



SOUTH CENTRAL CHILD CARE RESOURCE and REFERRAL AGENCY

East Central University - Ada Oklahoma

Fall 2021 Newsletter



OKLAHOMA
Human Services

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www.ecok.edu/ccrra/

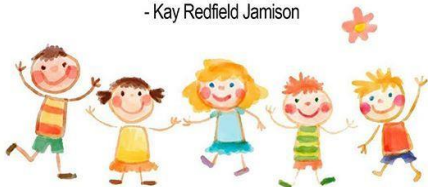
Be sure to like us on Facebook and follow us at **ECU
Child Care Resource and Referral**



@BigLifeJournal

* CHILDREN
NEED THE FREEDOM AND
TIME TO PLAY. PLAY IS NOT
A LUXURY.
* PLAY IS A NECESSITY.

- Kay Redfield Jamison



Why do classrooms have to be indoors?
The answer is, "They don't."

Outdoor learning classrooms can be utilized for an endless number of lessons and activities. Dramatic play, circle time, reading, music, and STEAM activities, to name a few, are easily moved to an environment full of sensory stimulators and healthy exposure to sunshine, fresh air and nature. Games and activities can be aligned with developmental skills and children don't even know they are learning as they participate in play.

Outdoor learning gives children the opportunity to experience the outdoor with all their senses, develop fine and gross motor skills, be physically active, learn through observation, build using natural materials and connect to the world around them.

See OK Shared Services Nature-Based Learning, Outdoor learning, for more information and ideas.

<https://www.oksharredserves.org/in-the-classroom/curriculum/nature-based-learning/>



ANNOUNCING EXCITING NEWS IN THE ECU SC CCRR OFFICE!

We told you in our last newsletter that we were getting an additional team member and we are excited to say the new **Business Consultant Specialist** has been hired! Along with new Business Consultant Specialists from each of the other seven CCRR regions, she will begin training and preparing to implement this exciting new program!

The Business Consultant Specialist will offer support for expanding the quality and efficiency of child care centers and home providers in each region. Watch for the introduction of our new team member soon.

For the past three months, Child Care Consultant, Georgiana Sullivan, and Infant Toddler Specialist, Lindsay Christian, have been busy returning to child care homes and centers as they observe, train, coach and share all they have learned during the past eighteen months of Pyramid Model Training and from other coaching opportunities.

Both ladies have become certified *Safe Sleep* trainers and can bring this training to you. Georgiana has developed other formal trainings, including Building Positive Relationships with Children and Room Arrangement. Lindsay and Georgiana have also completed Pyramid Model Training and are excited to help you implement it in your center or home.

They are available to help with a number of other topics including:

- classroom engagement
- parent engagement
- active supervision
- room arrangement and setting up centers
- on-site observations
- lesson/activity planning
- outdoor learning and physical activities
- new teacher training
- STARs application and implementation
- routines and scheduling
- nutrition
- transitions

They can also address issues such as:

- behavioral and guidance issues
- trauma
- social-emotional development
- language development
- brain development

Basically, they can meet any need you may have and would love to work with you.

Contact Georgiana at geolsul@ecok.edu or (580) 559-5304 or Lindsay at linbchr@ecok.edu or (580) 559-5327.

