

# MENU OF QUALITY SERVICES 2026-2027

## WE ARE EAGER TO HELP PROGRAMS KEEP IMPROVING.

Like you, Early Childhood Options is committed to excellence in early childhood education. We are excited to partner with Right Start and Summit PreK providers to keep quality at the forefront of our shared work and interactions. Our focus on Emotional Support, Classroom Organization, and Instructional Support helps create the strong foundation children need to learn, grow, and thrive. We are committed to investing in educators because of the essential role you play in preparing our youngest learners for success in kindergarten and beyond. This year's professional learning menu is designed to provide high-quality services and resources that meet the diverse needs of our partners. Our offerings center on four focus areas:

- HEALTH AND SAFETY SUPPORTS
- ADMINISTRATOR SUPPORTS
- SUPPORTING THE SOCIAL EMOTIONAL NEEDS OF CHILDREN
- CLASSROOM SUPPORTS

We are excited to continue this important work and support your professional growth throughout the year. We hope you will take advantage of the workshops, Edvantage sessions and Think Tank opportunities available to you.

Wishing you a successful and inspiring year,

Catherine Schaaf  
Executive Director  
Early Childhood Options



## WHERE DO I REGISTER?

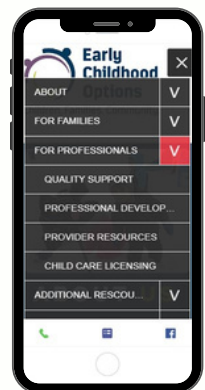
Apply on your phone or computer!

1. Registration opens August 30th
2. Visit [earlychildhoodoptions.org](https://earlychildhoodoptions.org) or use the QR Code
3. Click on Professional Development under FOR PROFESSIONALS **OR** in the menu on the mobile site
4. Click the **ENROLL HERE** button at the bottom of the page.
5. Questions?

Call: 970.406.3074

Email: [kim@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:kim@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

**6. SEE TEACHER PROMISE PAGES FOR  
TEACHER PROMISE REGISTRATION.**



 **Teacher Supports**  
Pgs 2-4

 **Administrative  
Opportunities**  
Pg 5

 **Edvantage  
Opportunities**  
Pgs 6-9

 **Level Up Workshops**  
Pgs 10-15

 **Think Tank**  
Pg 16-17

 **Training Calendar**  
Pg 18-20

 **Contact**  
Pg 21

## Early Childhood Options

330 Fiedler Ave

PO BOX 3355

Dillon, CO 80435

[earlychildhoodoptions.org](https://earlychildhoodoptions.org)



# TEACHER SUPPORTS

## Teacher Promise Stipend

**Eligibility:** Current staff (excluding Directors) at RS/SPK Sites (COSHINES RATED L2 and Above)

**Enrollment:** This is a voluntary program. Enrollment is on a quarterly bases. See chart below for dates to register.

| Enrollment Opens | Enrollment Closes |
|------------------|-------------------|
| September 1      | September 30      |
| January 1        | January 30        |
| March 1          | March 30          |
| June 1           | June 30           |



**Use this QR Code to register for  
Teacher Promise**

**Stipend:** \$800 Summit School District Teachers

\$1000 for Assistant Teachers and Aides

\$1500 for Lead Teachers\*, Administrative Staff (excluding executive directors), and Family Care Providers

*To be paid after completion of one full year after enrollment quarter (no partial payments will be made)*

**\*Please refer to the Lead Teacher page following Teacher Supports. Lead Teachers must qualify through one of the nine Early Childhood Teacher pathways.**

As part of the Promise Stipend, applicant must acknowledge that Early Childhood Options will send a 1099-MISC at the end of the year if more than \$600 is paid to the individual, and it is the individual's responsibility to claim this as income on taxes. Prior to receiving payment, a W9 *must* be filled out and filed via *Survey Monkey* from the link provided.

Right Start/Summit Pre-Kindergarten (RS/SPK) recognizes the important role our applicants play in ensuring children receive a high-quality early childhood education. Teachers who register "**Promise**" to:

### Values Promise:

- Be committed to improving cultural relevancy in teaching to ensure equitable outcomes for our children.
- Be committed to improving social emotional practices in the classroom (through things like: Conscious Discipline, Pyramid) to ensure all children have a healthy place to grow and learn.
- Be committed to improving implementation of curriculum so all children have high quality learning experiences.

