



## 10-3-2022 Weekly Re-Cap!

### Recent OCDEL Announcements

The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) has recently released the SUNSET of two Announcements effective October 31, 2022.

- [\*\*Announcement C-21-09 Updated September 30, 2022, Reinstating and Extensions of Child Care Certification Regulation Suspensions Due to Act 73, Act 14 and Act 30\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Announcement ELRC 21 #09, Child Care Works \(CCW\) Payment During the Ongoing Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)\*\*](#)

In addition, OCDEL has released [\*\*Announcement C-22-06 Updated Health and Safety Pre-Service and One-Hour Training\*\*](#), effective Oct. 4, 2022. This Announcement provides details that all current childcare staff who completed the previous health and safety pre-service training modules, prior to October 4, 2022, are required to complete the Pennsylvania Health and Safety Update 2022 Versión en español: Actualización de Salud y Seguridad de Pennsylvania 2022) by December 30, 2022. Beginning December 30, 2022, citations for non-compliance with any requirements to obtain health and safety professional development training updates required by OCDEL within the prescribed timeframe will be issued under 55 Pa. Code §3270.14, §3270.21, §3280.14, §3280.20, and §3290.18, all pertaining to compliance with “pertinent laws and regulations” and “general health and safety.” Also included is the list of previous versions of the health and safety pre-service training expiring Oct. 31, 2022.

Please see each Announcement for details.

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### **Announcement C-22-07 Role of Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Human Services (DHS) in Ensuring Compliance with Immunization Regulations**

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The Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning, Bureau of Early Learning Policy and Professional Development and Bureau of Certification Services have released the [\*\*Announcement C-22-07 Role of Department of Health \(DOH\) and Department of Human Services \(DHS\) in Ensuring Compliance with Immunization Regulations\*\*](#). This Announcement clarifies the role of Department of Health (DOH) and Department of



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Human Services (DHS) Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) in ensuring regulation compliance with immunization recommendations.

55 Pa. Code Chapters §3270, §3280, and §3290 refer to Department of Health regulations located at 28 Pa. Code §27.77 (relating to immunization requirements for children in child care group settings). As such, OCDEL and DOH work together to ensure the health of children who receive care in a child care setting.

When conducting a renewal inspection, OCDEL's Bureau of Certification Services (BCS) is responsible for reviewing a random sample of the children's files which include the health records. The certification representative will review the immunization documents and compare against the schedule recommended by the ACIP to determine if the health record is up to date or on a makeup schedule. If a child is missing an immunization(s), the certification representative will discuss this with the provider, issue a citation, and request a plan of correction.

Department of Health (DOH) is also responsible for ensuring that children in child care group settings have the recommended immunizations as per ACIP. Current DOH procedure is to have representatives of DOH contact a random selection of Department of Human Services (DHS) certified child care providers to conduct an annual review of immunization records. Due to confusion in completing and submitting the documents in the past and specifically during COVID by DHS certified child care providers, the on-site visit from DOH will support providers in meeting the requirements outlined in [28 Pa. Code Chapter §27.77\(a\)\(4\)](#).

For full details, including Resources and Next Steps, please read the [Announcement C-22-07 Role of Department of Health \(DOH\) and Department of Human Services \(DHS\) in Ensuring Compliance with Immunization Regulations](#).

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### **PACCA Accepting T.E.A.C.H. Scholarship Applications for the Spring 2023 Semester – Apply by Nov. 4, 2022!**

Early childhood education (ECE) professionals interested in attending college for the Spring semester that begins January 2023 should apply to T.E.A.C.H. now!



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**T.E.A.C.H. applications must be complete and submitted with all required documentation/ information by Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, to be considered for the Spring 2023 semester.**

PACCA will continue to accept applications on an ongoing basis, however incomplete applications and applications received after this date will not receive priority for consideration. NOTE: New scholarship awards for the Spring 2023 semester will be dependent upon funding availability at that time.

Interested applicants should also begin the college admissions process now and contact an ECE advisor at their intended college/university. This helps ensure scholarship applicants are admitted to their college/university and can register for courses if/when they receive a T.E.A.C.H. scholarship. T.E.A.C.H. can provide contact information for ECE advisors at partnering institutions if needed.

Need more information? Click [here](#) to for details on eligibility, program requirements and to download a scholarship application. Questions? Click [here](#) to contact a T.E.A.C.H. Counselor.