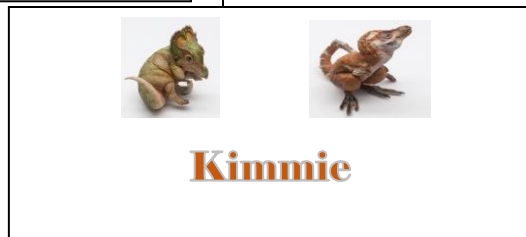
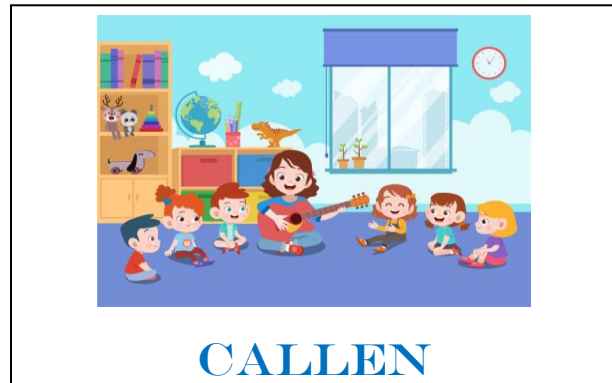
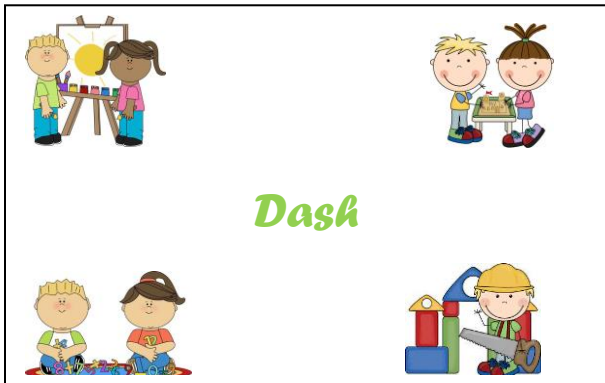
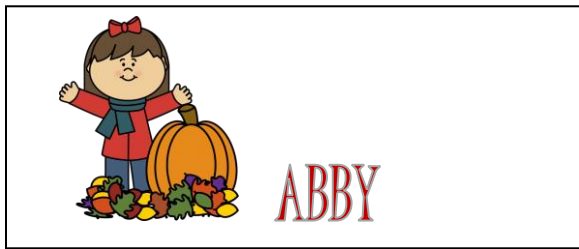
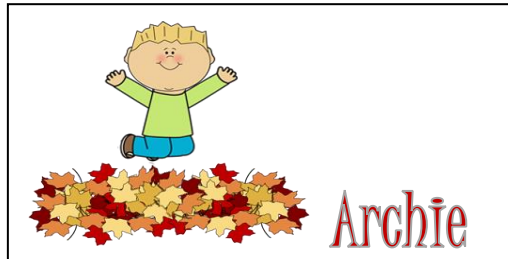
Resource Room

As the weather begins to cool and the days get shorter, we know fall right around the corner. Along with it comes leaves, fall harvests, Halloween, Thanksgiving and, before we know it, Christmas. Check out some of our 45 bulletin board kits below. We have also added **Welcome to the Jungle** and **Better Not Pout** to the list. For a full list of FREE bulletin board kits available and photos of each go to our Facebook page or our website at <https://www.ecok.edu/current-students/student-services/centers-programs/child-care-resource-and-referral-agency>. If we don't have a kit available that meets your needs, send us a photo or topic and we will put a kit together for you.

We also have over 200 die cuts available and will be glad to cut and send to you or you are welcome to come cut them yourself. Let us know colors and number needed.



Check out a few of our personalized and laminated **PLACEMATS** made to fit with your lesson theme or the holiday.



Lending Library

We have 51 theme boxes and many activity boxes and general inventory items for indoor and outdoor play, STEM activities, social-emotional activities, sensory items, books, learning kits, music and rhythm activities, infant/toddler items, games, manipulatives, DVDs and CDs, training items and much more. Check these out and, remember, we pick up and deliver. Contact us for availability.

Laminating

Laminating is FREE! You are welcome to come do it yourself or let us do it for you. You can email what you want laminated or drop it by to us.

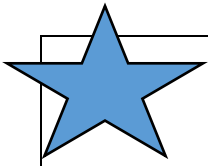
Call us at 1 800-862-5593, ext. 873 or 580-559-5303 or email parmstro@ecok.edu to place an order for any services from the Resource Room or the Lending Library. If you need an updated list of offerings, we can email them to you. Our office hours are 8-5, M-F, however, we are sometimes all involved in off-site travel. Please call ahead to be sure we are open. If no answer, leave a message and we will return your call upon our return. If you need a weekend appointment, we can arrange that also. Just give us a call!

How we have helped.....

