

Higher Education Summit

9/26/25

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MIKE DEWINE
GOVERNOR OF OHIO



Jeff Van Deusen, Assistant Director



AGENDA

- 1 DCY Bold Goals
- 2 Career Pathways Proposed Revisions
- 3 Licensing Rule Alignment
- 4 Background Checks
- 5 Child Care Cred



DCY SHORT & LONG TERM GOALS

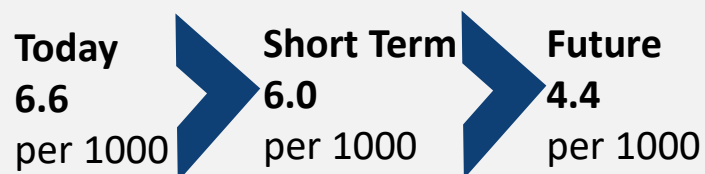
Ohio aims to be the best place in the country to start and raise a family and DCY has outlined the following goals to become a leading state (e.g., top 10 in the country across 3 program areas):



Goal #1:

Maternal & Infant Wellness

Rate of Infant Mortality



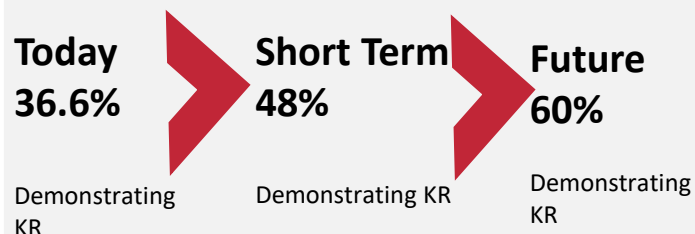
DCY wants to make OH a top 10 state in the US



Goal #2:

Early Care & Education

Rate of Children Demonstrating Readiness on the KRA



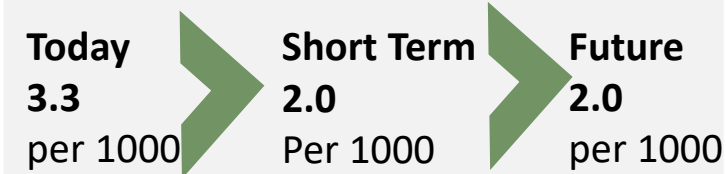
DCY wants to bring all counties to the 99th percentile of OH counties and improve outcomes by 70%



Goal #3:

Children Services, Kinship, Foster & Adoption

Rate of Children Entering Foster Care



DCY wants to make OH a top 10 state in the US

STAY CONNECTED



Bi-weekly communication that shares critical updates with public and private agencies.



DCY's newly reimagined newsletter—formerly Kids Corner—designed to empower families, youth, and communities with practical resources, inspiring stories, and timely updates that reflect the department's commitment to meaningful engagement across Ohio.

Bi-Monthly Partner Meetings

This meeting is a bi-monthly partner session focused on elevating community voices, sharing frontline expertise, and shaping policy through lived experience and collaborative learning.

Subscribe to [Stay connected!](#)

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION STAKEHOLDERS

- Monthly meetings; 4th Thursday of each month.
- 2:00 p.m. -3:00 p.m.
- DCY updates on key early care and education programming, policy and funding plans and/or changes.

An official State of Ohio site. [Here's how you know](#) ▼



Department of
Children & Youth

[For Youth](#)[For Families](#)[For Providers](#)[For Partners](#)



Early Care and Education Stakeholder Meetings



Share this

In an effort to provide updates to the early care and education field about changes in eligibility, programming, policies and funding, the Ohio Department of Children and Youth (DCY) hosts monthly calls with stakeholders. The calls are held on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 2:00 p.m. A link to the DCY calendar can be found at <https://childrenand youth.ohio.gov/for-partners/calendar>.

Welcome

Kids' Corner Newsletter

Rules and Resources

Calendar

Tuesday Times

Title IV-E

Partner Resources

Previous Meeting Materials

- [August 7, 2024 ECE Stakeholder Call](#)
- [September 24, 2024 ECE Stakeholder Call](#)
- [October 22, 2024 ECE Stakeholder Call](#)
- [November 26, 2024 ECE Stakeholder Call](#)

POLICY UPDATES

Janene Kehl, Chief, Bureau of Professional Development

Laura Graf, Deputy Director, Division of Policy

CAREER PATHWAYS PROPOSED REVISIONS

WORKGROUP MEMBERS

- Early Care and Education Administrators
- Southwest AEYC
- Higher Education
- Resource and Referral Agencies
- State Support Teams
- OCCRRA
- DCY Regulatory Compliance, Professional Development and Policy Bureaus

CPL IN STEP UP TO QUALITY



REVISION GOALS

1

Create a streamlined model that is easy to understand and calculate.