*T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® PENNSYLVANIA is supported by the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) of Pennsylvania's Department of Human Services (DHS) and Pennsylvania's Department of Education (PDE). For more information, visit [dhs.pa.gov](https://dhs.pa.gov) and [education.pa.gov](https://education.pa.gov).*

*T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® PENNSYLVANIA is administered by the Pennsylvania Child Care Association (PACCA). T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® PENNSYLVANIA is a licensed program of Child Care Services Association.*

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### Invitation to Join the Dec. 16 Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Community Conversation



The Philadelphia Department of Public Health - Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention and the Pennsylvania Department of Education are hosting a quarterly series called Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Community Conversations. The meetings include updates, resources, and important reminders regarding CACFP (and sometimes other nutrition programs) from collaborators at the Pennsylvania Department of Education and other partners.



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These conversations take place quarterly (email [Shannon.dryden@phila.gov](mailto:Shannon.dryden@phila.gov) to be added to the calendar invite) and participants are welcome to join as a CACFP or other federal nutrition program participant, sponsor, or interested stakeholder. This invitation extends statewide. The next Community Conversation is to be held 2-3 pm on Dec. 16, 2022. [Click here to join on Dec. 16 at 2 pm.](#)

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### The 2023 Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Awards Accepting Applications

Applications due Nov. 18, 2022

In 1994, Kay and Fred Lokoff launched the Terri Lynne Lokoff Child Care Teacher Awards to honor their daughter Terri who was a devoted childcare teacher. The Awards are designed to recognize and celebrate the achievements of outstanding early care and education teachers and bring attention to the critical role these teachers play in the lives of young children.

Up to 50 awards are presented each year, and each award recipient receives a cash prize, a paid trip to Philadelphia to participate in the Terri Lynne Lokoff Teacher Awards weekend-long celebration, ongoing opportunities to connect with peers, exchange ideas, as well as ongoing professional learning and program enrichment opportunities.

Applications for the 2023 Terri Lynne Lokoff Teachers Awards are open through November 18, 2022. Please reach out to [teacheraward@firstup.org](mailto:teacheraward@firstup.org) for help, or [click here](#) to begin an application.

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### FREE Screening Development of Young Bilingual Learners!

Screening development of young [#bilingual](#) learners can be challenging for English speaking [#earlychildhoodeducation](#) programs, but it is even more complicated to screen for [#languagelearning](#). Join three of the most respected experts on developmental [#screening](#), Roberta Golinkoff, Jill de Villiers, and Aquiles Iglesias in a FREE webinar to learn strategies and tools you can use to ensure the Spanish-speaking children in your program receive the best possible outcomes. This webinar is made possible by a generous sponsorship by [Brookes Publishing](#). Learn more and register at <https://lnkd.in/ehbzQpwY> Here is the Flyer-

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:e4ddda5a-1efd-31e0-9ecc-b800ef7d1380>



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### First Up

Family Child Care Practitioners, we invite you to participate in a [\(free\) six-part workshop series](#) facilitated by ParentChild+ and Public Health Management Corporation (PHMC), called Windows, Mirrors and Doors: The Importance of Diverse Representation in Books for Young Children.

This series will give participants the opportunity to reflect on the importance of diverse representation in books for young children. The series will meet weekly for one hour and 15 minutes per session over 6 sessions (see below for dates). Group size will be limited to 10 participants to ensure meaningful dialogue. [Through this series, participants will receive 2 copies of 10 unique books by authors and illustrators of color as well guidance for effectively using the books with children and families.](#)

This series will also feature local authors as guest speakers and opportunities for participants to engage in meaningful conversations about this important topic. PQAS hours are available.

**Training will take place on Thursdays from 6:30 pm-7:45 pm**

#### **Dates of training:**

October 13 <sup>th</sup>	October 27 <sup>th</sup>	November 3 <sup>rd</sup>
November 10 <sup>th</sup>	November 17 <sup>th</sup>	

#### **Link to Register:**

[Windows, Mirrors and DoorsRegistration Form \(jotform.com\)](#)

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### Childcare Facilities Fund

We wanted to take an opportunity to share with you an upcoming grant opportunity for STAR 2, 3, and 4 Philadelphia providers to receive up to \$25,000 in grant funding through the [Child Care Facilities Fund](#).

We will be hosting a kick-off event Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at noon. You can register by clicking [here](#). Please see the [flyer](#) below and review the attached grant [overview](#), highlighting the grant's eligibility requirements. [City of Philadelphia: Child Care Facility Fund \(CCFF\) | Supporting Early Childhood Education Facilities \(philafacilityfund.org\)](#)

<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:309ac139-89ac-3c4a-b8b5-a279e263ceb4>



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### *Philadelphia Early Learning Instructional Excellence Initiative* **Curriculum Fund Information Session**

Thanks to generous funding from William Penn Foundation, PHMC is offering grant funding to support the purchasing and implementation of OCDEL approved, research-based curriculum for Philadelphia Child Care providers.

