ECE-INSIDER

Division of Child Care Provider Newsletter

From the Director's Desk

Andrea Day

We know that many childcare providers in Kentucky are using or plan to use <u>brightwheel</u>, the official DCC childcare management software partner, to collect their required daily and weekly signatures for CCAP attendance directly through the platform.

Register for a webinar below to review key CCAP requirements and information. Brightwheel and DCC are also hosting a series of webinars to demonstrate how to use brightwheel for electronic CCAP attendance records. All current users and new customers are welcome to join by registering for one of the following times:

- <u>Webinar 2</u> | Wednesday, March 5th at 5:30pm EST/4:30pm CST
- <u>Webinar 3</u> | Thursday, March 6th at 12:30pm EST/11:30am CST

Brightwheel will also be hosting office hours weekly on Wednesdays from 12:00pm-1:00pm EST every week in March. If you'd like to sign in for 1:1 help with your Subsidy Report, simply join <u>here</u>.

Have questions? Please email the brightwheel | Kentucky team at <u>kentucky@mybrightwheel.com</u>.

IN THIS ISSUE

The Council for Professional Recognition's Amnesty Program is BACK for a LIMITED TIME!

Contact your Child Care Aware PD Coach for more information!

The CDA® Renewal Amnesty Program is BACK for a Limited Time!

The Council is celebrating 50 years of the CDA® credential! To celebrate, the Council is offering a limited time CDA® Renewal Amnesty Program. This program will allow anyone with a CDA® credential expiration date as far back as January 1, 2020, an opportunity to complete the renewal process and make their credential active again.
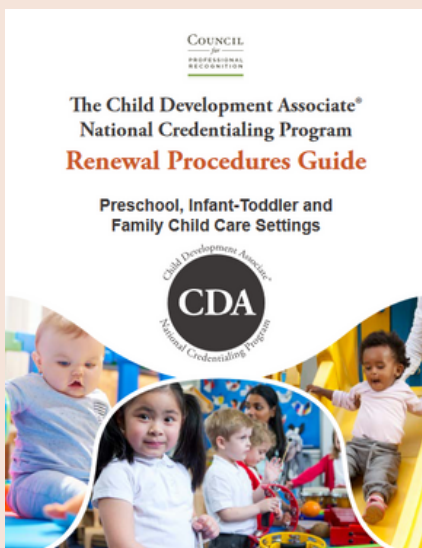
The program is available from February 1- July 31, 2025

¡El Programa de Amnistía de Renovación del CDA® ha VUELTO por un tiempo limitado!

¡El Concilio está celebrando los 50 años de la credencial CDA®! Para celebrar, el Concilio ofrece un Programa de Amnistía para la Renovación de la Credencial CDA® por tiempo limitado. Este programa permitirá que cualquier persona con una fecha de vencimiento de la credencial CDA® a partir del 1 de enero de 2020 tenga la oportunidad de completar el proceso de renovación y volver a activar su credencial.

El programa está disponible desde el 1 de febrero de 2025 hasta el 31 de julio de 2025

COUNCIL for PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

The Child Development Associate® National Credentialing Program

Renewal Procedures Guide

Preschool, Infant-Toddler and Family Child Care Settings

COUNCIL for PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

Programa de Certificación Nacional de Asociado en Desarrollo Infantil®

Guía de procedimientos de renovación

Para programas de preescolares, bebés y toddlers, y hogares de cuidado y educación infantil

REMEMBER!

Join the DCC- List Serv!

Email your preferred email address to: DCCListserv@ky.gov

All regulated child care educators can benefit from messages from the DCCListserv!
Encourage your staff to also sign up to stay informed!

IT'S OKAY TO ASK FOR HELP

Child Care Health Consultant

The CCHC Program supports the health and safety best practices in early care and education settings while protecting and promoting the healthy growth and development of children and their families!

Click here to visit their website for free resources, and connect with a CCHC for training needs related to health and safety!

Child Care
Health Consultation
CCHC
for a Healthy Start
in Child Care

ECE-TRIS

It is CRITICAL to check the Calendar/Approved Trainings area in ECE-TRIS BEFORE purchasing or taking any training!