"We are very appreciative of the ECU Child Care Resource & Referral. They are very helpful with providing our daycare with bulletin boards monthly and die-cut designs to go along with our monthly themes. They have also lent us Curriculum Theme Boxes and books to go along with those. They are always looking to help us in any way possible. I would highly recommend them for any facility.

Heather Coates, Kidzone Daycare Center, Ardmore

Congratulations to all the winners of drawings we have held this quarter. Watch our Facebook page and your email for more opportunities to win!



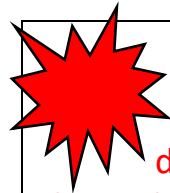
Check out these posts and more added bi-weekly on the [ECU Child Care Resource and Referral](#) Facebook page.

Apple Crafts – Cute ideas for fall!



<https://www.firefliesandmudpies.com/apple-crafts-kids/>

By Fireflies and Mud Pies



Roll the dice, count the dots, what a fund bingo game for kids while using early math skills!

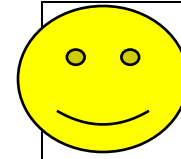


For this and more go to

facebook.com/learning4kids/photos/

Free Printable Number Bingo Game <https://bit.ly/363Ete9>

By Learning 4 Kids



Leaf
Animal
Art



<https://www.hellowonderful.com/post/leaf-animal-art-with-template/>

By hello, Wonderful



Are you looking for new ideas or do you need activities for older kids? Georgiana has been busy posting fun activities on Pinterest. They are easy to look up and saves you time to plan without having to do the search. Click on the [ECU Child Care Resource and Referral Pinterest page at https://www.pinterest.com/cresource/](#). New pins are added weekly. And remember, we have MANY of the items needed, including die cuts, in our Lending Library and Resource Room.

Welcome to our new providers and new openings!

Kady Allen, Kingston
Kid's Club Academy, Ada
Jaclyn Lide, Ardmore
Jennifer Wilson, Ada
Lisa Smith, Wolf Pups, Davis



Reaching for the Stars! 

Congratulations to the following for increasing their STAR rating:

- Christian Life Daycare, Purcell (2 to 3)
- Dickson School's Day Care (1 to 2)
- Kids Club Academy, Ada (1 to 2)
- Shawnee Schools Pup Pack (1 to 2)

Star ratings do make an impact. If you would like assistance in obtaining or increasing your star level, give Georgiana or Lindsay a call at (800) 862-5593, ext. 873 or email them at geolsula@ecok.edu or linbhra@ecok.edu.

Fun Days Ahead in 2021

October	November	December
2-World Farm Animal Day	3-Jellyfish Day	1-Eat a Red Apple Day
4-Taco Day	6-Nachos Day	4-Cookie Day
8-Octopus Day	7-Hug a Bear Day	6-Walt Disney Day
9-Fire Prevention Day	10-Sesame Street Day	9-Christmas Card Day
13-Parents to Lunch Day	11-Veterans Day	14-Monkey Day
13-Bring A Teddy Bear Day	11-Ice Cream Sundae Day	20-Go Caroling Day
21-Apple Day	13-World Kindness Day	25-Christmas Day
21-Reptile Awareness Day	18-Mickey Mouse Day	26-Thank You Note Day
26-Pumpkin Day	18-Princess Day	27-Cutout Snowflakes Day
29-Cat Day	20-Universal Childrens Day	30-Bacon Day
31-Halloween Day	25-Thanksgiving	31-New Year's Eve

Source: <https://www.daysoftheyear.com/days/2021> and

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_observances_in_the_United_States_by_presidential_proclamation



Remember we have lots of die cuts, activities, projects, placemats, cubbie tags, bulletin boards and resources relevant to these days.



QRIS Stars Outreach Specialists are available to answer any questions you may have regarding Stars Criteria or to assist you in applying for Stars or increasing your Star level. As requirements change, providers will be notified via email by the Oklahoma Department of Human Services.

