \$40 allowance
Trifocal	Covered by co-pay	Up to \$50 allowance
Lenticular	Up to \$80 allowance	Up to \$50 allowance
Progressive	Up to \$70 allowance	Up to \$40 allowance
Polycarbonate lenses (for dependents to age 19)	Covered by co-pay	N/A
FRAMES (once per 12 months)		
Choose any frame available at provider locations	Up to \$120 allowance	Up to \$50 allowance
CONTACT LENSES (once per 12 mo Benefit includes materials, fit and leaving entire allowance for materi	follow-up. Provider may c	
Elective	Up to \$120 allowance	Up to \$100 allowance
Medically necessary	Up to \$210 allowance	Up to \$210 allowance

## VISION NETWORK – MAXIMIZE YOUR BENEFITS

You can maximize your vision benefits with any provider in our large, nationwide network. Our network includes independent optometrists and ophthalmologists, as well as retail stores such as:

- Walmart and Sam's Club Optical
- Target Optical
- Pearle Vision
- Visionworks
- Costco1

You can choose different providers to use your benefits for eye exams and eyeglasses or contact lenses.

### FIND A PROVIDER OR REFER A PROVIDER

Find a network provider near you on our Vision Provider Directory at ColonialLifeVision.com. If your preferred provider isn't in our network, you can send their contact information to referaprovider@ColonialLife. com, and one of our network recruiters will reach out to them.

#### SPECIAL SAVINGS ON MATERIAL PURCHASES<sup>2</sup>

Some network providers offer special pricing and discounts for certain vision materials, including lens add-ons and a second pair of glasses. See the chart below for details. Participating providers are designated as "Value Added" or "Service Plus" in the Provider Directory at ColonialLifeVision.com.

#### **VALUE-ADDED PROVIDERS**

#### SPECIAL PRICING AND DISCOUNTS ON LENS OPTIONS FOR FIRST PAIR OF GLASSES (ADD-ONS FOR INSURED PURCHASES)

• UV Coating	\$15
• Solid tinting/gradient tinting	\$15
Standard scratch-resistant coating	\$15
Standard antireflective coating	\$45
Premium antireflective coating	\$70

•	Ultra-antireflective	
	coating	. 20% discount
•	Polarized lenses	\$75
•	Transition lenses	\$75
•	Progressive lenses:	
	- Standard	\$110
	- Premium	\$170
	- Illtra	20% discount

Standard polycarbonate	•
lenses\$40	
<ul> <li>High index (single vision)</li> </ul>	•
- 1.56-1.60\$60	
- 1.66+ 20% discount	
<ul> <li>High index (multifocal)</li> </ul>	•
- 1.56-1.60\$75	
- 1.66+ 20% discount	

#### SPECIAL PRICING AND DISCOUNTS ON PURCHASE OF SECOND PAIR OF GLASSES

•	Single vision plastic lenses\$4	40
•	Bifocal plastic lenses\$	36

- Progressive lenses (premium and ultra)......20% discount

#### DISCOUNTS ON FRAMES, CONTACT LENSES AND OTHER PRODUCTS

- Frames...... Up to 35% discount
- Contact lenses .. 5 to 15% discount, depending on type
- Other products... 20% discount on nonprescription sunglasses and other products/solutions

#### SERVICE PLUS PROVIDERS

#### RECEIVE UP TO A 20% DISCOUNT FOR THE FOLLOWING ADD-ONS TO INSURED PURCHASES

- UV Coating
- Solid tinting/gradient tinting
- · Standard scratch-resistant coating
- Standard antireflective coating
- Premium antireflective coating
- Transition lenses

• Standard polycarbonate lenses

Note: Not a covered benefit. Prices shown reflect member payment. Discounts reflect percentage off the regular price.

#### For more information about our vision coverage, talk with your benefits counselor.

- 1. Optometrists at Costco Optical outlets are independent of Costco and may not be in network. Special payment and reimbursement terms apply for material purchases at Costco. Additional discounts are not applicable.
- 2. These schedules are subject to change without notice. Added value discounts may not be available in all geographical areas and may vary by network. Not all providers, such as Walmart, Sam's Club and Costco Optical, choose to participate in these programs. Some frames and lens items may have manufacturer restrictions and cannot be discounted. Special lens packages that combine numerous lens enhancements at value price points are not covered by these added value programs. Programs may not be combined with any other promotions or discounts.



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THIS POLICY PROVIDES LIMITED BENEFITS. A NETWORK ACCESS PLAN IS AVAILABLE.

This information is not intended to be a complete description of the insurance coverage available. The policy or its provisions may vary or be unavailable in some states. The policy has exclusions and limitations which may affect any benefits payable. Applicable to policy form IDN8000 and rider form R-VSN8000 (including state abbreviations where used, for example: IDN8000-TX). For cost and complete details of coverage, call or write your Colonial Life benefits counselor or the company.

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### **Accident Insurance**

#### Premier Plan



For more information, talk with your benefits counselor.

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available for you, your spouse and eligible dependent children. Benefits are per covered person per covered accident unless stated otherwise Accident emergency treatment \$200 One visit per covered person per covered accident Accident follow-up treatment (including transportation/telemedicine) \$85 Up to six benefits per covered person per covered accident and up to 12 benefits per covered person per calendar year Accidental death Accidental death Per covered person Accidental death common carrier ■ Named insured \$30,000 \$120,000 ■ Dependent child(ren) \$15,000 \$45,000 Examples of common carriers are mass transit trains, buses and planes Accidental dismemberment Loss, loss of use or paralysis Loss or loss of use One finger or one toe. \$1,650 Partial dismemberment of one finger or toe \$900 Accidental dismemberment due to a catastrophic accident For total and irrecoverable loss, loss of use or paralysis of one of the following: ■ Both hands, arms, feet, legs or the sight of both eyes; or any combination; or Loss of sight of both eyes, loss of hearing of both ears, or loss of ability to speak Subject to a 180-day elimination period; payable once per lifetime per covered person ■ Named insured \$30,000 Spouse \$30,000 ■ Dependent child(ren) \$30,000 Accidental injury due to an automobile accident \$250 Requires transportation to a hospital or medical facility by ambulance Payable once per calendar year for all covered persons combined Air ambulance \$2,800 Transportation to or from a hospital or medical facility Ambulance (ground or water). \$400 Transportation to or from a hospital or medical facility A transfusion required during treatment of a covered accident Burn ■ 2nd-degree burns (covering at least 36% of the body's surface) \$2,500

■ 3rd-degree burns (based on size). \$4,000 − \$24,000

Accident insurance can help with medical or other costs associated with a covered accident or injury that your health insurance may not cover. Coverage options are

## John was cleaning out the gutters when he fell.



#### **EMERGENCY ROOM VISIT**

John was taken by ambulance to the nearest emergency room and received immediate care.



#### **DIAGNOSTIC PROCEDURE**

The doctor ordered an X-ray and discovered John had fractured his leg.



#### HOSPITAL CONFINEMENT

John was admitted to the hospital for surgery on his leg. He was confined for three days.



#### **PHYSICAL THERAPY**

John had eight sessions of PT to help him regain the strength in his leg.



#### **DOCTOR'S OFFICE VISIT**

Over the next several weeks, he had three follow-up appointments with his doctor.

#### **JOHN'S OUT-OF-POCKET EXPENSES**

When John totaled up the bills, he had to pay his annual deductible, as well as co-payments for the ambulance, emergency room, hospital, surgery, physical therapy and follow-up visits. Luckily, John had accident coverage to help with these expenses.

JOHN'S BENEFITS	
Ambulance	\$400
Emergency room visit	\$200
X-ray	\$60
Hospital admission	\$1,500
Hospital confinement	\$900
Leg fracture (surgical)	\$3,500
Physical therapy	\$440
Medical equipment (crutches)	\$200
Doctor's office visit	\$195
Doctor's office visit	\$195

\$7,395

For illustrative purposes only.

Benefit amounts may vary and may not cover all expenses. The policy has exclusions and limitations.

Burn – skin graft. 5 As a result of 2nd-degree or 3rd-degree burns	50% of applicable b	urn benefit
Coma		\$20,000
Concussion		\$300
Dislocation (separated joint)  Hip	Non-surgical \$3,750	Surgical \$7,500
. ■ Knee (except patella)		\$3,750
■ Ankle, bone or bones of the foot (other than toes)	\$1,750	\$3,500
■ Collarbone (sternoclavicular)	· ·	\$2,800
Collarbone (acromioclavicular and separation)	\$850	\$1,700
■ Lower jaw, shoulder, elbow, wrist, bone(s) of the hand		\$1,700
■ Finger, toe.		\$350
■ Incomplete dislocation or dislocation reduction		applicable
without anesthesia		al amount
Emergency dental work		
Emergency dental work  Dental crown, denture or implant		\$700
Dental extraction		
- Dental extraction		3230
<b>Eye injury</b> With surgical repair or removal of a foreign object		\$550
Fracture (complete)	Non-surgical	Surgical
■ Skull, depressed fracture (except face/nose)	\$5,250	\$10,500
■ Skull, simple non-depressed fracture	\$2,100	\$4,200
■ Hip, thigh (femur)	\$4,200	\$8,400
■ Body of vertebrae (excluding vertebral processes), pelvis, leg	\$1,750	\$3,500
■ Bones of the face or nose (except mandible or maxilla)	\$1,000	\$2,000
Upper jaw, maxilla, upper arm betweenelbow and shoulder	\$750	\$1,500
■ Lower jaw, mandible	\$625	\$1,250
■ Kneecap, ankle, foot or heel.	\$625	\$1,250
■ Shoulder blade	\$625	\$1,250
■ Collarbone, vertebral processes	\$1,050	\$2,100
■ Forearm, hand, wrist	\$625	\$1,250
■ Rib	\$1,050	\$2,100
■ Coccyx	\$400	\$800
■ Finger	\$525	\$1,050
■ Toe	\$525	\$1,050
■ Chip fracture	plicable non-surgio	al amount
Hearing-loss injuries  Maximum of one benefit for each injured ear per covered person per lifetim		\$180
Hospital admission Per covered person per covered accident		\$1,500
Hospital confinement.  Up to 365 days per covered person per covered accident	\$3	00 per day
Hospital sub-acute intensive care unit confinement Up to 30 days per covered person per covered accident	\$5	00 perday
Intensive care unit admission  Per covered person per covered accident		\$2,750
Intensive care unit confinement.  Up to 15 days per covered person per covered accident	\$6	00 per day