Please pay special attention to the approved Date/Times ranges listed.

If you have questions please contact ECE-TRIS:
ecetris@eku.edu
Phone: (859)622-8811
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM EST, M-F

National Nutrition Month

March is National Nutrition Month

As we celebrate National Nutrition Month, the Division of Responsibility in Feeding (Ellyn Satter) is an important framework for encouraging long-term nutrition for children. In its simplest form, the Division of Responsibility outlines how adults are responsible for the food they provide children – ideally healthy food with great variety. In turn, children are responsible for deciding what and how much to eat.

Go NAPSACC is a free online program that engages Kentucky ECE programs in developing healthy habits for children. Go NAPSACC starts with evidence-based practices and then guides ECE programs in their adoption. Several Go NAPSACC Child Nutrition evidence-based practices support the principles of the Division of Responsibility in Feeding.

First, several evidence-based practices focus on adults modeling and encouraging children to eat (or try) the healthy foods offered to them:

· When in classrooms during meal and snack times, teachers and staff always eat and drink the same food and beverages as children.

· Teachers enthusiastically role model eating healthy foods at every meal and snack time.
· Teachers always praise children for trying new and less-preferred foods.

While we want adults to encourage children to try new foods, we don't want to create power struggles around food. In the long run, this creates a figuratively negative taste in children's mouth for the food. Instead, we want children to determine what they eat. Research shows us that for most children, if given healthy choices, they will consume a balanced diet over the course of a week.

There are additional Go NAPSACC evidence-based practices that support this:

· When children eat less than half of a meal or snack, teachers always ask them if they are full before removing their plates.

· When children request seconds, teachers always ask them if they are still hungry before serving more food.

· Teachers use an authoritative feeding style during every meal and snack time. (An authoritative feeding style strikes a balance between encouraging children to eat healthy foods and allowing children to make their own food choices.)

National Nutrition Month

Our goal, both nutritionally and social emotionally, is for children to learn and trust their own bodies. Children can learn their likes and dislikes. Children can learn their bodies' hunger and fullness cues. We want children to respect their bodies and their needs. As adults, we can create an environment that supports this growth in children.

If you'd like to get involved in Go NAPSACC to learn more about healthy habits in ECE settings, please use the QR code to connect to an Interest Survey. Your ECE program will then be matched with a consultant to help you get started!

With a **FREE** Go NAPSACC account, you can explore Go NAPSACC's evidence-based practices, Tips & Materials library, and online trainings.

Go NAPSACC is:

·Free to all ECE programs in Kentucky

·Trainings are approved for ECE-TRIS credit

·Curriculum has been reviewed and credited for KY All STARS

Join

TODAY!

Understanding Tuberculosis (TB)

What is Tuberculosis?

Tuberculosis (TB) is a serious infectious disease caused by the *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* bacteria, which primarily affects the lungs but can spread to other body parts. It spreads through the air when an infected person coughs, sneezes, or talks. TB remains the second leading cause of death in adults worldwide. In Kentucky, 70 confirmed TB cases were reported in 2022, with nine cases in Fayette County, highlighting the ongoing relevance of TB, even in areas with lower rates.

How TB Affects Children

Children under 5 are particularly vulnerable to severe TB due to their weaker immune systems. If contracted, TB in children can progress quickly, leading to complications such as TB meningitis or disseminated TB. Symptoms in children often differ from adults and may include unexplained weight loss, persistent fever, fatigue, reduced appetite, and a cough. Early diagnosis is crucial to prevent serious consequences.

General Information on Tuberculosis

While children are especially vulnerable to TB, the disease can affect anyone, regardless of age. Globally, TB is one of the leading causes of death from infectious diseases. In the United States, the number of TB cases has been steadily declining due to improved healthcare and preventative measures, but there are still cases reported each year.

There are two main types of TB:

1. **Latent TB Infection:** This occurs when the Tb bacteria are present in the body but are not causing active disease. People with latent TB are not contagious, but the bacteria can become active later in life is the immune system weakens.
2. **Active TB Disease:** This is when the bacteria multiply and cause symptoms. People with active TB are contagious and can spread the disease to others.