*Accountability Process: MOU/Application submitted by the applicant at the beginning of the year as part of enrollment*

### Employment Promise- Continuity of Care for the Child:

- Teach every day in the same RS/SPK site.
- Be committed to improving social emotional practices in the classroom (through things like: Conscious Discipline, Pyramid) to ensure all children have a healthy place to grow and learn.
- Be committed to improving implementation of curriculum so all children have high quality learning experiences.

*Accountability Process: MOU/Application submitted by the applicant at the beginning of the year as part of enrollment*



# Teacher Promise Stipend Continued

## Attendance Promise:

- Must maintain a yearly average of 30 hours a week.
- We ask that you maintain mindfulness about the importance of regular attendance for the benefit of children who do best with consistency.

*Accountability Process: MOU/Application submitted by the applicant at the beginning of the year as part of enrollment*

## Professional Development Promise:

- Attend at least one Think Tank, Edvantage Training Session or attend two or more Level Up Workshops. or
- Complete at least 3 credits of higher education ECE related course(s) for example, ECE 1011 (NOT Spanish Classes or Accounting Classes)
- Complete a Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential
- Meet all assignments and coaching requirements from the Think Tank, Edvantage Trainings or Level Up Workshops.

*Accountability Process: MOU/Application submitted by the applicant at the beginning of the year as part of enrollment*

## Community Based Sites:

- Lead Teacher and Assistant Teacher will administer the TS GOLD Assessment to all SPK children in their classrooms at all three checkpoints (Fall, Winter and Spring). Dates to be provided by Education Coordinator at Early Childhood Options.

## Employer Awareness:

- The applicant's employer will be sent a notice that the teacher has enrolled in the program and that we will need the employer to give us data to confirm that the requirements have been met. Coaches will also be notified.

## Additional Supports:

- Coaching and Professional Development Plans are not requirements of this stipend, however Early Childhood Options does offer additional support for teachers seeking to expand their professional development skill set. Contact Jessee Blumentritt, Alison Earnest, or Laura Cronin for support in these areas.

## LEGAL AGREEMENT:

- By joining this program, you agree that your employer may release information to Early Childhood Options, such as but not limited to: attendance records and employment status by dates. Early Childhood Options will keep this information confidential and it will be used for determining status for the Promise stipend and for research to improve Early Childhood Options in the future.

## WHERE DO I REGISTER FOR TEACHER PROMISE? \*

Apply on your phone or computer!

1. Enrollment is on a quarterly basis. SEE CHART ON PAGE 2 FOR ENROLLMENT DATES.
2. Visit [earlychildhoodoptions.org](http://earlychildhoodoptions.org) or use this QR code
3. Click on FINANCIAL INCENTIVES under FOR PROFESSIONALS **OR** in the menu on the mobile site.
4. Click the **ENROLL HERE** button at the bottom of the page.
5. Questions?  
Call: Kimberly Theller at 970.406.3074  
Email: [kim@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:kim@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

**\*\*THIS IS A DIFFERENT APPLICATION THAN THE TRAININGS APPLICATION. YOU MUST ENSURE YOU ARE FILLING OUT BOTH APPLICATIONS TO QUALIFY! SEE PAGE ONE ON HOW TO ENROLL IN OUR TRAININGS.\*\***



**TEACHER PROMISE**  
**ENROLL NOW!**

**TEACHER PROMISE APPLICATION**



# What defines a Lead Teacher?

Lead Teachers must qualify through one of the following nine Early Childhood Teacher pathways per state of Colorado licensing requirements.