Knee cartilage (torn) \$1,000
Laceration (no repair, without stitches) \$30
Laceration (repaired by stitches)
■ Total of all lacerations is less than two inches long
■ Total of all lacerations is at least two but less than six inches long
■ Total of all lacerations is six inches or longer
Lodging (companion) \$200 per day Up to 30 days per covered person per covered accident
Medical equipment
■ Tier 1
■ Tier2 \$200
Bedside commode, cold therapy system (cryotherapy), crutches, leg brace, shower chair, walker or walking boot
■ Tier 3 \$400  Back brace, body jacket, Continuous Passive Movement (CPM), halo, electric scooter, hospital bed (including rental), knee scooter, stair lift chair, wheelchair
Medical imaging study (CT, CAT scan, EEG, EMG, MR or MRI)
One benefit per covered person per covered accident per calendar year
Observation room \$225 per day Up to two days per covered person per calendar year
Pain management for epidural anesthesia (non-surgical)\$200
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD)\$300 Diagnosed from a covered accident with one benefit per covered person per calendar year
Prosthetic device/artificial limb
■ One \$1,400
■ More than one
Repair or replacement
■ Repair
■ Replacement \$1,400
One repair or replacement per prosthetic device/artificial limb per covered person per lifetime
Rehabilitation unit confinement \$275 per day
Immediately after a period of hospital confinement due to a covered accident; up to 15 days per covered person per covered accident, not to exceed 30 days per covered person per calendar year
Ruptured disc with surgical repair \$1,600
Surgery
■ Cranial, open abdominal and thoracic \$2,100
■ Hernia with surgical repair \$350
Surgery (exploratory and arthroscopic)\$400
Tendon/ligament/rotator cuff
■ One with surgical repair \$1,050
■ Two or more with surgical repair \$2,100
Therapy (occupational, physical or speech)
Transportation for hospital confinement (per round trip)
X-ray



For more information, talk with your benefits counselor.



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#### HEALTH SAVINGS ACCOUNT (HSA) COMPATIBLE

This plan is compatible with HSA guidelines and any other HSA plan in which a covered family member may participate. It may also be offered to employees who do not have HSAs.

THIS POLICY PROVIDES LIMITED BENEFITS.

#### **EXCLUSIONS**

We will not pay benefits for losses that are caused by, contributed to by or occur as the result of a covered person's felonies or illegal occupations, hazardous avocations, racing, semi-professional or professional sports, sickness, suicide or injuries which any covered person intentionally does to himself, war or armed conflict. In addition, we will not pay Accidental Dismemberment Due to Catastrophic Accident benefits for injuries a child sustains during birth, or for injuries that are the result of intoxication or use of narcotics.

This information is not intended to be a complete description of the insurance coverage available. This coverage has exclusions and limitations that may affect benefits payable. For cost and complete details, see your Colonial Life benefits counselor. This brochure is applicable to policy forms IAC4000-CO-R-1, IAC4000-KY and IAC4000-NB-OH. Premium at the effective date will vary according to the family coverage type.

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## Individual Short-Term Disability Insurance



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You never know when a disability could impact your way of life. Fortunately, there's a way to help protect your income. If a covered accident or sickness prevents you from earning a paycheck, disability insurance can provide a monthly benefit to help you cover your ongoing expenses.

#### Can you afford to not protect your income?

You don't have the same lifestyle expenses as the next person. That's why you need disability coverage that can be customized to fit your specific needs.

After calculating your monthly expenses, your benefits counselor can help you complete the benefits worksheet.

		MONTHLY EXPENSES
		Round to the nearest hundred.
1	Rent or mortgage	\$
2	Transportation	\$
3	Utilities (phone, internet, electricity/gas, water, etc.)	\$
4	Food and necessities	\$
5	Other expenses	\$
То	tal monthly expenses (add lines 1-5 together)	\$

Benefits worksheet
How much coverage do I need?
Monthly benefit amount for off-job accident and off-job sickness: Choose a monthly benefit amount between \$400 and \$6,500.*
If your plan includes on-job accident/sickness benefits, the benefit is 50% of the off-job amount.
What is the benefit period?
Benefit period: months The partial disability benefit period is three months.
When may my total disability benefits start?
After an accident: days After a sickness: days

#### **Product information**

#### Total disability definition

Totally disabled or total disability means you are: unable to perform the material and substantial duties of your job, not working at any job, and under the regular and appropriate care of a physician.

#### How partial disability works

If you are able to return to work part-time after at least 14 days of being paid for a total disability, you may be able to still receive 50% of your total disability benefit.

#### Waiver of premium

We will waive your premium payments after 90 consecutive days of a covered disability.

#### **Geographical limitations**

If you are disabled while outside of the United States, Canada or Mexico, you may receive benefits for up to 60 days before you have to return to the U.S. in order to continue receiving benefits.

#### Issue age

Coverage is available from ages 17 to 74.

#### Keep your coverage

You can keep your coverage to age 75 at no additional cost, even if you change jobs, as long as you pay your premiums when they are due.



#### For more information, talk with your benefits counselor.

#### **EXCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS**

We will not pay benefits for losses that are caused by, contributed to by or occur as the result of: cosmetic surgery, felonies or illegal occupations, flying, hazardous avocations, intoxicants and narcotics, psychiatric or psychological conditions, racing, semi-professional or professional sports, substance abuse, suicide or injuries which you intentionally do to yourself, war or armed conflict. We will not pay for losses due to you giving birth within the first nine months after the coverage effective date of the policy. We will not pay for loss when the disability is a pre-existing condition as described in the policy.

Pre-existing condition means a sickness or physical condition, whether diagnosed or not, for which you were treated, had medical testing, received medical advice or had taken medication within 12 months before the policy coverage effective date shown on the policy schedule.

After this policy has been in force for 12 months from the policy coverage effective date shown on the policy schedule, we will pay benefits for any pre-existing condition not excluded by name or specific description if the covered disability began at least 12 months after the policy coverage effective date and the elimination period has been satisfied.

For cost and complete details, see your Colonial Life benefits counselor. Applicable to policy form ISTD3000 and rider form ISTD3000-ADIB (plus state abbreviations where applicable, for example ISTD3000-TX and ISTD3000-ADIB-TX). Coverage may vary by state and may not be available in all states. This is not an insurance contract and only the actual policy and rider provisions will control.



## Cancer Insurance

Level 4 Benefits

BENEFIT DESCRIPTION

Cancer insurance helps provide financial protection through a variety of benefits. These benefits are not only for you but also for your covered family members.



For more information, talk with your benefits counselor.

DENEFTI DESCRIPTION D	ENEFIT AMOUNT
Air ambulance  Transportation to or from a hospital or medical facility [max. of two trips per confinement]	\$2,000 per trip
Ambulance Transportation to or from a hospital or medical facility [max. of two trips per confinement]	\$250 per trip
Anesthesia Administered during a surgical procedure for cancer treatment General anesthesia Local anesthesia	
Anti-nausea medication  Doctor-prescribed medication for radiation or chemotherapy [\$240 monthly max.]	\$60 per day administered or per prescription filled
Blood/plasma/platelets/immunoglobulins.  A transfusion required during cancer treatment [\$10,000 calendar year max.]	\$250 per day
Bone marrow donor screening  Testing in connection with being a potential donor [once per lifetime]	\$50
Bone marrow or peripheral stem cell donation  Receiving another person's bone marrow or stem cells for a transplant [once per lifetime]	\$1,000
Bone marrow or peripheral stem cell transplant.  Transplant you receive in connection with cancer treatment [max. of two bone marrow transplant benefits per lifetime]	\$10,000 per transplant
Cancer vaccine.  An FDA-approved vaccine for the prevention of cancer [once per lifetime]	\$50
Companion transportation.  Companion travels by plane, train or bus to accompany a covered cancer patient more than 50 miles one way for treatment [up to \$1,500 per round trip]	\$0.50 per mile
Egg(s) extraction or harvesting/sperm collection and storage  Extracted/harvested or collected before chemotherapy or radiation [once per lifetime]	
■ Egg(s) extraction or harvesting/sperm collection	\$1,500
■ Egg(s) or sperm storage (cryopreservation)	\$500
Experimental treatment  Hospital, medical or surgical care for cancer [\$15,000 lifetime max.]	\$300 per day
Family care Inpatient or outpatient treatment for a covered dependent child [\$3,000 calendar year max.]	\$60 per day
Hair/external breast/voice box prosthesis  Prosthesis needed as a direct result of cancer	\$500 per calendar year
Home health care services  Examples include physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy and audiology; prosthesis and orthopedic appliances; rental or purchase of durable medical equipment [up to 30 days per calendar year or twice the number of days hospital confined, whichever is greater]	\$150 per day
Hospice (initial or daily care)  An initial, one-time benefit and a daily benefit for treatment [\$15,000 lifetime max. for both]  Initial hospice care [once per lifetime]  Daily hospice care	