- High quality, research-based curriculum is a critical element to providing developmentally appropriate instruction in early childhood education classrooms.
- However, the cost to purchase, train, and implement curriculum creates a financial burden for many childcare providers.
- The Philadelphia Early Learning Instructional Excellence Initiative (PELEI) seeks to address a critical element to instructional practice with the Curriculum Fund.

**Join us on Monday, October 17th from 1:00-2:00PM for an information session to find out more about the upcoming application period.**

[Register Here](#)



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### New SNAP Income Guidelines

Posted by Greater Philadelphia Coalition Against Hunger on October 4, 2022

Every October 1st the SNAP income guidelines are adjusted to reflect changes in the cost of living. This year, in addition to the usual annual adjustment, [the Department of Human Services \(DHS\) increased the SNAP Income Guidelines to 200% of the Federal Poverty Income Guidelines \(FPIG\) for all households](#). This change means that **individuals previously denied due to their income might be eligible for SNAP benefits!** In addition, the **SNAP Maximum amounts will also be increasing.**

While the income guidelines previously distinguished between two separate types of households, those with elderly or disabled members and those without, **all households will now have the same income guidelines**, regardless of household makeup. DHS estimates that, with this change, more than 420,000 additional Pennsylvanians in more than 174,000 households will be newly eligible for SNAP and will receive, on average, \$63 a month.

While the income guidelines are changing, households will still need to meet all other SNAP rules in order to receive benefits. It is possible that some families of 3 or more members with high incomes and low expenses might not qualify for benefits, even if their income is under the limits.

*If you think you might qualify, it can't hurt to apply! Call our Coalition Against Hunger SNAP Hotline at 215-430-0556 to speak to a knowledgeable Hotline Counselor who can walk you through the process.*

Visit For more information, [New SNAP Income Guidelines | PHENND — Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development](#)

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### Provider Networking Meetings

ELRC 18 hosts a variety of monthly provider networking meetings and participates in several others. These meetings are a great opportunity to learn about important resources, to discuss changes in the field, and get to know and explore collaborations with your peers. Here is a list of upcoming meetings. If you facilitate a provider networking meeting that is not on this list and would like to include it, please let me know!

- **10/6/2022** – First Thursday – **ELRC 18 Northeast Directors** from 1-3p ([Click HERE to join the Teams meeting at 1p](#))
- **10/8/2022** – Second Saturday at 9a – **Quality Influential Professionals (QIP)** family child care networking – open to all FCCH/GCCH providers. E-mail QIP Quality Influential Professionals at [qipforu@gmail.com](mailto:qipforu@gmail.com) for the Zoom link to the upcoming meeting.
- **10/12/2022** – Second Wednesday at 1p – **Motivation for Movement** – designed for STAR 1 programs who have an interest in moving up in Keystone STARS, but have been out of the loop for some time. Hosted by ELRC STAR 1 quality coaches, this series will take a deep dive into the STAR 1 Standards and discuss the Sources of Evidence required to meet the STARS Standards. We will discuss "Best Practice" in everything STARS. Providers will have an opportunity to network with other providers who augment the quality in their programs. [Click here to join the meeting](#) and motivate your STARS journey.
- **10/13/2022** – Segundo Jueves – **ELRC 18 Proveedores de habla hispana** de 6p-8p ([Click HERE to join the Teams meeting at 6p](#)) – *Meeting on the second Thursday of the month for Spanish-speaking providers.*
- **10/18/2022** – Third Tuesday at 1p – **Filling Your STARS Bucket** – Join us for a monthly “virtual open forum” discussing “all things STARS.” This is a place for you to: ask questions, tell us what’s on your mind, talk about your challenges, get help brainstorming solutions and receive support from other providers. Facilitated by 3 ELRC 18 Quality Coaches and a Designator, join us each month to unpack some stuff and make room to continue “Filling Your STARS Bucket!”
- **10/19/2022** – Third Wednesday at 1p - **Northwest Directors Meeting** –*NOTE: This Zoom meeting is hosted by Childspace Centers and is open to all providers in the community. To RSVP and receive the meeting link, please e-mail [jfilante@childspacecenters.org](mailto:jfilante@childspacecenters.org).*
- **10/20/2022** – Third Thursday – **ELRC 18 North Directors** from 1-3p ([Click HERE to join the Teams meeting at 1p](#)).
- **10/25/2022** – virtually from 9a-11a – **Monthly SEPECC meeting**. The Southeastern Pennsylvania Early Childhood Coalition is an umbrella of organizations supporting the mission of providing high quality early childhood services to all families. It represents child care centers, family child care programs, advocacy groups, training agencies, early care support agencies, and funders who share the goal of coordinating and increasing public support for early care and education. [Register Here](#)
- **10/27/2022** – Fourth Thursday – **ELRC 18 South/West Directors** from 1-3p ([Click HERE to join the Teams meeting at 1p](#)).