2

Allow professionals to maintain CPL once obtained.

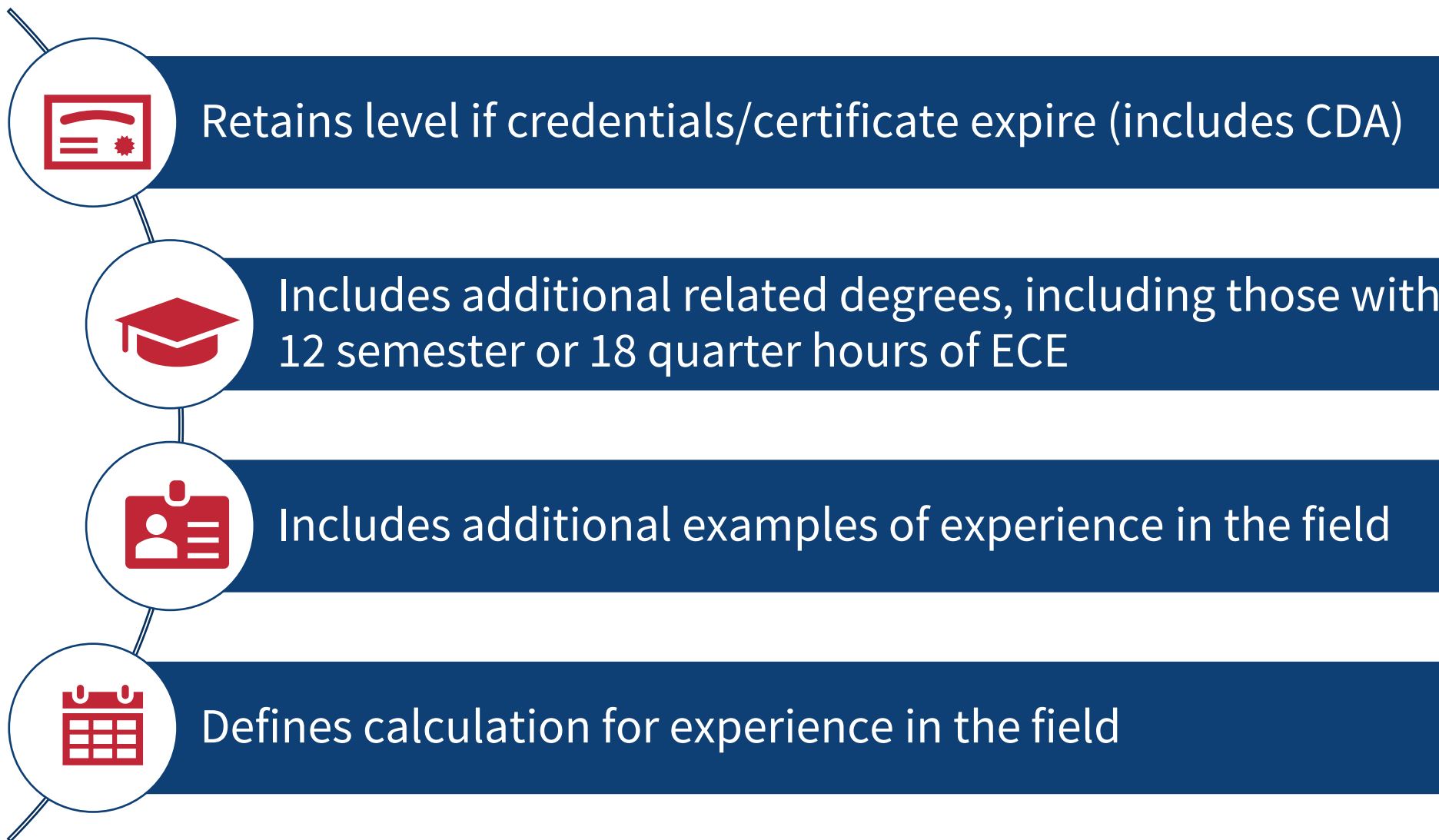
3

Recognize related degrees and experience as valuable in advancing to a higher CPL.