BENEFIT AMOUNT

**Hospital confinement** 

Hospital stay (including intensive care) required for cancer treatment



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■ 30 days or less ■ 31 days or more	
Lodging	\$80 per day
Medical imaging studies  Specific studies for cancer treatment [\$450 calendar year max.]	\$225 per study
Outpatient surgical center Surgery at an outpatient center for cancer treatment [\$1,200 calendar year max.]	\$400 per day
Private full-time nursing services  Services while hospital confined other than those regularly furnished by the hospital	\$150 per day
Prosthetic device/artificial limb  A surgical implant needed because of cancer surgery [payable one per site, \$6,000 lifetime max.]	\$3,000 per device or li
Radiation/chemotherapy Weekly benefit [max. once per week]  Injected chemotherapy by medical personnel Radiation delivered by medical personnel.	
Monthly chemotherapy benefit [max. once per month]  Self-injected  Pump  Topical  Oral hormonal [1-24 months]  Oral hormonal [25+ months]  Oral non-hormonal	\$400 \$400 \$400 \$400 \$200
Reconstructive surgery  A surgery to reconstruct anatomic defects that result from cancer treatment  [up to \$3,000 per procedure, including 25% for general anesthesia]	\$60 per surgical unit
Second medical opinion A second physician's opinion on cancer surgery or treatment [once per lifetime]	\$300
Skilled nursing care facility.  Confinement to a covered facility after hospital release [up to the number of days paid for hospital confinement]	\$150 per day
Skin cancer initial diagnosis A skin cancer diagnosis while the policy is in force [once per lifetime]	\$600
Supportive or protective care drugs and colony stimulating factors  Doctor-prescribed drugs to enhance or modify radiation/chemotherapy treatments [\$1,600 calendar year max.]	\$200 per day
Surgical procedures Inpatient or outpatient surgery for cancer treatment [\$6,000 max. per procedure]	\$70 per surgical unit
Transportation Travel expenses when being treated for cancer more than 50 miles from home [up to \$1,500 per round trip]	\$0.50 per mile
Waiver of premium  No premiums due if the named insured is disabled longer than 90 consecutive days	Is available

#### THIS POLICY PROVIDES LIMITED BENEFITS.

The policy has limitations and exclusions that may affect benefits payable. Most benefits require that a charge be incurred. Policy may not be available in all states and may vary by state. For cost and complete details, see your benefits counselor.

This chart highlights the benefits of policy form CanAssist (including state abbreviations where used – for example: CanAssist-TX). This chart is not complete without form number 101481.

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#### DAYTON PERFORMING ARTS ALLIANCE

## Ballet Opera Philharmonic

Programs for our youngest audience members celebrate their curiosity and encourage them to move and explore the arts. We know how important it is to make a good impression on little learners, so we've established programs with their development in mind. Check out our website to view our offerings, and make your reservations online, or call/email Jackie Griffin if you have questions. We are taking reservations NOW for the 23-24 school year.

#### Some exciting highlights for early childhood include:



#### **Field Trip Concerts:**

Magic Carpet Concerts: Once Upon a Time
February 27 – February 29, 2024 \*

Dayton Masonic Center - 10:00 am and 11:30 am - \$7 per seat

Learn how music and dance work together to tell the timeless tale of Peter and the Wolf. Meet the bird, duck, cat, wolf, grandfather, hunters and of course, Peter on this grand adventure for children.

\*Tuesday Feb 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am is a sensory friendly performance

#### **In-School Programs:**

"Once Upon a Time" – Cinderella Goes to the Opera \$500. available Feb-Mar 2024

Dayton Opera takes on the classic fairy tale, times three! Hear the story told through Rossini's La Cenerentola, Massenet's Cendrillon, and Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella. Filled with magic, disguises, true love, and a ball; this enchanting production will be performed by Dayton Opera's four artists-in-residence.

"Wee Three" – Dayton Philharmonic Trio \$300, available select dates

A string bass, a trumpet, and percussion! What could these instruments possibly have in common? Find out as the DPO Trio explores likenesses, differences, and teamwork.



*"Ballet 101" – Dayton Ballet* \$300, available winter 2024

Professional Dancers from Dayton Ballet share what it takes to be a professional ballet dancer, get your students moving, provide dance demonstrations, and answer questions about pointe shoes, costumes, rehearsal, and everything in between!

We hope you will join us this year as we present our Ballet, Opera, and Philharmonic artforms in energetic, fun, engaging, and educational ways!

#### **Inclusive Child Care Program Designation Frequently Asked Questions**

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) announced the Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) designation as part of Ohio PROMISE. Ohio PROMISE is a new statewide initiative that will Promote Resources, Opportunities, and Meaningful Inclusion through Support and Education.

The ICCP is awarded by ODJFS to early care and education programs who submit an application verifying completion of the eligibility requirements. Child Care Manual Procedure Letter 163 provides more information.

#### Steps to Obtaining the ICCP Designation

- Step 1 Professionals complete the required courses for the Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Credential (PECIC).
- Step 2 Professionals apply for the PECIC on their Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) Profile under the application tab. The PECIC credential is valid for two years.
- **Step 3** Professionals are awarded the PECIC by the OPR.
- Step 4 Child care program should confirm that staff who hold current PECIC have met the role requirements to meet eligibility to apply for the ICCP designation.
- Step 5 The program submits the JFS 00600 "Application for Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) Designation and Funding Agreement" which can be found in ODJFS Forms Central at www.odjfs.state.oh.us/forms/.
- **Step 6** ODJFS awards the ICCP designation to programs.
- **Step 7** ODJFS awards any funds to eligible ICCP programs.

#### ICCP Designation FAQ

#### Who can apply for the ICCP designation?

Programs can apply for the ICCP as soon as the eligibility requirements are met.

#### Can a program apply for the designation if they have never served children with special needs?

Any program meeting the eligibility requirements may apply.

Matt Damschroder, Director

#### What are the requirements for the ICCP designation?

Requirements include that the following individuals earn the PECIC that is available through the OPR at https://occrra.org/.

Program Type	Staff Required to Obtain the PECIC
ODJFS Child Care Center and Approved Day Camp	Administrator
ODE Preschool and School-Age	&
	One Lead Teacher/
	Day Camp Lead Counselor
ODJFS Family Child Care Home (Type A & Type	
B) Certified In-Home Aide	Provider (Owner/Administrator)

Does my program need to be Step Up To Quality rated to apply for the designation? No.

#### Does my program need to provide publicly funded child care (PFCC) to apply for the designation?

No.

#### What is the duration of the ICCP designation award?

The ICCP designation is good for one year. Programs must reapply 30 days prior to the designation end date.

#### What do I do if the PECIC staff member who met the ICCP eligiblity requirements is no longer employed by my program?

The program must ensure that the minimum number of staff maintain the PECIC at all times.

#### What happens in the event that an ICCP designation is removed?

The program can reapply for the designation when they meet the eligibility requirements.

#### ICCP Payments FAQ

#### How do programs apply for the ICCP payments?

Programs do not need to apply for the payment. It will be awarded by ODJFS to eligible programs as outlined in the manual procedure letter.

#### Does my program have to provide PFCC to be eligible for the payment?

No. Payments will be awarded to both PFCC and non-PFCC programs.

Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Matt Damschroder, Director

#### When are payments issued?

**Services** 

Programs who provided approved PFCC special needs child care at any time from July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023, will be issued payments in August 2023. Eligible programs who did not provide PFCC special needs child care during that time will be issued funds after October 2023.

#### How are the payments issued to my program?

Programs must enter their banking information in the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLOS). Funds are issued through electronic funds transfer. Programs that do not provide PFCC cannot enter their banking information until October 2023 when OCLQS has been updated to accept your banking information.

#### The manual procedure letter said that Preschool Special Education (PSE) programs are not eligible for a one-time payment. What is PSE?

PSE is a classroom licensed by the Ohio Department of Education where more than 50% of the preschool students have a disability. If there are exactly 50% of the students with a disability, then it is not a Preschool Special Education classroom, it is an integrated classroom. If less than 50% of the children have a disability, it is a preschool general education classroom.

Are ODE licensed preschools who operate a PSE program in one classroom and/or part of the day and a General Education/Early Childhood Education program in another classroom eligible for the additional funds for the ICCP designation? Yes.

Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Matt Damschroder, Director

#### Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 169

TO: All Child Care Manual Holders

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

**SUBJECT:** Ohio PROMISE – Inclusive Child Care

Pilot Special Needs Child Scholarships and Program Supports for Inclusive

Child Care

#### **Background**

Governor DeWine has established Ohio PROMISE, a new statewide initiative that will Promote Resources, Opportunities, and Meaningful Inclusion through Support and Education. This initiative is focused on increasing access for children with special needs through new:

- Professional development to prepare and support professionals;
- A program designation to create awareness for families; and
- Services and supports for programs and families.

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) is using Supplemental Discretionary Funds awarded through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to support the Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP).

#### Pilot ICCP Child Scholarship Program

Beginning October 10, 2023, limited scholarships will be available for families who attend an ICCP designated program providing care to children with special needs when the family is over the income limit for publicly funded child care (PFCC). These funds are paid to the provider to assist families with the cost of child care.

Scholarship funds are available for ICCPs that are both PFCC and non-PFCC (private pay) child care centers, family child care home providers, approved day camps, and Ohio Department of Education (ODE) preschool and school-age programs. This includes programs that were grandfathered into the ICCP designation.