Misti Denton, Stars Outreach Specialist – East

E-mail: Misti.Denton@okdhs.org

Phone: (918) 344-4368

Fax: (918) 207-4632

Adair, Atoka, Bryan, Cherokee, Choctaw, Coal, Craig, Creek, Delaware, Haskell, Hughes, Johnston, Kay, Latimer, LeFlore, Lincoln, Logan, Marshall, Mayes, McCurtain, McIntosh, Muskogee, Noble, Nowata, Okfuskee, Okmulgee, Osage, Ottawa, Pawnee, Payne, Pittsburg, Pontotoc, Pottawatomie, Pushmataha, Rogers, Seminole, Sequoyah, Tulsa, Wagoner, and Washington counties

Tiffany McPherson, Stars Outreach Specialist – West

E-mail: Tiffany.McPherson@okdhs.org

Phone: (918) 348-8515

Fax: (918) 752-2090

Alfalfa, Beaver, Beckham, Blaine, Caddo, Canadian, Carter, Cimarron, Cleveland, Comanche, Cotton, Custer, Dewey, Ellis, Garfield, Garvin, Grady, Grant, Greer, Harmon, Harper, Jackson, Jefferson, Kingfisher, Kiowa, Love, Major, McClain, Murray, Oklahoma, Roger Mills, Stephens, Texas, Tillman, Washita, Woods, and Woodward counties.



Notes from your Stars Outreach Specialist

Family Partnerships

Families are the child's first teachers and are the link between the educational setting and home. A strong connection between child care personnel and families is critical for building a positive environment for young children and allowing children to feel more secure, confident, and self-assured. It is best for children when caregivers build relationships with families based on mutual trust, respect, and willingness to involve them as full partners. Everyone, but especially children, benefits when providers and families work together.

Family Partnership Ideas/Resources:

- Respect and adapt communication methods of children and family languages and cultures.
- Welcome families to the program and also host family events with guest speakers or special activities.
- Have a system for sharing information with families, hold parent meetings, welcome families to participate in policy development, conduct conferences, and have a family resource area available.

Working with Families Inventory

<http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/resources/trainings/1.11.pdf>

Pyramid Model Resources

<https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Communicating-with-Families.pdf>

https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Connecting-with-Families_tipsheet.pdf

https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/LeadshipTeam_FamilyEngagement.pdf

Involve Families

https://www.cecpcd.org/media/2017/11/03/Over%2050%20Ideas%20to%20Involve%20Families%20in%20Your%20Child%20Care%20Program_.pdf

Family Bulletin Boards

<https://www.cecpcd.org/media/2017/06/29/Family%20Bulletin%20Boards.pdf>

Parent Conferences <https://www.cecpcd.org/media/2017/06/29/Conducting%20a%20Successful%20Parent%20Conference.pdf>

<https://www.cecpcd.org/media/2017/06/29/How%20to%20Conduct%20Parent%20Conferences.pdf>

<https://www.cecpcd.org/media/2017/06/29/Parent%20Conference%20Form%20Example.pdf>

Family Resources

<https://csctulsa.org/211-oklahoma/>

<https://beaneighbor.ok.gov/s/>

<https://oklahoma.gov/health/family-health/child-guidance-program/child-care-warmline.html>

<https://www.cecpcd.org/media/2017/11/03/Building%20A%20Parent%20Resource%20Area.pdf>



PROPOSED QRIS (STARs) CHANGES



(Source: Oklahoma Human Services Child Care Services Sept 21 Newsletter)

The QRIS requirements are part of Oklahoma Administrative Code and any changes to our QRIS criteria must go through this process, including Governor approval. While our effective date is pending, here is a broad look at what we can share at this time:

Background:

- The QRIS changes were designed by the QRIS Standing Subcommittee, a group of child care providers representing all types of licensed child care programs in Oklahoma and CCS staff.
- This group was very thoughtful to conduct extensive research and obtain input from stakeholders.
- The QRIS Standing Subcommittee had several goals as they worked on this restructure: increase provider participation and commitment to continuous quality improvement, simplify paperwork process, develop criteria that can be monitored, change to a five level system, and no or low cost to the child care industry.