CURRENT MODEL

- Based on a points system, points awarded for:
 - Degree earned
 - Professional Development (PD) Certificate level attained
 - Years of experience in the field
 - Credentials and/or certificates earned
- When a credential, certificate, or the PD Certificate expires, if not renewed, individual loses points and could drop to a lower CPL level

PROPOSED MODEL



PROPOSED MODEL

Six Levels

- Each level has up to four options as a way a professional can meet the level
- The first option sets the fundamental education baseline equivalency
- Each additional option includes a lower level of education, but adds on OA PD and experience attainment as a way of achieving the level

Level	Option One	Option Two	Option Three
Four	BA in ECE or related field	BA in unrelated field and one of the following: • 45 hours of Ohio Approved professional development and 1 year of experience • 30 hours of Ohio Approved professional development and 2 years of experience	AA in ECE or related field and one of the following: • 60 hours of Ohio Approved professional development and 3 years of experience • 45 hours of Ohio Approved professional development and 4 years of experience

PROPOSED MODEL

Related Degree

Added the following as a related degree:

- Degrees where the individual has completed 12 semester or 18 quarter hours of child development coursework, with a grade of C or better or pass if pass/fail course

Experience in the Field

Added the following as examples of experience in the field

- Providing home visiting services
- Providing mental health services to children birth – 13 years
- Providing services for children birth-13 years with developmental delays or disabilities
- Providing services in a regulated organization/agency or ECE setting

CPL LEVEL 3 CURRENT VS. PROPOSED

Unrelated Degree

2,153 Professionals

2,098 Meet OA PD
and/or experience

CDA & 50+ points

113 Professionals

113 Meet OA PD
and/or experience

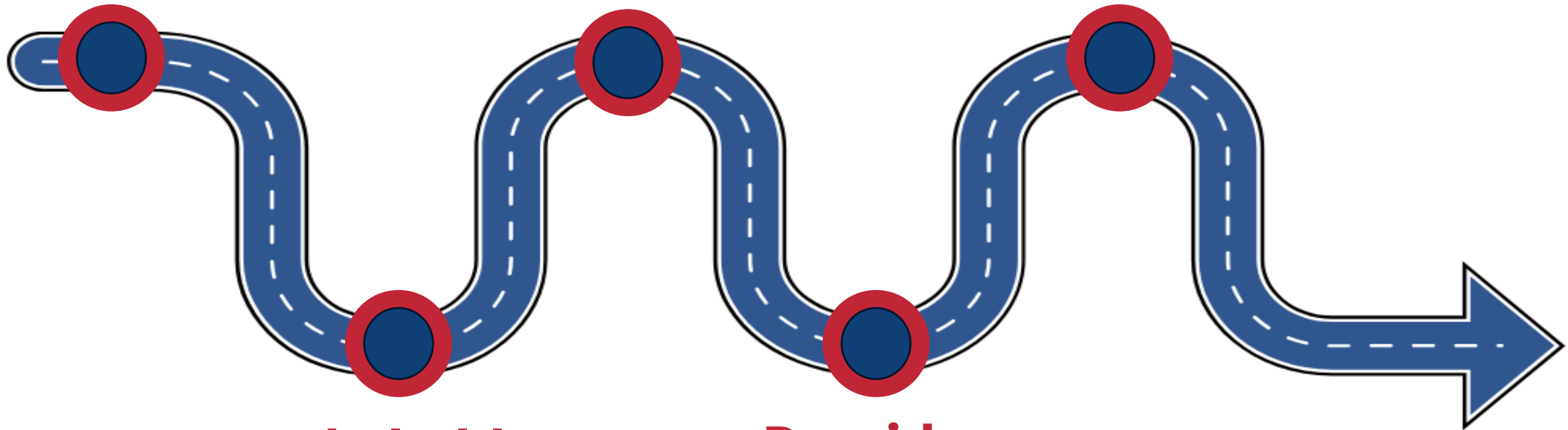
Remaining 55 may meet, once transcripts are reviewed to determine if college course can count toward required PD hours.