| Qualification Pathway                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Verification                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Experience Letter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.a</b> A Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctorate degree from an accredited college or university with a major area of study in one (1) of the following areas: 1) Child Development; 2) Child Psychology; 3) Early Childhood Education; 4) Early Childhood Special Education; 5) Educational Leadership and Administration; 6) Elementary Education; 7) Family and Human Development; 8) Family Studies; or, 9) Special Education                                            | College Transcripts<br><br>The Department will accept copies of official transcripts or transcripts printed from the student's account if the information is verifiable.                                                                                                                              | Fulfilled by a Bachelor's Degree or higher. No additional experience required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.b</b> A Bachelor's, Master's, or Doctorate degree from an accredited college or university with a major area of study in any area <i>other</i> than those listed at section 7.702.45, a, 1, a, and an additional two (2) three (3)-semester credit hour courses in Early Childhood Education; one (1) of the courses must be either Intro to ECE, Guidance Strategies or the Department approved Pyramid Plus Training.                                                | College Transcripts<br><br>The Department will accept copies of official transcripts or transcripts printed from the student's account if the information is verifiable.<br>Verifiable copy of Department approved Training                                                                           | Fulfilled by a Bachelor's Degree or higher. No additional experience required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.c</b> An Associate's degree (60 semester credit hours) from an accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education or Child Development, which must include at least two (2), three (3)-semester credit hour courses in Early Childhood Education; one (1) of the courses must be either Intro to ECE, Guidance Strategies or the Department approved Pyramid Plus Training.                                                                                 | College Transcripts<br><br>The Department will accept copies of official transcripts or transcripts printed from the student's account if the information is verifiable.<br>Verifiable copy of Department approved Training                                                                           | Fulfilled by an Associate's Degree or higher. No additional experience required.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.d</b> A current professional Teaching License issued by the Colorado Department of Education with an endorsement in the area of Elementary Education, Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education, or Early Childhood Special Education Specialist.                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Verifiable copy of CDE Teacher License with the required Endorsements: Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education, Early Childhood Special Education Specialist, Elementary Education, Principal Licensure or Special Education Teacher License must have a current expiration date | Current Teacher License fulfills the experience requirement based on a previously earned Bachelor's degree or higher verified by CDE.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.e</b> A current Early Childhood Professional Credential Level II (2) or higher in Version 3.0 as determined by the Department                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Current copy of Credential Level II (2) (Version 3.0)<br>Level III (3) Version 2.0 will be accepted until Credential expiration date                                                                                                                                                                  | No additional experience required<br>experience is reviewed by the PDIS Team and points are awarded based on the Credential application evaluation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.f</b> A current Child Development Associate (CDA) awarded by the CDA Council in one of the following: Center-Based, Preschool; Center-Based, Infant-Toddler; or Family Child Care; or other Department-approved credential                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Current CDA Certificate issued by the CDA Council                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | No additional experience required                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.g</b> Completion of a course of training approved by the Department and published on the Department's approval list;<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Montessori Training MACTE Accredited (AMI &amp; AMS)</li> <li>• Delta/Montrose Technical Center</li> <li>• Buell Early Childhood Leadership Institute</li> <li>• Clayton Institute / UCD</li> <li>• Stanley British Primary School / UCD</li> <li>• Emily Griffith</li> <li>• Pickens Tech</li> </ul> | Current CDA Certificate issued by the CDA Council                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | Nine (9) months (1,365 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children less than eight (8) years of age who are not related to the individual                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.h</b> Eighteen (18) semester credit hours from an accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education; one (1) of the courses must be either Intro to ECE, Guidance Strategies or the Department approved Pyramid Plus Training.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | College Transcripts<br><br>The Department will accept copies of official transcripts or transcripts printed from the student's account if the information is verifiable.                                                                                                                              | Three (3) months (455 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children less than eight (8) years of age who are not related to the individual                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>7.702.45.A.1.i</b> A current Early Childhood Professional Credential Level I or higher in Version 3.0 as determined by the Department OR completion of two (2) three (3) semester credit hour courses from an accredited college or university in Early Childhood Education; one (1) of the courses must be either Intro to ECE, Guidance Strategies or the Department approved Pyramid Plus Training.                                                                              | A current Colorado Level I (one) Credential (version 2.0 and 3.0) -OR- Official Transcript                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Twenty-one (21) months (3,185 hours) of verified experience in the care and supervision of four (4) or more children less than eight (8) years of age who are not related to the individual. Satisfactory experience includes being a licensee of a Colorado Family Child Care Home, a Teacher's Aide or Teacher in a childcare center, preschool, or elementary school.<br><br>The 3,185 hours of verified experience must be additional and not used to earn the Level 1 (one) Credential.<br><br>The experience used to obtain the Colorado Level 1 (one) Credential must be attached to the credential. The additional 21 months of experience must be in the staff member's file and available for review. |

All International Official Transcripts awarded outside of the United States must be evaluated for United States equivalency. The Department accepts evaluations from organizations approved The National Association of Credential Evaluation Services (NACES). [www.naces.org/members](http://www.naces.org/members). Unfortunately, international experience is not accepted by the Department.