Major Changes will include and address:

- Five level system
- Alternate pathway to national accreditation
- Continuity of care
- Master teacher graduated ratio
- Staff retention • QRIS Orientation training
- Curriculum and lesson planning
- Transitions
- Family partnership
- Professional development

Provider supports:

- Online application
- Financial incentives
- Coaching services
- Training videos
- ECE business training and assistance

OCTOBER-DECEMBER TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Most are **FREE** or have only a small registration fee.

You must pre-register for all training at www.okregistry.org. Please register early to prevent the class from being cancelled for low registration numbers. We have had to cancel several trainings because of lack of participation. Participants will be notified if the class is cancelled for any reason.

Safe Sleep Training

Our Infant Toddler Specialist, Lindsay Christian, and Child Care Consultant, Georgiana Sullivan, are certified Safe Sleep trainers and would be happy to come to your facility or a facility near you to provide this formal training. Contact either of them if you are interested. Also, several Self-Paced Web Based courses are available to meet the Oklahoma Child Care Services-Licensing requirement for safe sleep training. See the CECPD website for a full list of options and descriptions. The link to register may be found at www.okregistry.org.

ELG Training

Two Self-Paced Web Based ELG trainings are being offered by CECPD. Both are fourteen hour courses and the cost is \$20 for each. One is for Infants, Toddlers and Twos and the other is for Children Ages 3-5. These will meet the Oklahoma Child Care Services licensing requirement. See the CECPD website for a full list of options and descriptions. The link to register may be found at www.okregistry.org.

Other Formal Training

We have no scheduled trainings at this time. However, Georgiana has two prepared to deliver upon request and can develop others covering topics relevant to your needs. The two approved and ready to be delivered are Room Arrangement and Building Positive Relationships with Children. If you have specific training needs or would like to have these specific topics presented, contact us her so that she can get approval to offer a session. Trainings can be offered in your area if minimal enrollments are met.

Watch your email, our Facebook page or the CECPD Registry for new additions. Self-Paced Web Based Training may be found at www.okregistry.org.

The Scholars Program-What is it? Scholarships are available to eligible child care professionals completing coursework in the area of child development or early childhood education, as well as, the Child Development Associate (CDA) and Certified Childcare Professional (CCP) Credential Assessment. These scholarships are designed to enable child care providers in Oklahoma to improve their skills through education, receive an educational stipend, and continue the availability of quality child care in local communities.

Stipends are available through the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care Program and are valued from \$800-\$1200 for eligible scholars. Credentials can be earned toward CDA, CCP, CoM, SACoC, DCoC, DCom, and Associate Degree or Bachelor's Degrees. More than one stipend may be earned.

For more details on the program or participating Career Techs or colleges, refer to the September 2021 issue of the DHS Child Care newsletter and visit www.okhighered.org/scholars or call your local Campus Connection listed below.

Bailey Maxey, OSRHE Scholars Program Coordinator at (866) 343-3881 or (405) 225-9395 bmaxey@osrhe.edu **OR**
Murray State College-Child Development Courses Coordinator at (580) 387-7412 **OR**
Seminole State College-Child Development Courses Coordinator at (405) 382-9751

Programs are available at many other community colleges in Oklahoma. Contact Bailey Maxey for information.

Contacts and Resources

Center for Early Childhood Professional Development (CECPD)

1 (888) 446-7608 www.cecpd.org

Locating Quality Child Care

1 (800) 438-0008

Oklahoma DHS Child Care Services

1 (800) 347-2276 www.okdhs.org/childcare

Oklahoma Professional Development Registry

www.okregistry.org

Child Care Services County Offices

Carter Co. (580) 490-3600
Garvin Co. (405) 238-6461
Johnston Co. (580) 618-6256
Love Co. (580) 490-3600
Marshall Co. (580) 618-6256
McClain Co. (405) 238-6461 or (405) 248-8069
Murray Co. (580) 618-6256
Pontotoc Co. (580) 310-7050
Pottawatomie Co. (405) 301-5874
Okfuskee Co. (918) 777-8029
Seminole Co. (405) 214-4147

Office of Background Investigations

1 (800) 347-2276

Reaching for the Stars

Misti Denton-serving counties east of I-35
1 (800) 884-1582 Misti.Denton@okdhs.org