Risk Factors for TB

- **Close contact:** People who live in close quarters with someone who has active TB are at higher risk.
- **Weakened Immune System:** Conditions such as HIV/AIDS or treatment with immunosuppressive drugs increase the risk of developing active TB.
- **Living in High-Risk Areas:** People who have immigrated from countries with high TB rates are at increased risk.

## Tuberculosis Testing in Kentucky

1. **Local Health Departments:** The Kentucky Department for Public Health operates TB clinics throughout the state. They provide testing and treatment services.
2. **Primary Care Providers or Urgent Care:** Your healthcare provider or pediatrician can conduct the Tuberculin Skin Test, where a small amount of fluid is injected under the skin. If infected, the area will swell within 48 to 72 hours.

Resources for TB Testing and Support

- Kentucky Department for Public Health: Offers TB testing and treatment resources.
  Website: https://chfs.ky.gov
  Phone: (502) 564- 6539
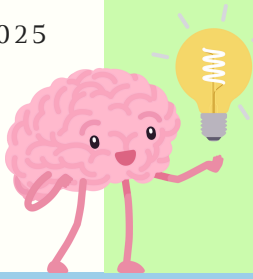
Strength-based Approach in ECE
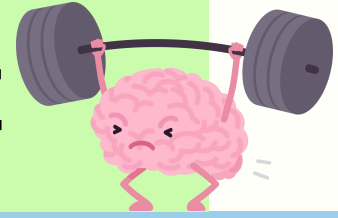
What is a strength-based approach in Early Childhood Education?

Strength-based approach is a strategy to identify the strengths each child instead of focusing on the child's deficits. The strength-based approach is child-centered and individualized to the needs of each child. The educator can then build on the child's strengths by using their knowledge of child development to guide the child in growing those strengths. These strength and competencies can include physical, intellectual, and interpersonal skills. Teachers should use individualized care to notice each child's motivations, interests, and skill sets and find ways to embed those into their teaching. Over the next few months we will continue to provide resources and information regarding strength based approaches in ECE to our ECE-Insider.

Examples of Strength based approach:

- **Recognizing a child's strength:** Teachers may notice that a child engages more with different activities like different areas and centers. Use these motivations and interests to promote a child's curiosity and foster a love of learning.
- **Using multiple Strengths:** Teachers may use movement and music together, or movement and reading, or other activities with fine motor skills to build on strengths of multiple children in a setting.
- **Reflection**: Teachers and children can use reflection to engage with the individual child's learning. Reflection can also be helpful when monitoring and help teachers notice new developing strengths or interest!

Learn more about Strength Based approach:

https://mybrightwheel.com/blog/strength-based-approach

https://www.naeyc.org/resources/pubs/yc/fall2024/intro

Additional Resources:

Division of Child Care
https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs/dcc/Pages/default.aspx

Division of Regulated Child Care (DRCC)
https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/os/oig/drcc/Pages/default.aspx

Child Care Aware Tips and Tools
https://www.childcareawareky.org/tips-and-tools/

Family Child Care Network
https://www.fccnky.com/

ECE-TRIS
ecetris@eku.edu Phone: (859)622-8811
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM EST, M-F

Child Care Health Consultants
https://www.kentuckycchc.org/

Help Me Grow Kentucky
https://www.childcareawareky.org/tips-and-tools/
https://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs/dcc/Pages/hmg.aspx

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
FAMILY NEWSLETTERS

The Kentucky Department of Education's Office of Special Education and Early Learning (OSEEL) provides access to a monthly newsletter, Helping Children Learn, written by **The Parent Institute**, and an activity planner to support families with early learners. These resources are filled with engaging daily learning activities that parents and caregivers can do with their children!

Please click on the links below for the current newsletter.

Helping Children Learn-Family Newsletter (English)
Helping Children Learn-Family Newsletter (Spanish)

Daily Learning Planner for Families (English)
Daily Learning Planner for Families (Spanish)