TRANSITION TIMELINE

**DCY Leadership
Review**
Spring 2025

OPR Revisions
January – February 2026

Implementation
July 1, 2026



**Stakeholder
Review**
August 2025

**Provider
Communication**
Spring 2026

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION LICENSING RULE ALIGNMENT

DCY EARLY CARE & EDUCATION RULE ALIGNMENT

- What is the DCY Early Care & Education rule alignment?
- What DCY licensed, certified, and approved settings are impacted by the rule alignment?

Child care
centers

Family
child care

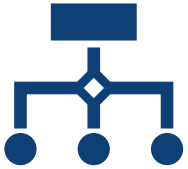
Preschool

School age
child care

Day
camps

In-home
aides

RULE ALIGNMENT



Streamline and clarify policies and procedures

- Requests for review and Step Up To Quality Reduction/Removals.



Assessing and improving compliance

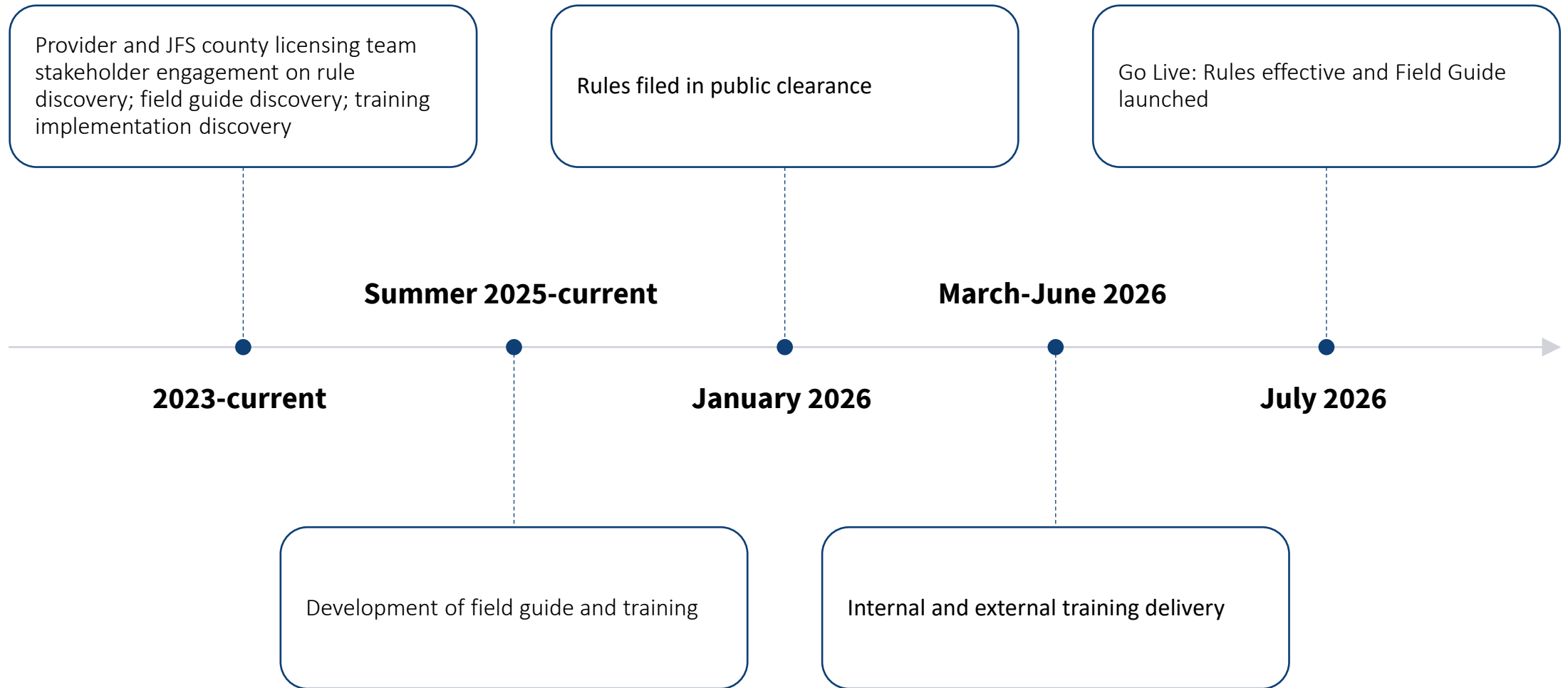
- Implementation of **Field Guide for transparency** in approach to assessments.
- More emphases on technical assistance.