Tiffany McPherson-serving counties west of I-35
1 (800) 884-1582 Tiffany.Mcpherson@okdhs.org

Scholars for Excellence in Child Care

www.okhighered.org/scholars
Statewide contact – Bailey Maxey
1 (866) 343-3881 or (405) 225-9395

Pathway to CDA –

Bailey Maxey 1 (866) 343-3881

Warmline

1 (888) 574-5437
Free telephone consultation for child care providers covers behavioral health related topics.
<http://warmline.health.ok.gov/>



STABILIZATION GRANT INFORMATION

As you are probably aware, the first cycle for the stabilization grant is closed and CCS is concluding the application review process. Each program that applied should receive an email (to the address on the form) informing them that the application is complete or that further information is required. Instructions on submitting missing information will be included. Once the application is complete and moving forward, payment should be expected via mail within 2-4 weeks of receiving the approval email.

A Child Care Services call center for grant support is now available. Hours are Monday-Friday, 9 am to 4 pm. The phone number is (405) 521-6177.

ALTHOUGH THE NEXT ROUND OF GRANTS WAS TO OPEN OCTOBER 1, THIS MAY BE DELAYED. WE WILL NOTIFY OUR PROVIDERS VIA EMAIL WHEN MORE INFORMATION IS RECEIVED.

COVID PAYMENTS

CCS knows the vital role child care providers play in supporting Oklahoma families during the COVID pandemic. Many providers are working hard to remain open and to sustain operations to support the needs of families, businesses, and the economy as a whole. While the stabilization grants are meant to supplement and offer financial support during these unprecedented times, they acknowledge the additional time it has taken to get the first round of stabilization grants paid out. CCS mailed a COVID support payment today to all licensed child care programs. **This payment is independent of the stabilization grants.**

Do you want to join Oklahoma's 900 Shared Services members who saved over \$18,623 in 2020?

If you haven't already signed up for membership with Shared Services, we encourage you to do so immediately to begin saving today. It's easy and the SC CCRR office is excited to help. Just give us a call. Not only does Shared Services save you money on purchases from participating vendors, but the variety of other services offered continues to grow. Benefits include, but are not limited to, lesson plans, teaching aides, classroom assessment tools, form templates, a monthly newsletter, training help and medical and insurance benefits.

The first year of membership is free, with subsequent years being a minimal amount. If you are a center, please share this opportunity with your teachers and staff, as individual workers are also eligible for membership that will benefit them personally.

OK Shared Services is funded in part by OKDHS Child Care Services, Potts Family Foundation, Tulsa Educare, the Ottawa Tribe of Oklahoma and the Shawnee Tribe. If you haven't had the opportunity to check out this amazing program, you may do so at www.oksharedservices.org. This information is provided by Oklahoma Child Care Resource and Referral Association, Inc.

Child Care Warmline

The Warmline for Oklahoma Child Care Providers offers free telephone consultation to child care providers on numerous topics of concern. Consultants refer providers to appropriate services and resources within their communities.

A consultant can help clarify a problem, provide information, help generate ideas and solutions, offer guidance on developmentally appropriate practices, provide referrals to meet individual needs and requests, direct providers to relevant resources to assist with a concern, and provide follow-up when needed.

Call : 1 (888) 574-5437

Email your questions: warmline@health.ok.gov

Go online: <http://warmline.health.ok.gov/>



DID YOU GET YOUR SEPTEMBER 21 EMAILED COPY OF THE DHS CHILD CARE SERVICES NEWSLETTER? Much of the information previously shared via individual emails to providers will now be compiled into a monthly newsletter sent to you by OKDHS. Watch your emails for these important publications. If you are not getting them, be sure to sign up.



A Message from the Office of Background Investigations (OBI)

The Office of Background Investigations has recently updated two critical forms, attached:

- Criminal History Record Dispute Resolution, 19AD005E
- Qualified Entity Application and Agreement, 19LC112E

The **Criminal History Record Dispute Resolution** form is mailed out to every individual who has criminal history returned from the OSBI or FBI. It informs them of their rights to dispute their criminal history with law enforcement –if the criminal history contains errors or is incomplete, and with OBI if they feel the error resulted in OBI making a determination on the bad information.