## Continuing Education

Scholarships are available for all teachers in Right Start/Summit Pre-K classrooms to reach their Professional Development Goals. Visit our website at [www.earlychildhoodoptions.org](http://www.earlychildhoodoptions.org) for additional information. Colorado Mountain College (CMC) offers opportunities for teachers and administrators to meet the educational requirements for Early Childhood Teacher and Director as defined by the Department of Human Services of the State of Colorado. The Early Childhood Education Program at CMC offers 3 Certificates and 2 Associate Degrees. CMC also offers a BA in Education with ECE and Elementary Education Endorsements and a BAS degree with ECE emphasis. Contact Barb Jackman at 970.968.5820 for more information or visit <https://coloradomtn.edu/campuses/breckenridge-dillon/>.



# ADMINISTRATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

We are here to support all staff, including our administrators. Check out these opportunities designed specifically with administrative tasks in mind!

DM

## Director Meetings

All directors and assistant directors are encouraged to attend. In these quarterly meetings, we will discuss updates common to all centers, new trends from ECO and much more! \*\*Registration is not required for Director Meetings!

**Facilitator:** Alison Earnest

**Dates and Time:** Thursdays, 9/3; 12/3; 3/4; 6/3 from 10:00 -11:30 am

**Location:** Hybrid

ECM

## Education Coordinator Meetings

These sessions are for education coordinators at all sites in Summit County. Every other month, meetings will be held for networking, sharing ideas, discussing how to support teachers with observing and entering GOLD data, and reviewing reports that can be generated from Teaching Strategies. \*Dates and times could be subject to change due to group availability. \* \*\*Registration is not required for these Meetings!

**Who Should Attend:** Educational Coordinators

**Facilitators:** Jessee Blumentritt

**Dates and Time:** Wednesdays 3-4 PM on:

9/10 In Person

10/8 Virtual

11/12 In Person

12/10 Virtual

1/7 In Person

2/11 Virtual

3/11 In Person

4/9 Virtual

5/6 In Person

6/10 Virtual

7/8 In Person

**Location:** Location and links will be sent out a few days prior to each date. IF your site does not have an ed coordinator, please feel free to send an assistant director or other administrative support staff.

## LIAISONS

Programs with over 50 children may identify up to three Liaisons; Two SEALs and one CCHL or Two CCHL and one SEAL

Child Health Liaison and SEAL Supplements will be awarded in September. The award time frame will run September to August, applications opening September 1 upon completion of set initiatives for each Liaison.

ALL LIAISONS MUST CONTACT Kim Theller FOR THE WORKSHEET. The goal worksheet requires initiatives, action steps, and evaluation pieces that are outlined.

To receive the Child Health Liaison or Social Emotional Action Leader Right Start Salary Supplement, liaisons must:

- CCHL must complete the *Child Health Liaison Course* and SEAL must complete all 18 Pyramid sessions or the updated Colorado Pyramid Model.
- Submit a copy of the Certificate of Completion along with a completed application on Early Childhood Options online platform. <http://ecol.smapply.org/>
- Work a minimum of 20 hours in a licensed child care center program in Summit County.
- Attend at least quarterly group meetings per year. One on one meetings will occur more often.
- Implement and evaluate ONE annual community initiative.
- Implement and evaluate TWO annual program initiatives.
- Liaisons will commit to working at least 2 hours per month outside of regularly scheduled work hours to fulfill community and program initiatives.
- Fulfill childcare licensing and best practices.
- Inform parents of Health Liaisons and/or Seal initiative (s).

Center Directors must notify Early Childhood Options if a change in Liaison is made. The participant must acknowledge that Early Childhood Options will send a 1099-MISC at the end of the year if more than \$600 is paid to the individual, and it is the individual's responsibility to claim this as income on taxes. Prior to receiving payment, a W9 must be filled out and filed via Survey Monkey from the link provided.

Please call 970-406-3074 with any questions. Email the completed contract to Kimberly Theller - [kim@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:kim@earlychildhoodoptions.org).

# THE EDVANTAGE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The majority of trainings will be virtual zoom sessions. Please turn your cameras on out of respect for our speakers. Participation is an expectation to assure comprehension of the topics and follow up implementation in the classrooms.