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### COVID Supplies

- As of 10/1/2022, the Philadelphia Department of Public Health is delivering bulk quantities of test kits and masks directly to childcare locations. Orders placed by Thursday will be delivered to you the following Thursday. Click here to order: [https://phpublichealth.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_em8k4AZYinFi5XE](https://phpublichealth.iad1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_em8k4AZYinFi5XE). Smaller programs that do not need bulk supplies are encouraged to partner with neighboring programs to coordinate delivery to one location.

#### [FAQ]

1. **What supplies are available for delivery?**
    - o At-Home Rapid COVID-19 Test Kits (BinaxNow test kits - 2 tests per kit)
    - o Masks (Adult KN95 and N95, and Pediatric surgical, KN95 and KF94)
  2. **When are requests due?** You will not be able to pick up or have supplies delivered in the same week that you place your order. All supply requests are due **Thursdays at 4pm ET** for supplies to be available for pick-up the following week.
  3. **What's the delivery process?** Deliveries are made on Thursdays between 9-5pm each week. There is no added cost to this option. Once you submit your test request survey opting for delivery, a member of our team will reach out to confirm your order and provide you with the date when you can expect supplies to be delivered.
  4. **Can I pick up my supplies instead?** Yes, pick-up of supplies is at our PDPH Warehouse, located at **700 Packer Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19148**. Pick-ups may be made on **Tuesdays and Thursdays between 8:30AM-10AM and 3PM-4:30PM**. Once you submit your test request survey opting for pick-up, the listed contact will receive confirmation via email that includes your preferred date and time window for pick-up of supplies.
- The PDPH Pediatric Partnership Team and ELRC 18 also continue to partner to distribute COVID-19 At-home Test Kits at ELRC 18 on Welsh Road in Northeast Philadelphia. Test



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kits and masks are available for pick up by appointment only. Use the following link to request COVID-19 self-test kits and/or masks: <https://form.jotform.com/213097807632055>. Once you submit the request, be sure to reply to the follow-up e-mail to actually schedule your pick-time date/time!

- (I would recommend using this for supplies other than test kits and masks.) The Department of Health (DOH), Department of General Services (DGS), and Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency (PEMA) are collaborating to right-size the current PPE stockpile for future COVID-19 and public health emergency purposes, and to ensure partners have sufficient quantities of PPE to protect against a likely fall/winter resurgence of COVID-19. To that end, partners are encouraged to request PPE through [this form](#). These resources are intended to support organizations for current or future COVID-19 protection, or other associated purposes (including training purposes) and are available at no cost to the recipient. These resources are **NOT** permitted to be used to offset normal operational costs for the procurement of PPE. [Click here for full details](#) on the program. This survey will be kept open and orders will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis through at least October 2022. Please email [HOC\\_Log@pa.gov](mailto:HOC_Log@pa.gov) if you have any questions.
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### Colours of Us

All about multicultural children's books

300+ Children's & YA Books  
**Hispanic/Latinx**  
[www.coloursofus.com](http://www.coloursofus.com)

Hispanic Heritage Month is in full swing!

Observed annually from September 15 to October 15, it celebrates the contributions and influence of Hispanic Americans to the history, culture, and achievements of the United States.

To mark the occasion, we have put together this extensive list of Hispanic Children's & YA books for all ages! Enjoy browsing!

[300+ Hispanic Children's & YA Books](#)



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### Provider Spotlight!!

**Congratulations to Early Beginnings, LLC on being the first Hispanic Owned Childcare Center in Reading (and all of Berks County) in reaching STAR 4!!!**

#### Background

Early Beginnings LLC was established in September 2006 by owner Mary Rodriguez, who has 40+ years of experience working in the field of early care and education. Early Beginnings LLC is a family run business, operating with the help of Mary's husband, Victor, and daughter, Sandra Rodriguez, the Director. The center has a capacity of 85 children and operates first shift care, educating children aged infant through school age. Located at 1459 Moss St., Reading, PA 19604, Early Beginnings LLC started with a STAR 1 quality rating and jumped to a STAR 2 in May 2021. This year, the center achieved a Star 3 in March 2022. In June the center reached a STAR 4, the highest level in Keystone STARS Quality Rating and Improvement System for early care and education. With the help of their quality coach, Mailyn Tout, as well as their amazing teachers, Early Beginnings can serve the children in Reading and Berks County and guide them toward a better future.



***What a great way to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month!***