Modernize Training

- Revamp and modernize training.
- Incorporate mock inspection walkthroughs to demonstrate compliance in realistic settings.

RULE ALIGNMENT TIMELINE



BACKGROUND CHECKS

CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CCDBG)

Background Check Requirements

Three primary categories

National	In-state	Interstate
1. National FBI criminal history check, with fingerprint	3. In-state criminal history check, with fingerprint	6. Interstate criminal history check
2. NCIC national sex offender registry (NSOR) check	4. In-state sex offender registry check	7. Interstate sex offender registry check
	5. In-state child abuse and neglect registry check	8. Interstate child abuse and neglect registry check

All five of these checks must be performed for all designated individuals

All three of these checks must also be performed for each additional state where the individual has resided within five years

All checks must meet a 45-day or less turnaround time

CHILD CARE DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT (CCDBG)

Teachers in Programs that Accept CCDBG, (Publicly Funded Child Care)

- Requires teachers to obtain a separate FBI check using the CCDBG code so that it hits the National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR).
- The FBI CCDBG check is tied to the NSOR.
- Attorney General's Office (AGO) has an agreement with the FBI for this specific interface.
- Unfortunately, the checks cannot be run independently of one another.

Teachers in Programs that do **not** Accept CCDBG (Publicly Funded Child Care)

- Teachers who submit for licensure under 3319.291 do not need to be checked against the FBI CCDBG code.
- When obtaining an FBI for teacher licensure, the NSOR is not checked per the AGO.
- There is no interface with NSOR.

VOLUNTEERS/VISITORS

Clarification will be in the rule alignment package for an effective date of **July 1, 2026**.

Volunteers and visitors will be clearly defined so that they are not subject to background checks.

Volunteers and visitors are individuals who are present in the program but are **not considered employees**. They are **not counted in staff/child ratios** and are **never left alone with children**.

CHILD CARE CRED

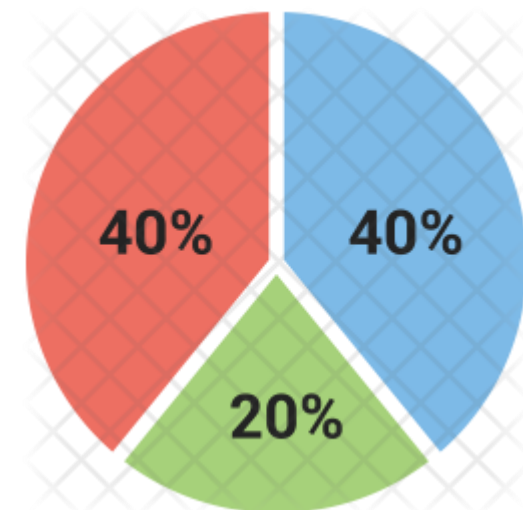
CHILD CARE CRED PROGRAM

Background

- Created by Amended Substitute House Bill 96 (Ohio's 136th General Assembly)
- Administered by the Department of Children and Youth (DCY)
- \$10M allocated for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2026
- ***Goal: Make child care more affordable by sharing costs between employees, employers, and DCY***

Cost-Sharing Model

- Employees pay 40%
- Employers contribute 40%
- DCY covers 20% (as funding allows through June 30, 2026)



CHILD CARE CRED PROGRAM

✓ Eligibility Highlights

- Ohio residents with household income between 200%–400% of the federal poverty level
- Employers must be Ohio-based and select employees for participation
- Child care providers must be licensed or certified under Ohio law and in “open status” with an active DCY Provider Agreement
- Families receiving CCVP, ECE, or PFCC subsidies are not eligible

📅 Timeline & Application

- Funding period: July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026
- Applications accepted: Sept 1, 2025 – May 1, 2026
- Joint application required from employee, employer, and child care provider
- Submit to: childcarecred@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov

<https://childrenandyouth.ohio.gov/for-partners/partner-resources/public-private-partnership>

Early Care and Education Business Partnerships



Overview

ECE Business Partnerships 2.0 and Application

Child Care Cred Program and Application

Who is eligible for the grant?

The Child Care Cred Program helps working families afford child care by sharing the costs. Families qualify if their household income is between 200% and 400% of the federal poverty level, based on how many people live in the home.



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