



Foundations for RI Early Learning & Development Standards training class from summer session 2014

Read on to learn more about the PD opportunities planned for this summer and fall 2015!

Immunization clinics for child care workers

Child care workers in Rhode Island are now required, by law, to receive the following vaccinations by August 1, 2015:

- Tdap (Tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) – 1 dose
- MMR (Measles-mumps-rubella) – 2 doses
- Varicella (chickenpox) – 2 doses

The Wellness Company is offering free clinics in your area. Vaccines are available for a low cost. Check out their [flyer here](#).

Save The Date

April 28: R.I. College Institute for Early Childhood Training & Learning info session, 6:00 pm, [Horace Mann 063](#)

April 30: Application deadline for [CCRI Early Childhood Education & Training Program grant](#) summer cohort

May 4:...Ready,Set, Kindergarten [2nd annual conference](#), 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Providence Marriott

Take the RTT-ELC sustainability survey!

Exceed is collecting stakeholder input for a project that will inform a sustainability plan for the state's early childhood projects funded with its federal Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) grant. [The survey](#) is seeking your perspective on the RTT-ELC projects and the impact they have had on programs, teachers, children, and parents. Please take our [short survey](#) by April 28!

Further your education

Are you a child care professional looking to enroll in course work this summer and/or fall? The registration deadline for some programs is quickly approaching. If furthering your education is a part of your professional development plan, check out these opportunities to advance along the career pathway:

[Opportunity for home child care professionals: GED in Spanish or ESL classes](#)

There is a new opportunity designed specifically for family child care professionals wanting to pursue GED classes in Spanish or English as a Second Language (ESL) classes. Registration is currently open with classes beginning soon. We encourage you to connect with Cindy Alvarado at the Genesis Center at 781-6110 as soon as possible.

[R.I. Early Childhood Education and Training Program Grant](#)

If you are an early childhood educator or a family home provider you have the opportunity to earn 12 credits in Early Childhood Education at the Community College of Rhode Island tuition free, and including books! Applications for the summer 2015 semester are due on April 30, 2015.

[Refer to this flyer](#) for additional details!

[Rhode Island College Institute for Early Childhood Teaching & Learning](#)

The Institute at Rhode Island College offers Bachelor's degree programs in Early Childhood Learning Leading to PreK-Grade 2 teaching certification or a concentration in Birth to Five. The cohort is designed to support educators currently working in early childhood settings and is seeking applicants for fall 2015 semester. Attend their next [information session](#) on April 28 at 6:00 p.m. or connect with Dr. Susan Zoll, Assistant Professor and Director of the Institute at 456-8414 for more information.

[T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Scholarships!](#)

T.E.A.C.H. awards scholarships to center-based educators, administrators, and home child-care providers across the state who are pursuing coursework in early childhood education or seeking degrees at the Community College of Rhode Island or Rhode Island College. T.E.A.C.H. RI pays 80 to 90 percent of tuition and 90 percent of book costs for staff working in classrooms or home-care settings. For more information please consult the [T.E.A.C.H. website](#) or contact Maura Pearce from Ready to Learn at 490-9960.

Professional development is also available!

[The Center for Early Learning Professionals](#)

The Center for Early Learning Professionals gives early childhood programs and providers the tools, support, and resources they need to provide high-quality care and education to Rhode Island's youngest children. Visit their website to review available [professional development course series](#).

[Rhode Island's Early Learning & Development Standards training](#)

The [Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards](#) project provides professional development opportunities to support early care and education professionals in creating high-quality, standards-based programs for young children. There are also "Next Steps" training classes. [Courses are available](#) in both English and Spanish and enrollment is on first-come, first-serve basis.

BrightStars Participation!

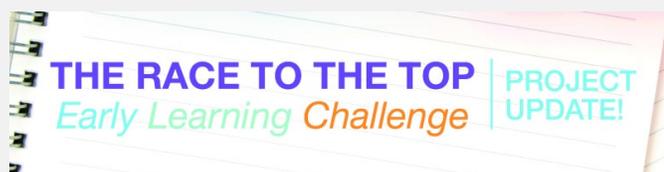
The Department of Human Services (DHS) and Department of Education (RIDE) continue to reach out to early learning and education providers to encourage participation in BrightStars. If you have any questions about your participation, do not hesitate to directly connect with BrightStars at 739-6100.

The chart below represents the total number of programs enrolled in BrightStars on March 31, 2015. The total number of early learning and education programs operating as of January 1, 2015 is 916; that represents 552 family child care providers, 311 centers, and 53 public schools.



BrightStars Rated Programs

	2015 BrightStars Enrollment Goal	ACTUAL (as of March 31, 2015)
1 Star	458	491
2 Star	183	124
3 Star	138	40
4 Star	73	49
5 Star	64	18
TOTAL	916	722
% OF GOAL	100%	78.8%



Interested in learning more about the work of the Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge grant from March 2015? A copy of the March report to the Early Learning Council is [available here](#).