ICCP programs will receive \$500 per month when a child meeting the eligibility criteria below has attended the ICCP at least one day in the month. Payments will continue for care provided through August 31, 2024 or until funds are depleted.

#### **Family Eligibility**

To be considered for the pilot ICCP child scholarship, the family must meet the following requirements:

• Have been denied PFCC for being over income in the past sixty days and have a household income at 146-200% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL). (See chart below for more information.)

Family Size	Monthly Income must be above (145% FPL)	Monthly Income must be below (200% FPL)
2	\$2,383.00	\$3,287.00
3	\$3,004.00	\$4,144.00
4	\$3,625.00	\$5,000.00
5	\$4,247.00	\$5,857.00
6	\$4,868.00	\$6,714.00
7	\$5,489.00	\$7,571.00
8	\$6,110.00	\$8,427.00

• The child(ren) in need of special needs care must have either an Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) for infancy through two years of age or an Individualized Education Program (IEP) for children three years and older.

#### **How to Apply for the ICCP Child Scholarships**

Beginning on October 10, 2023, families who have met the eligibility requirements above can apply for the ICCP child scholarship by submitting the following to ODJFS using the email address <a href="mailto:childcareprograms@jfs.ohio.gov">childcareprograms@jfs.ohio.gov</a>:

- 1. A complete JFS 00601 "Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) Child Scholarship Application." Part A is completed by the family. Part B must be completed by a provider that has the ICCP designation. Families can go to the ODJFS child care search page childcaresearch.ohio.gov to locate a provider with an ICCP designation.
- 2. A copy of Section 5 of each child's most recent IFSP or the signature page of each child's most recent IEP.
- 3. A copy of their PFCC denial letter issued within the last sixty days. If the family has an account in the Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal (SSP), a copy of the denial letter can be found in the document section.

#### **Program Requirements for the ICCP Child Scholarships**

To participate in the pilot ICCP child scholarships, PFCC and non-PFCC (private pay) ICCP providers must:

- Be awarded the ICCP designation.
- Complete Part B of each family's JFS 00601 scholarship application.
- Track each approved ICCP scholarship child's attendance, including arrival and departure times, and submit attendance to ODJFS by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Instructions for submitting attendance will be emailed to the provider. Payments will be issued to the ICCP on a monthly, per-child basis in the month after submission for child care provided as a result of an approved ICCP scholarship. For example, payment for any attendance submitted for October will be issued in November.

Matt Damschroder, Director

- The program may not charge the family more than their private rate minus the scholarship.
- Non-PFCC (private pay) ICCP providers must add their banking information into the Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS) provider portal using the "Initiate Private Pay Only Financials" button in order to receive payment. A job aid with instructions to do this is available here: OCLQS Licensing Job Aids | Job and Family Services (ohio.gov).

#### <u>Funding Supports for the First 50 ICCP Designated Child Care Centers and ODE</u> Preschools

In phase 2 of the pilot, the first 50 ICCP designated centers who received the first payment of \$15,000 are eligible to receive a second payment of \$15,000 as detailed below in the pathway examples.

Funds are to be used to continue inclusive child care support including, but not limited to improving inclusive child care programming, assisting with operating expenses and staff expenses, or the purchase of adaptive or specialized equipment. These 50 programs must select one of the two pathways below to qualify for the phase 2 funds:

Pathway #1- ICCP program caring for a child who qualifies for the PFCC 100% enhanced rate for special needs care		
Step 1	ICCP has a child with special needs who has an authorization for PFCC	
Step 2	ICCP applies for the PFCC enhanced rate for special needs child care through the process found here, which includes submitting the JFS 01231"Request for Payment Rate for Special Needs Child Care." (PFCC approvals must be in place no later than August 31, 2024 for the program to receive funding.)	
Step 3	ICCP receives an award notice of the PFCC enhanced rate for the child from ODJFS	
Step 4	ICCP receives the phase 2 payment of \$15,000 from ODJFS	
OR		
Pathway #2- ICCP program caring for a child not eligible for PFCC who qualifies for the ICCP Child Scholarship		
Step 1	ICCP and family receive approval notifications from ODJFS	
Step 2	ICCP receives the phase 2 payment of \$15,000 from ODJFS	

#### **Grandfathered ICCP Designated Programs**

Centers that received the \$20,000 incentive for providing enhanced special needs child care from July 1, 2022- June 30, 2023, as detailed in Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 163, are not eligible for the pilot phase 2 funds. However, the grandfathered programs are eligible for the ICCP child scholarships.

Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor

Matt Damschroder, Director

#### Questions

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

Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor Matt Damschroder, Director

#### Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 166

TO: **All Child Care Manual Holders** 

FROM: Matt Damschroder, Director

**SUBJECT:** New, Online Free Communicable Disease Training in the Ohio

Professional Registry and Updated Process to Become an Approved

**Communicable Disease Trainer** 

#### This MPL replaces CCCMPL 18 and FCCMPL 12.

#### Background

Rules 5101:2-12-10, 5101:2-13-10, 5101:2-14-03 and 5101:2-18-08 of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) set forth the requirements for Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) licensed child care centers, family child programs, certified inhome aides and approved child care day camps to complete training in the Management of Communicable Disease. This training follows the prescribed curriculum created by ODJFS in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) and is valid for three years.

Currently, an individual requesting to be an approved communicable disease trainer must submit the JFS 01278 "Communicable Disease Trainer Registration for Child Care" and one of the following:

- Proof of being a registered nurse or a licensed physician as outlined on the form;
- Proof of being an employee of an ODJFS approved health organization; or
- American Red Cross (ARC) Communicable Disease instructor card\*

#### **Updated Training**

ODJFS and ODH have updated the prescribed curriculum for the Management of Communicable Disease training. This training meets rule requirements for all ODJFS regulated program types.

ODJFS has recorded the updated training and it is now available in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR). It is titled "ODJFS Management of Communicable Disease – Free Training Recorded by ODJFS" and can be completed by staff to meet rule requirements.

<sup>\*</sup>Although ARC is no longer conducting communicable disease training for instructors, if an individual has previously received this card, he or she may still be approved as a communicable disease instructor.

#### **Updated Approval Process**

Previously approved health organizations and approved individual trainers providing the ODJFS/ODH management of communicable disease training can request a copy of the updated curriculum. Requests can be submitted to <a href="https://example.com/CDTrainer-Registration@jfs.ohio.gov">CCDTrainer-Registration@jfs.ohio.gov</a>.

You will need to provide the following:

- Name
- Contact information (address, phone number, and email address)

Once your approval status is verified, ODJFS will send the new curriculum via email using a secure FileDrop link.

Individuals seeking new approval are to submit the JFS 01278 "Communicable Disease Trainer Registration for Child Care" and provide verification of meeting one of the following:

- Licensed physician, physician's assistant (PA), advanced practice registered nurse (APRN), certified nurse practitioner (CNP), or registered nurse (RN)
- Emergency medical services instructor
- Current trainer employed by local health department

ODJFS will communicate approval status via email. If an individual is approved the curriculum will be sent via email using a secure FileDrop link.

#### Questions

Please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4, or at <a href="mailto:childcarepolicy@jfs.ohio.gov">childcarepolicy@jfs.ohio.gov</a> if you have any questions about the new policy.

Please contact the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA) staff at 1-877-547-6978, option 1 with any questions on how to create a profile or register for a training.



## **Child Care News**









Volume 19 | September 2023

#### **OHIO PROMISE**

Ohio PROMISE is a new statewide initiative to promote resources, opportunities, and meaningful inclusion through support and education. This initiative focuses on increasing access for children with special needs through:

- Professional development to prepare and support professionals.
- A program designation to create awareness for families.
- Services and supports for programs and families for necessary equipment.

#### This initiative includes:

- A Professional Early Childhood Inclusion Credential (PECIC). Training is free, ondemand and available for all early care and education professionals.
- An Inclusive Child Care Program (ICCP) designation. This designation is awarded to programs meeting eligibility requirements.
- ICCP Designation Support. Financial support is available to assist a limited number of ICCP designated child care programs with implementing supports.
- Family Support.

Please see Child Care Manual Procedure Letter No. 163 for detailed information regarding these exciting OHIO Promise initiatives. The letter is available at: https://emanuals.jfs.ohio.gov/ChildCare/ChildCareManual/CCMPL/.

#### STEP UPTO QUALITY REINSTATEMENT

As of September 21, 2023, any Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) program that is in a temporary closure status for more than 90 days will no longer have to request reinstatement of their SUTQ rating in OCLQS. If your program was SUTQ rated prior to the temporary closure of your program, then your program will automatically have the previous SUTQ rating reinstated when your license status is re-opened. You will be required to complete a new Provider Agreement for Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) in OCLQS before providing PFCC services.

Further details can be found in **Child Care Manual Procedure Letter 164.** 

## FREE COMMUNICABLE DISEASE TRAINING

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the Ohio Department of Health (ODH) revised the ODJFS curriculum for the Management of Communicable Diseases. This training is required for all ODJFS-regulated programs for specific staff as outlined in rule; it is not required that every staff member complete this training. Professionals may search in the Ohio Professional Registry for the **on-demand FREE** web-based training using the following title, ODJFS Management of Communicable Disease – Free Training Recorded by ODJFS.



#### **Music and Rhythm Games**

Child care professionals know children love music and that it is an important way to help them learn. Even young children can learn simple songs and rhythms.

Music and rhythm games help children develop fine motor skills through clapping hands and snapping fingers. They also help develop gross motor skills and develop coordination through skipping and jumping. Music and rhythm games are fun ways for children to exercise and improve their flexibility. Below are some ways to incorporate music into your daily activities.