This form should also be used by programs, if an individual request a copy of their Criminal History Record Information (CHRI) from the program. The QE Authorized Recipient may provide the individual a copy of their CHRI, but always with a copy of the Criminal History Record Dispute Resolution form as well.

The **Qualified Entity Application and Agreement** form is used to validate a Qualified Entity, create a GAO or THA, set up a temporary Authorized Recipient, add or remove programs from a GAO, or update any changes in QE information. If any contact information for your QE changes, a new Qualified Entity Application and Agreement should be submitted to OBI.

Updates include:

- QR code – link to OBI CC webpages
- Updated language throughout the form
- Field updates and additions
- Additional fields for GAO to list all programs on one form
- Integrated NCJ training links and attestation
- Integrated CHRRP portal request
- Electronic signature(s)
- Submit by email button

OBI will accept the older version of these documents through October 31st.

If you have any questions please contact OBI at OBICC@okdhs.org

405-962-1735 or 1-800-347-2276

Fax: 405-522-4167

Office of Background Investigations

PO Box 268935

Oklahoma City, OK 73126



From the Director:

Dear Friends,

As we continue the Covid journey this autumn, I realize many of you may be overwhelmed and understaffed. Please know that CECPD is here to assist you in your professional development efforts.

The following information will keep you up-to-date on a few upcoming changes:

On **October 4, 2021**, the Oklahoma Registry will begin sending incomplete letters for the Professional Development Ladder (PDL) and the Oklahoma Director's Credential (ODC) **VIA EMAIL**. **Paper letters will no longer be mailed to the participant**. It is crucial that you check your email regularly for communication from the Registry. You can log into your Registry account and read the notes regarding your application. If you require a paper letter to be mailed, please contact the Registry staff.

Be sure you have access to the email address listed on your Registry account. If you need to change your email address, you will find instructions on the CECPD website (www.cecpd.org). If you cannot update your email, personal information, or employment on your Registry account, please submit a complete **Participant Update Form** via email, fax or mail. Registry staff will update information as requested.

To locate the **Participant Update Form** go to www.cecpd.org under Provider Programs, Oklahoma Registry Information, Form. The form must include your name (first and last), last five digits of your social security number, date of birth, and signature with date, along with any information that needs to be updated. We cannot use forms that are missing the necessary information.

If you do not receive email communication for the Registry, please check your junk or spam folders. Please add no-reply@okregistry.org as a Safe Sender in your email.

Warmest regards,

Susan J. Kimmel, Ph.D., Executive Director

The University of Oklahoma Center for Early Childhood Professional Development

OKLAHOMA REGISTRY CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT STIPEND PROGRAM

Certificate of Achievement Stipend Training-

1st Certificate of Achievement – Looks back five (5) years for training

2nd through 5th Certificates of Achievement – Looks back 12 months from the application date

Training is specific. Be sure you are taking the right courses. To locate approved trainings for each certificate

- 1) Visit the Statewide Training Calendar at www.okregistry.org**
- 2) On the left navigation menu, click on Training Content**
- 3) Click on Certificate of Achievement and Stipend**
- 4) Choose the Certificate of Achievement you are interested in. Required courses will be listed.**

Training hours are counted by minutes. The number of minutes may vary by quantity and complexity of the lesson content. Students will not be able to mark a lesson complete until the required time period has lapsed. This is shown on the countdown calendar button on each lesson page. If you complete a lesson before the time is lapsed you should stay on the lesson page until it has done so. Navigating away will reset the timer and you will be forced to wait longer.

Note: If you were denied a Certificate of Achievement because you took an approved training before a previous Certificate of Achievement was awarded, you do NOT need to call CECPD; you can simply reapply and approved trainings you have taken in the past year will be reviewed.

Information on the stipend program may be found at <https://www.cecpd.org/en/provider-programs/oklahoma-registry-certificate-of-achievement-and-stipend-program/>