ASQ

## ASQ Training

In this session, participants will be provided an overview, hands on practice scoring and discussing the Ages and Stages Questionnaires® (ASQ®). This tool provides reliable, accurate developmental and social-emotional screening for children between birth and age 6. ASQ has been specifically designed to pinpoint developmental progress and catch delays in young children-paving the way for meaningful next steps in learning, intervention, or monitoring.

**Who Should Attend:** Classroom Teachers/Administrators

**Instructor:** Kathryn Van Iderstine, Public Health Nurse

**Date:** Wednesday, September 9th and Monday, March 8th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 2 hours/PDIS/CGDL/CDA/Observing & Recording Children's Behavior

**Stipend:** \$50

BSLC

## Using Brain Science for Leadership and Coaching

You can intentionally use brain science to spark change. By understanding how neurotransmitters affect emotions, motivation, and mindset, you can create real shifts in how people think, feel and connect - and yes, it makes a difference how teachers work in classrooms and teams! Attend this interactive training to get a powerful DOSE of insight and inspiration, and learn simple ways to use brain science to lead and coach with purpose.

**Who Should Attend:** Administrators/SEALS

**Instructor:** Kristen Lassen, Mosaic Mindset

**Date:** Tuesday, December 8th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/COA/CDA/Professional Development and Leadership

**Stipend:** \$37.50



# EDVANTAGE TRAININGS CONTINUED

HSO

## Head Start Orientation/Performance Standards

The Head Start Orientation training is targeting all staff that are new to any of the Head Start community partner sites-Summit School District, Lake Dillon Preschool, Summit County Preschool, Carriage House, and Wildflower Nature School. Staff will be introduced to the Early Head Start and Head Start programs by providing an overview of what Head Start is, who it serves, and how important the teacher's role is in the lives of enrolled children. The Head Start performance standards will be briefly discussed as well as what to expect as a teacher in a Head Start classroom. The Summit County Head Start staff wish to welcome and connect teachers with resources to support achieving early childhood professional goals!

**\*\*This training is required of ALL NEW Early/Head Start Staff and any Early/Head Start staff who have never had this training.\***

**Who Should Attend:** Classroom Teachers who have not had this training and Administrators

**Instructor:** Jackie Lujan

**Date:** Tuesday, September 29th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 2 hours/PDIS/CGDL/CDA/Managing Effective Program Operations

**Stipend:** \$50

AS

## Active Supervision

Keeping children safe is a top priority for all educators. In this training, we will help you learn and implement the six strategies of active supervision. We will explore systematic approaches that can be utilized to ensure that no child is left unattended. During this time we will also address staff wellness in order to be able to supervise effectively.

**Who Should Attend:** Classroom Teachers, Administrators, Home Providers

**Instructor:** Jesse Blumentritt

**Dates:** Tuesday, September 22nd

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/CGDL/CDA/Planning Safe and Healthy Learning

**Stipend:** \$37.50



**Recordings/resources  
available upon request  
within a month of the  
live training.**

**\*\*Stipends will not be  
granted for watching a  
video.\*\***

**Register for the  
training sessions  
using the QR Code**





# EDVANTAGE TRAININGS CONTINUED

HFMGSS

## High Five Mathematize: Geometry and Spatial Sense

What if the math opportunities already happening in your classroom could become even more intentional? Join us to explore how infants, toddlers, and preschoolers naturally develop geometry and spatial thinking through everyday play, movement, and exploration. Using your own classroom data, you'll identify each child's current understanding and leave with practical, classroom-ready strategies to individualize learning, strengthen mathematical thinking, and turn everyday moments into meaningful learning experiences.

**Who Should Attend:** Administrators, Classroom Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Jennifer Mehring, Early Childhood Specialist from Office of Head Start

**Date:** Tuesday, October 13th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 2 hours/PDIS/PP/CDA/Teaching Practices

**Stipend:** \$50

HFMPM

## High Five Mathematize: Patterns and Measurement

Discover how patterning--the foundation for future mathematical thinking--can be woven naturally into everyday routines, play, music, movement, and classroom experiences to strengthen children's learning. You'll also work with your own classroom data to identify what children already know about patterns and leave with practical, individualized ideas you can immediately use to plan engaging experiences that move each child forward.