#### **Musical statues**

Playing musical statues helps children develop spatial awareness, a sense of rhythm, and the ability to move on the beat. Playing musical statues also helps children develop their gross motor skills, listening skills, and concentration. It's also a game children love to play!

All you need is:

- Something to play music that is easy to start and stop
- A playlist of songs for children
- Enough space for children to safely move around

Explain to the children they can dance while the music is playing. But they must stop and freeze in place when the music stops. They must stay frozen until the music starts again. Ask the kids to change their dance style to go with the music. Slow dancing to a slow song, faster dancing to a fast song.

Extension Activity for Older Children:

- Give each child a sheet of aluminum foil and ask them to fold/mold it into a shape that mirrors their last position when they "froze." Were both their arms up? Was one leg up and another down?
- Pair the children, play another song, and let them pretend their foil people are dancing together.

#### **Rhythm Sticks**

Another easy way to introduce young children to music and rhythm is by using rhythm sticks. Rhythm sticks are easy for young children to pick up and hold. This makes them an easy first instrument for young children. Rhythm sticks help children learn rhythm, beat matching, tempo, phrasing, left hand and right hand, and spatial awareness.

While you can purchase rhythm sticks you can also make your own with PVC pipe or wooden dowel rods:

- Use ¾ inch size pipe or dowel rod or larger, depending on the age of the children
- Cut the pipe or dowel rod to twelve-inch lengths, some hardware stores may cut it for you
- Use sandpaper to sand any rough edges
- You will want enough for each child to have two rhythm sticks

Begin by having the children sit in a circle on a floor or sidewalk area. Have the children hold a rhythm stick in each hand. Demonstrate easy patterns such as:

- Tap both tops (tap the top of both stick on the floor), tap both bottoms (bottom of sticks)
- Tap both tops, tap both bottoms, tap both tops, tap both bottoms
- Tap right, tap left (if the children mirror the child across from them, you can switch to a straight row
- Tap, cross tap (where the rhythm sticks cross and hit together)
- Tap, cross tap, tap, cross tap

Keep the patterns very simple for young children. When they have memorized the pattern, play a song and have them tap their pattern in beat with the music.

Older children will also be able to add in passing down one or both sticks to the person on their right, or the person on their left. (Tap, tap, pass- tap, tap, pass.) They will also be able to set down the sticks and add claps into the pattern.

Try other items such as fist size rocks, blocks, or cups instead of rhythm sticks. You can check the internet for music from a variety of cultures that works well with rhythm sticks. Some examples that work well for rhythm sticks are:

Obwisana, a Ghanian folk song Bhombela, a traditional Zulu song Go Down Emmanuel Road, a Jamaican folk song

E Papa Waiari, a Maori folk song



#### 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.





**Cheryl Busdeker:** 

33 years in Early Child Care



**Terra Cappel:** 

Over 22 years in Early Child Care

Cheryl Busdeker began her studies as a computer program manager. One day she wandered into the Owens Community College Child Care Center and instantly knew she wanted to be involved. She changed her major the next day to Early Childhood Education and began working at the center very shortly afterward. Cheryl worked as a student employee at the center while finishing her degree and was hired as a full-time teaching team member upon graduation. Cheryl has been a teaching staff team member at Owens Community College's Toledo and Findlay campuses for 33 years. Cheryl also serves as mentor to college students who complete field work hours in her classroom each semester.

Cheryl's favorite tip for running her classroom is to make each day fun! She loves being silly and laughing. Cheryl says that everyone responds to laughter and giggles. She works hard to listen to what the children are saying and understands what they are feeling. Cheryl says if the children know they are being heard and that she cares about them that it makes a huge difference in how their day goes.

Cheryl was nominated by Emily Penton who stated Cheryl, "is kind, loving, energetic and silly in the classroom. When children leave her room, they often ask to go visit Miss Cheryl because they love her and know that she loves them."

Terra Cappel earned her Bachelor's Degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE) from the University of Cincinnati (UC) and has been teaching in ECE for over 22 years. She is currently a toddler teacher at Empower Learn Create at UC. Terra has also presented on several topics including "Celebrating Language and Literacy," "Equity in Early Childhood," and "Paving the Way for Play."

One of Terra's passions is building relationships with the families and children which she finds the most rewarding. Terra incorporates fun books and activities in the classroom to encourage children to explore and engage in play activities. Another one of Terra's passions is music and movement. She feels that listening to the lyrics and hearing repetition encourages children to repeat language and move their bodies.

Terra's enthusiasm for early education goes beyond the classroom. She is an advocate for arranging outside resources for families, she attends many conferences for continued education, is a member of NAEYC, and is an active early childhood leader among her staff.







Brandy Theis:

Over 25 years in Early Child Care

Brandy Theis knew in high school that she wanted to work in early childhood education. Brandy first obtained an Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE) and later obtained her BA. She recently obtained her MAE in Educational Administration. Brandy's first position was as a teacher in a 3-year-old preschool classroom. She also worked for Head Start as a Homebase Mentor and Child Education Services Supervisor. Brandy is currently the director of the Rhode State College Early Learning Center.

Brandy was nominated by her daughter, Brianna Theis, who stated her mother, "has helped me develop my love and passion for teaching young children. She has encouraged me to get my BA in ECE, follow my dreams, and has taught me that the best way to change the world is by changing the lives of young children. She has inspired not only myself, but also others to work towards their degree, passion, and being the best educator that they can be."

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 the 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 October 27, 2023 to **srnc@jfs.ohio.gov.** 

## **Resources for Families**

Please share this page with families enrolled in your program.

#### THE IMPORTANCE OF BREAKFAST

Children who eat breakfast are better able to learn at school compared to children who skip breakfast. They also have more iron in their diets and are less likely to have high body mass indexes (BMI).

Mornings can be stressful! Some tips to help make breakfast easier are:

- Plan outfits and pack lunches the night before. This will free up time for breakfast.
- Pre-cook, freeze ahead, and prepare a crockpot breakfast.
- Talk to your child the night before about what they will eat for breakfast.
- Help your child set dishes and utensils on the table the night before.
- Give children time after they wake up before eating breakfast.
- Take time yourself to eat breakfast with your child. Children who see their parents eating breakfast are more likely to also eat breakfast.
- Eliminate distractions such as TVs, devices, toys, or books.

The Ohio Department of Health suggests the following quick breakfasts for busy mornings:

- Yogurt with fresh fruit and granola
- A whole grain muffin
- Trail mix
- Whole-grain, low-sugar cereal with milk

For more tips and breakfast ideas, visit this link: https://earlyageshealthystages.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Make\_Breakfast\_Count.pdf

The Children's Hospital of Richmond, Virginia has additional information about the importance of nutritious breakfasts on their website at: www.chrichmond.org/services/gastroenterology-and-nutrition/feeding/the-importance-of-breakfast

#### **ENCOURAGING GOOD BEHAVIOR**

The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that a child's good behavior is more likely to happen again when it is followed with a positive consequence, such as a reward. The CDC also reported that rewards can help increase self-esteem for children. They can also improve your relationship with your child. Typically, when we think of rewards we think of physical items such as a toy or sticker. Social rewards can be even more powerful than material rewards. Examples of social rewards that reinforce positive behavior are:

- Affection: hugs, kisses, high fives, pats on the back, etc.
- Praise: saying things like, "Great job," "Way to go," "Awesome"
  - Note that it is important to tell the child what you liked about their behavior. For example, "You did an awesome job putting away your toys!"
- Attention and Activities: Extra time with you or a special activity is also a great reward for young children. Examples are playing a favorite game, reading a story, or going outside to take a walk.

The CDC also has information on creating a rewards program to help keep track of how often your child does what you want them to do. For help creating a reward program visit: www.cdc.gov/parents/essentials/toddlersandpreschoolers/consequences/rewards-devlelopingprogram.html



# OH BABY! HELPFULTIPS & PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR RAISING BABY

Are you looking for ways, tips, and advice on raising babies and toddlers? The Ohio BOLD Beginning! website has a link to "OH BABY! HelpfulTips & Practical Advice for Raising Baby." This guide includes information on what parents can do to help babies and toddlers learn to:

- Talk
- Walk
- Read

It also gives parents 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

#### **FINE MOTOR SKILL DEVELOPMENT**

Motor skills are the movement of muscles to perform actions, such as running, lifting, and hopping. Fine motor skills are used when smaller muscle groups perform smaller movements such as drawing, cutting, and brushing teeth.

Fine motor skill development is an important part of preparing children to learn to write. Looking for ways to help your child develop their fine motor skills? Drawing around items helps children use their small hand muscles.

- Sit in a comfortable place where your child can easily draw.
- Have several sheets of paper and crayons.
- Give your child several different items such as a plastic cup, fist size rock, block, or small board book.
- Let your child choose an item.
- First have them trace around the item with their finger.
- Next hold the item while your child draws around it with the crayon.
- Talk to the child about the shape that they drew. Ask them if they see anything else that has the same shape in the room.

- Let the child choose another item.
- When they run out of items, ask the child to trace around your hand and their own hand and then compare the size.

The Ohio BOLD Beginning! website has additional easy ways to help children develop their early writing and literacy skills at: https://boldbeginning.ohio.gov/families/families-lp/early-literacy

#### Ways to make grocery shopping fun

Grocery shopping with children is challenging. Some tips to make it fun for kids and you are:

- Schedule your grocery trips for times when your children are not hungry or tired.
- Play games like, "guess the weight" in the produce section. Ask children to guess how much something weighs and then check their answers by using the scales to weigh the item.
   For younger children, ask them to say which of two items they think will weigh more and then check.
- Make a list and add pictures of the items you need to buy. Let your child hold the list and try to spot the items. If you are shopping with more than one child, have them take turns holding the list and looking for items.
- Pick a color and count how many times you see that color as you shop.
- For children aged 3-5, pick a letter and ask the children to look for that letter on signs in the store.
- For older children, write down some fun adjectives such as new, best, extra, low, super, fresh, sweet, family, and large. Ask the children to see if they can spot any of the adjectives on the products they see.

#### **VACCINATIONS:**

The Ohio Department of Health recommends making sure your child is up to date with their vaccinations as they go back to school. Vaccinations help protect your child from preventable diseases like measles, mumps, and polio. Talk to your doctor to make sure your child's vaccinations are up to date.

For more information regarding immunizations, please visit the Ohio Department of Health at: https://odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/lmmunization/lmmunization

#### AFFORDABLE CONNECTIVITY PROGRAM:

The Affordable Connectivity Program is a federal program that helps low-income households offset the monthly cost of new or existing internet service.

Eligible households can receive:

- Up to a \$30 per month discount on broadband service.
- A one-time discount of up to \$100 for a laptop, desktop computer or tablet purchased through a participating provider.

Households are eligible to enroll if their income is below 200% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines or if someone in their household currently receives a government benefit, such as Medicaid or the Free and Reduced-Price School Lunch Program.

For more information, please visit: **GetInternet.gov** 

#### **OCLQS Portal - Update Customary Rates**

#### **Description:**

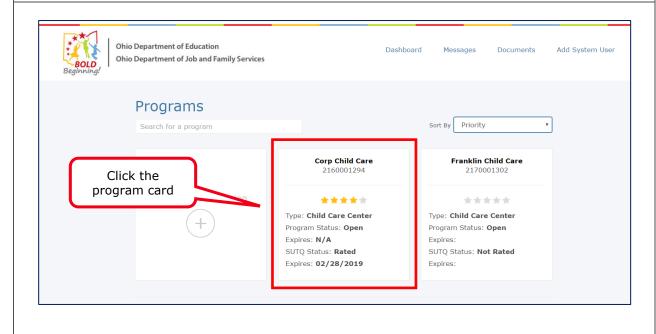
This Job Aid describes the process to Update Customary Rates in the OCLQS Portal.

#### Related Job Aid(s):

- OCLQS Portal PFCC Application
- OCLQS Portal Account Management

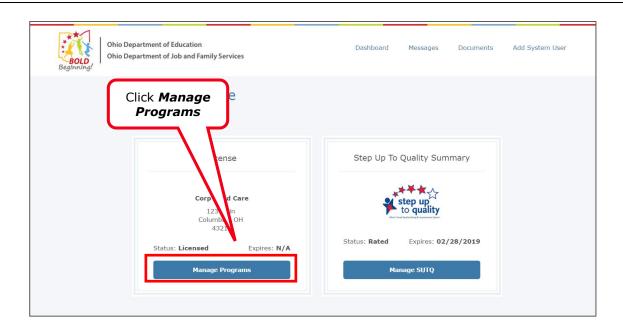
#### Step 1: Select the Program

- Log in to the OCLQS Portal
  - For information on OCLQS Portal login, refer to the OCLQS Portal Account Management Job Aid.
- Click anywhere on the program card.



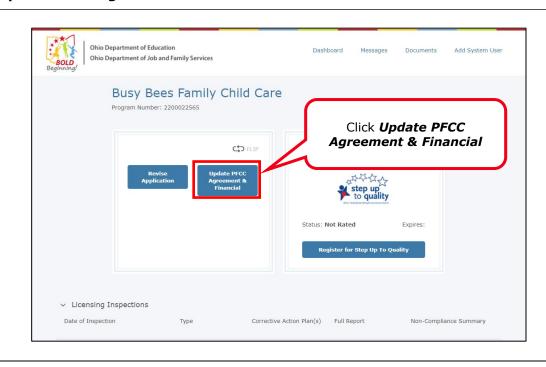
#### **Step 2: Manage Programs**

#### Click Manage Programs.



#### **Step 3: Update PFCC Agreement & Financial**

#### Click Update PFCC Agreement & Financial.



# **Step 4: Update Customary Rates** Click Update Customary Rates. Ohio Department of Education Dashboard Messages Documents Ohio Department of Job and Family Services **Update Information** End PFCC Agreement Use this functionality to end your PFCC provider agreement. Update Banking Use this functionality to add or update $\operatorname{\mathsf{Bank}}$ Information. Update Tax Use this functionality to add or update Tax Information. Update Accreditation Use this functionality to add or update Accreditation. Update Customary Rates Click **Update** Use this functionality to add or update Customary Rates **Customary Rates** CCIDS Provider Portal Early Childhood Ohio OCCRRA Ohio.Gov Non-Discrimination Statement Privacy Statement FAQs Contact Copyright @ 2016 State of Ohio

#### **Step 5: Enter Information**

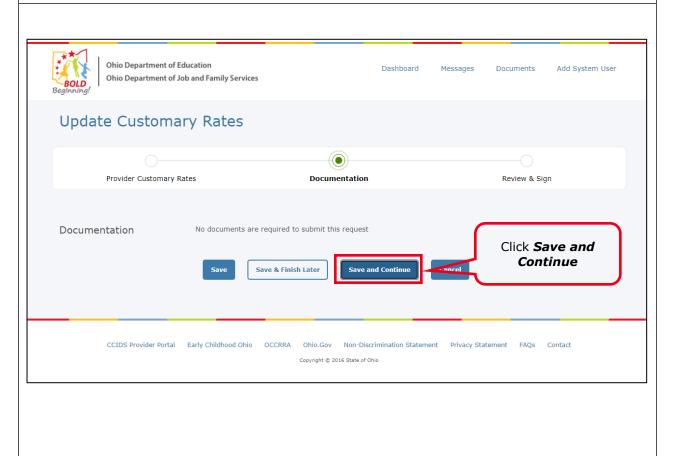
- 1) Enter information in the **Provider Customary Rates** and **Registration fees** sections.
- 2) Click Save and Continue.



#### **Step 6: Documentation Tab**

#### Click Save and Continue.

Note: Typically, no additional documents will be required for this transaction.



#### Step 7: Review and Sign

- 1) Check the *Electronic Signature* box if you agree with the statement.
- 2) Enter your full name.
- 3) Click Submit.



# Click Go back to Dashboard. Ohio Department of Education Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Dashboard Messages Documents Add System User Update Successfully Submitted You will be contacted about next steps or if additional information is required. Click Go back to Dashboard Click Go back to Dashboard CCIDS Provider Portal Early Childhood Ohio OCCRRA Ohio.Gov Non-Discrimination Statement Privacy Statement FAQs Contact Copyright © 2016 State of Ohio

The process to Update Customary Rates in the OCLQS Portal is complete.



# Child Care Day Camps —Getting Started

A child day camp is a program for school-age children only. The camp operates no more than twelve hours a day and no more than 15 weeks during the summer Ohio Revised Code 5104.01.

#### What is a registered day camp?

- To be a registered child day camp means you will complete and submit a registration with the required fee to the Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS).
- A registration is not needed when the camp meets an exemption as outlined in section 5104.21 of the Revised Code.

#### What is an approved day camp?

- The child day camp is registered.
- Accredited by the American Camp Association (ACA) or an ODJFS approved child day camp accrediting body.
- Approved by ODJFS to provide publicly funded child care (PFCC).

#### Helpful links to get you started:

- Child Day Camp Rules
- American Camp Association

#### **Steps to Become a Registered Child Day Camp**

Review rule <u>5101:2-18-02</u> , of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) for registered child day camp requirements
You will need to create an Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System (OCLQS) portal account
Create or renew a registration and submit in OCLQS annually by March 14
Pay a registration fee for each camp you are registering
Complete and submit a request for background check

- Must have prior to first day of employment for employees and staff members.
- The child day camp administrator receives and reviews both the BCI and FBI results.
- Administrator confirms that any employee or staff member with any prohibitive convictions meets the rehabilitation criteria in <a href="Appendix A to rule 5101:2-18-02">Appendix A to rule 5101:2-18-02</a>, of the OAC.

If you wish to provide PFCC services, you will need to apply to become an Approved Child Day Camp.

#### What is PFCC?

- PFCC is the care of children under the age of thirteen that are eligible for child care services to be paid by the state in whole or in part. PFCC services are paid for an eligible child to a provider with an ODJFS provider agreement
  - » More details can be found in the Child Care Manual PFCC

Note: To provide PFCC services your initial application for an approved child day camp must be submitted no later than April 14. See the next section for steps on how to become an approved child day camp.

# Steps to Become an Approved Child Day Camp Review rule 5101:2-18-03, of the OAC for approved child day camp requirements. Ensure your camp is accredited. It is recommended that you contact ACA the summer before you want to become an ODJFS approved child day camp. Create a profile in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) The OPR is Ohio's workforce registry information system that allows professionals to track their experience, education, credentials, and training. Child day camp owners and staff identified in rule 5101:2-18-06, of the OAC are required to create a profile. Complete the required online "Pre-Camp Orientation Training" located in the OPR Before submitting your application, you must complete this training. Apply to be an Approved Child Day Camp in OCLQS

- Log in to your <u>OCLQS provider portal</u> account.
- Create or renew a registration **and** submit in OCLQS annually by March 14.
- Pay a registration fee for each camp you are registering.

#### Information Required for an Approved Child Care Day Camp Application

- » Name of Child Day Camp Administrator
- » Enter legal business owner in OCLQS
- » Articles of Incorporation, if applicable
- » JFS 01282 "Plan of Operation for Child Day Camp" and any necessary attachments
- » Fire inspection approval by the state fire marshal or local fire safety inspector
- » Documentation of building approval issued by Ohio Department of Commerce or local certified building authority
- » Valid food service operation license permitting the preparation and serving of food, or exemption status, from local health department or Ohio Department of Health, or Ohio Department of Agriculture
- » Written documentation of current accreditation by the American Camp Association or an ODJFS approved organization.
- » Written information for parents and employees found in Appendix A and B to rule 5101:2-18-05, of the OAC
- » Emergency and disaster plan as required in rule 5101:2-18-10, of the OAC

<u>Appendix A</u> to rule <u>5101:2-18-03</u>, of the OAC, provides additional information about document requirements, including required <u>JFS forms</u>.

# Complete and submit a request for background check in the OPR

Visit our <u>background check</u> page for more information and a list of prohibited offenses.

- Must have at initial application.
- Must have prior to first day of employment for employees and staff members.
- ODJFS receives and reviews all 5 required background checks to complete a full determination of eligibility as indicated in rule 5101:2-18-07, of the OAC.

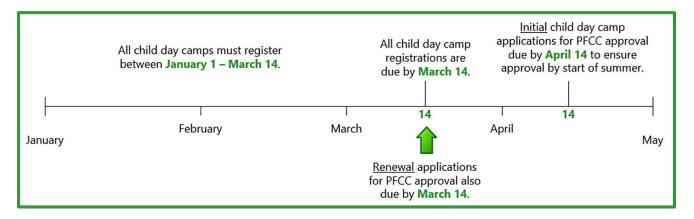
#### Prepare for the Pre-Approval Inspection

- The pre-approval inspection is conducted by an ODJFS licensing specialist.
- You will receive approval from ODJFS once:
  - » Verification of all required health trainings are received.
    - » A full description of the health training requirements can be found in rule 5101:2-18-08, of the OAC.
  - » Prior to the inspection, complete the required documents that Approved Child Day Camps are to share with families.
  - » You will receive a notification via email when your child day camp is approved.

#### What happens next?

- Your application for an Approved Child Day Camp is approved.
- You must complete and sign a PFCC provider agreement, if you have not already.
- Submit information required per rules <u>5101:2-18-03 and 5101:2-16-09</u>, of the OAC.
- ODJFS will conduct at least one inspection each summer the camp renews after the initial issuance of approval.

# Registration/Application Timeline March 14 is the deadline to submit your renewal to serve PFCC. If it is not received by March 14, your application is a new application. New applications will have a pre-approval inspection.



#### **Additional information and resources**

- Policy related: Child Care Policy Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.
- System questions: <u>CC-Operational-Support@ifs.ohio.gov</u>.
- Child Care Training
- ODJFS Provider Resources
- ODJFS Child Care Resource Guide



Mike DeWine, Governor, State of Ohio

Matt Damschroder, Director, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

JFS 01314 (Rev. 8/2023)

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# **Department of Children & Youth**

October 24, 2023
Early Care and Education Stakeholder Update







# **GOALS FOR THE DAY**

- Purpose and Schedule
  - E-mail notifications
  - Add appointment to your calendar
  - Monthly
- Provide an overview of the Department of Children and Youth.
- Hear feedback on the draft goals, 90-day Building Blocks, Strategic Pillars.
- Review feedback from families.



"Our goal for each Ohioan is for them to be able to live up to their full potential and for each one to have the opportunity to live up to their version of the American dream."

Governor Mike DeWine





# INTRODUCING THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & YOUTH The Department will promote the efficient and effective delivery of services to Ohio's more

The Department will promote the efficient and effective delivery of services to Ohio's more than 2.5 million children and their families by:

# **WHAT**

- · combining functions and programs from six different state agencies
- reducing duplicative programs from across state government
- increasing administrative efficiency
- improving the delivery of services to families depending on these essential state programs

# **WHY**

- Expanded investments; strengthened focus; falling rankings
- Must do something different:
  - #1: **Public Awareness:** Ensure that parents, caregivers, helping agencies know about and can access child and youth services.
  - #2: **Ease of access:** by integrating and individualizing services to fit the family.



- The Department was established on **July 3, 2023**. Over the next several months the Directors of the respective agencies, or their designees, will develop a detailed plan to implement the transfer of duties, functions, programs, and staff.
- Full transition of all programs to occur no later than **January 1, 2025.**



# PRINCIPLES AND GOALS

DCY has established the following **DRAFT principles** that will serve as the foundation for its 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

Continue to prioritize 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

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 supports proactively, before a crisis within the family occurs.



# **OHIO DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN & YOUTH**





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



#### **Early Education:**

- Early Intervention
- Publicly Funded Child Care
- 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.



# **AGENCY LAUNCH FOCUS AREAS**

As the Agency Launches, the following topics have been prioritized and escalated as central efforts to standing up the new agency.



# 90-Day Building Blocks

- Central Intake Infrastructure
- Licensing Alignment
- Early Childhood Education Expansion
- Step Up To Quality Equal Access
- Home Visiting Expansion



# **Strategic Pillars**

- Continuum of Care
- Workforce
- Service Coordination



**Data Driven Focus** 



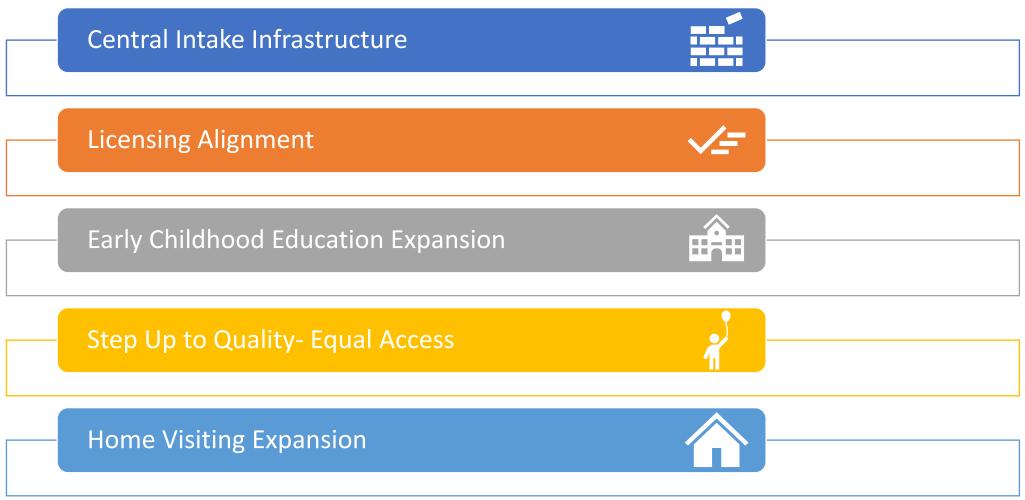
# Stakeholder/Community Engagement

- Regional Forums
- Stakeholder Plan 90 days



# DCY OVERVIEW: BUILDING BLOCKS FOR THE NEW AGENCY

It is important that we take time to understand the building blocks of DCY as the foundation of our work.





# Central Intake and Referral







# **GOAL AND ACTIVITIES FOR CENTRAL INTAKE AND** REFERRAL

- Develop a seamless system for families to access information about services and supports, WHEN THEY NEED THEM, that are available across the children and youth service continuum.
- Key Activities
  - Expand FREE Ages and Stages Questionnaire to 3-5 year olds on the helpmegrow.org website.
  - Improve and expand the use of Community Directories
  - Convene CI&R vendors to identify































# Licensing Alignment





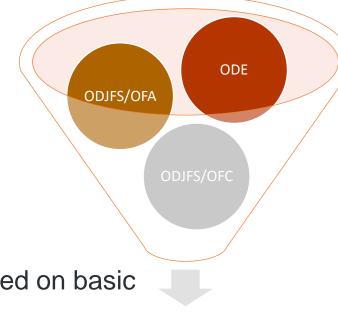


# **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

Goal: Develop a plan for the full alignment/integration of all aspects of licensing for early care and

education, school-age and foster care that includes:

- Policy (statute/rules)
- Monitoring
- Communications
- Training
- Objectives:
  - Develop a core set of rules that are accessible and focused on basic health and safety
  - Engage internal and external stakeholders throughout the process
  - Create a culture that blends regulatory responsibilities with continuous quality improvement and support



DCY

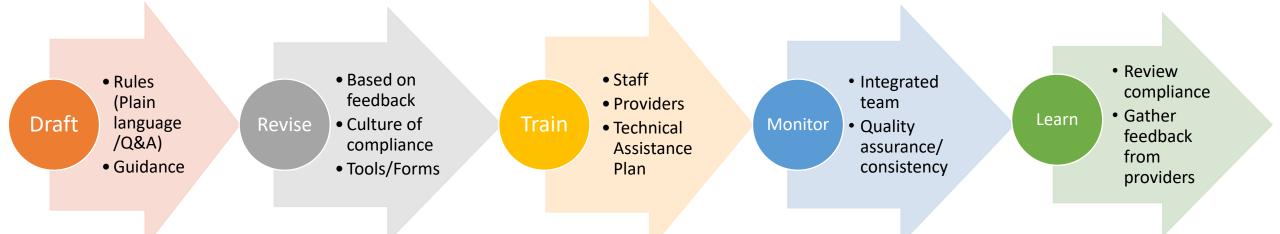


# CONSIDERATIONS

- Each section of Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) may have corresponding federal requirements and/or Ohio Revised Code (ORC) requirements that must be considered.
- ORC requirements that are identified as needing amended will be tracked.
- OAC five-year review deadlines will be addressed with extensions where needed.
- House Bill 33 regulatory reduction and restriction requirements will be incorporated.
- Current rules may take into consideration model standards and best practices peracecommendations.



# THE APPROACH





# Early Childhood Education – Expansion







# **WHERE WE ARE NOW - SFY 24**

- Increased per slot amount from \$4,000 to \$4,250
- Eligibility includes children:
  - who are experiencing homelessness
  - who are in foster/kinship care; or
  - with a disability who exceed income eligibility
- All others at or below 200% FPL
- Age 3 or 4 and not yet age eligible for Kindergarten
- All grantees at 3 stars or higher in SUTQ
- Minimum of 12.5 hours/week or 455 hours/year



# WHAT WE WANT TO EXPLORE TODAY

# Pilot: Innovations to program requirements

- Full-day slot considerations
- Innovation Exploration: Use of TAP, Equity Focus, Fund Classroom instead of slots

# **Pilot: Early Intervention Exiters**

Children leaving El could have a spot in an ECE grantee



# EI EXITERS PILOT DATA

- 2,378 children in Early Intervention (EI) exit without PSE eligibility (FY23)
- Only 19% of exiters (452 children) who are not eligible for Preschool Special Education attend an early childhood program; leaving 1,926 or 81% potentially needing services/ supports to be K ready
- 14.4% CWD score demonstrating readiness at K entry compared to 37.8% of C w/o D (state percent for all is 35.4%)

# Step Up To Quality – Equal Access







# BACKGROUND: FEDERAL LETTER OF NON-COMPLIANCE

On April 20, 2023, the State of Ohio was issued a **Federal Letter of Non-compliance** relating to the **equal access of child care** for children in Ohio.

## **Key Takeaways**

- Ohio Payment rates were found to be below the 50th percentile
- Ohio will remain out of compliance until a Plan Amendment is approved
- Ohio will be **subject to a penalty** from the Administration for Children and Families
- ODJFS has committed to having a solution in place by December 2024



Preliminary Notice of Non-Compliance

Matt Damschroder, Director Ohio Department of Job and Family Services 30 East Broad Street, 32nd Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Director Damschroder:

This letter is to inform you that after careful review, the Office of Child Care (OCC) has found Ohio to be non-compliant with the equal access provision 45 CFR 98 45(a) of the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF), and to offier OCC's support to help Ohio increase payment rates to child care providers to comply with the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act (CCDBG) of 2014. OCC has determined that payment rates below the 50% percentile provide eligible children access to less than one out of two child care slots and do not meet the equal access requirements in the CCDBG Act. Low CCDF payment rates undermine parent choice and make it difficult for parents to find care that meet their families' needs. Low CCDF payment rates also make it harder for providers to recruit and retain skilled staff and operate stably, undermining child care supply. They also foster large inequities within the system, making it particularly difficult for families with low incomes to have equal access to child care options. CCDF lead agencies should not view the 50° percentile as an equal access to child care options. CCDF lead solution to gauge equal access, and it may not be considered sufficient for compliance in future plan cycles.

This letter serves as a preliminary notice of non-compliance pursuant to 45 CFR §89.80(b). In determining compliance with equal access provisions, OCC reviewed all lead agencies with payment rates below the 75th percentile benchmark and determined that payment rates below the 50th percentile are too low to be considered in compliance. Specifically, Ohio payment rates reported in question 4.3.1 and described in question 4.3.4 of your federal fixed year (FFY) 2022-2024 CCDF Plan were found to be too low to be in compliance for the following age(s) and itsensed setting(s): infant center care; preschool center care; infant family child care; preschool family child care. As indicated in a December 16, 2021 elter to Ohio, OCC delayed compliance decisions on sufficient payment rates (45 CFR §89.45(b)(2), 45 CFR §89.45(b)(3), and 45 CFR §98.45(b)(4)) until now due to the number of lead agencies who requested and received waivers for additional time to complete data collection and set payment rates. Once waivers expired and amendments to determine compliance on these provisions.

This notice will be in effect until a Plan amendment is approved that demonstrates compliance the CCDF requirements. The OCC will consider any written response that outlines steps toward resolution received from Ohio to address the non-compliances within 60 days of receipt



# STEP UP TO QUALITY STANDARD REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE



Today (as of July 2, 2023):

Rates:

25<sup>th</sup> Percentile

(2022 Market

Rate)

Eligibility: 142% FPL



Requirement: 50th Percentile



**Next Steps** 



- 1. New Step Up To Quality Standards Determined (Now October 2023)
- **2.** Implementation Plan Drafted (November December 2023)
- 3. Move Toward Compliance 35<sup>th</sup> Percentile 2022 Market Rate (January 2024)
- **4. Development & Training** (January 1 June 30)
- 5. Implementation of new SUTQ standards and 50<sup>th</sup> percentile compliance (July 1, 2024)



# **EQUAL ACCESS – STEP UP TO QUALITY**

Cluster 3 – Centers Full-Time Enrollment								
	2022 Market Rate Survey				Calculated PFCC Rate for 5-Star Rated Program			
Age	25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Today		50 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	75 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	95 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	(Non-rated base Rate is at the 35th %tile)	(Non-rated base Rate is at the 50 <sup>th</sup> %tile)	
Infant	245.00	265.00	295.00	329.00	385.00	372.06	414.18	
Toddler	218.00	235.00	265.00	300.00	358.20	329.94	372.06	
Preschool	194.00	210.00	232.00	270.00	324.05	294.84	325.73	
School Age	120.00	131.00	150.00	195.00	286.00	183.92	210.60	
<b>School Age Summer</b>	178.00	187.00	208.79	241.00	296.36	262.55	293.14	



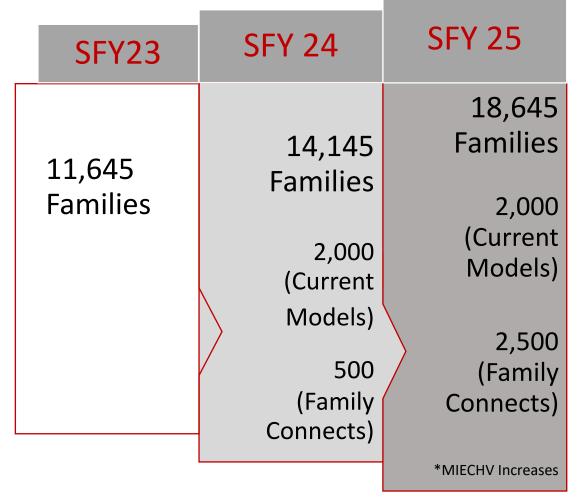
# Home Visiting – Expansion







# HOME VISITING ENROLLMENT GOALS





Tripling in HMGHV 19,323



# PRIORITY COUNTIES FOR EXPANSION

# **Expansion Goals:**

- **▶** 650 slots
- Applications and selections by November 1.
- Flexibility for grants with up to amounts.

PRIORITY #1	PRIORITY #2a	PRIORITY #2b	
Waitlist Counties with 50+ families	Infant Mortality 8.30 and higher for 5- year average 2017-2021	K Readiness (25% and under of students demonstrating overall readiness)	
Butler	Brown	Adams	
Cuyahoga	Clinton	Clinton	
Lorain	Erie	Defiance	
Lucas	Guernsey	Fayette	
Montgomery	Highland	Pike	
Stark	Lucas	Preble	
Summit	Pickaway	Vinton	
Trumbull	Scioto		



# **FAMILY CONNECTS MODEL**



Helping all families regardless of income or background



# **NO COST TO RECIPIENTS**

As an eligible recipient, you will not be charged



Visits are scheduled around 3 weeks after a baby's birth



## **REGISTERED NURSE**

All visits are made by highly trained nurses



# FAMILY & STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT RECAP

#### DCY EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT FAST FACTS

640+

**Stakeholders Engaged** 

146

**Family Stories Heard** 

**Hours of Stakeholder Meetings Held** 

**Hours of Family Listening Sessions** 

**Key Regions of the State Represented** 

# **Program Navigation**



- Coordinate Data/Information Across Programs
- Create Transition Supports for Youth Aging Out of Programs

# **Workforce Supports**

- Expand Professional Development Opportunities

## **Awareness Campaign**

- Launch a Multi-Channel Marketing Effort
- > Stand Up a One-Stop Website for All Programs
- Standardize Messaging/Program Information



# **Community Building**

- Launch Peer-Peer and Provider-Provider Support Lines
- Build Trust in Communities/Counties Through Events, Information Sharing, and Coordinated Programming

- Increase the Number of Programs Statewide
- > Focus on Making Child Care More Affordable
- Encourage Programs to Serve Non-Standard Working Caregivers (3<sup>rd</sup> shift, sleep coverage, transportation, etc.)





# **FAMILY ENGAGEMENT - THEMES FROM LISTENING SESSIONS**



**General Lack of Awareness** 



**Child Care Accessibility** 



**Trust Among Families** 



**Streamlining Services** 



**Backlogged Evaluation / Diagnosis – Treatment Pipeline** 



**Workforce Training and Education** 



**Insufficient Supports for Children with Special Needs** 



**Program Eligibility** 



**Preventative Support for Parents** 



Lack of Cohesion Between Local Government and K-12 System



# **AGENCY INFRASTRUCTURE**

- Team Members/Notification
- Emails
   (firstname.lastname@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov)
- Website www.childrenandyouth.ohio.gov



# THANK YOU!