**Who Should Attend:** Administrators/ Classroom Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Jennifer Mehring, Early Childhood Specialist from Office of Head Start

**Date:** Tuesday, January 19th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 2 hours/PDIS/PP/CDA/Teaching Practices

**Stipend:** \$50

# EDVANTAGE TRAININGS CONTINUED

CTT

## CLASS Refresher: Toddler Tool

During this session we will dive into each of the domains of toddler CLASS, a basic overview of the process and what the CLASS tool measures. The session will include examples of high level interactions and ways to incorporate these into routines and transitions.

**Who Should Attend:** Toddler Teachers

**Instructor:** Jesse Blumentritt, Early Childhood Options

**Date:** Monday, December 14th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meetings

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/PP/CDA/Teaching Practices

**Stipend:** \$37.50

CIT

## CLASS Refresher: Infant Tool

In this training, we will look at the process for the Infant CLASS observation since it is a little different from the other two tools. We will then dive right into what those Responsive caregiving indicators look like during routines since so much of the day is routines for this age group.

**Who Should Attend:** Classroom Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Jesse Blumentritt, Early Childhood Options

**Date:** Thursday, April 8th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/PP/CDA/Teaching Practices

**Stipend:** \$37.50





# LEVEL UP WORKSHOPS

OEIT

## Outdoor Exploration: Infant/Toddler Focused

As human beings, as we grow, we often find ourselves disconnected from the natural world. Working with young children offers us an opportunity to remember that we are part of the natural world and so our research can extend from indoors to outdoors and back again. Through pedagogical documentation, we will examine investigations with young children that have engaged outdoor learning as a vital part of their classroom research. Join us for an evening of dialogue around weaving experiences with young children and the natural world into our everyday lives. This session will focus on ages birth through three years old.

**Who Should Attend:** Administrators/Classroom Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Alex Morgan, Boulder Journey School

**Date:** Thursday, September 17th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/CGDL/CDA/Teaching Practices

**Stipend:** \$37.50

OEP

## Outdoor Exploration: Preschool/Pre-K Focused

As human beings, as we grow, we often find ourselves disconnected from the natural world. Working with young children offers us an opportunity to remember that we are part of the natural world and so our research can extend from indoors to outdoors and back again. Through pedagogical documentation, we will examine investigations with young children that have engaged outdoor learning as a vital part of their classroom research. Join us for an evening of dialogue around weaving experiences with young children and the natural world into our everyday lives.

This session will focus on ages three through five years old.

**Who Should Attend:** Administrators/Classroom Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Alex Morgan, Boulder Journey School

**Date:** Thursday, October 8th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/CGDL/CDA/Teaching Practices

**Stipend:** \$37.50





## PAT

### Process Art with Twos

In this training we will discuss the benefits of Process Art for two year olds and introduce easy art activities that do not require the preparation of traditional Product Art and how to build an art curriculum that supports maximum creativity and builds independence.

**Who Should Attend:** Administrators/Classroom Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Che Walker, Early Childhood Consultant

**Date:** Thursday, October 15th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/PP/CDA/Understanding the Principles of Child Development and Learning

**Stipend:** \$37.50



## CCC

### Building Strong Family Relationships: Communicating with Confidence and Compassion

Positive relationships with families are the foundation of high-quality early childhood education. In this training, we will explore effective communication strategies that build trust, strengthen partnerships, and create a supportive school community. You will learn practical techniques for navigating everyday conversations, addressing difficult situations with professionalism and empathy, and fostering meaningful relationships that support every child's success.

**Who Should Attend:** Teachers/Home Providers/Administrators

**Instructor:** Morgan Thompson, Assistant Director, Little Red Schoolhouse

**Date:** Thursday, November 12th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/TP/CDA/Family and Community Partnerships

**Stipend:** \$37.50

#### LEGAL AGREEMENT:

By joining this program, you agree that your employer may release information to Early Childhood Options, such as but not limited to: attendance records and employment status by dates. Preschool Promise will keep this information confidential and it will be used for determining status for the Teacher stipend and for research to improve Early Childhood Options in the future.



Register at [earlychildhoodoptions.org](http://earlychildhoodoptions.org)



## CRPT

### Conflict Resolution for Adults/Working with Different Personality Types

This training will assist you in considering various sides to conflicts, how to manage your language and body language, and how to reasonably find the middle ground in conflict situations. This training will also include role playing conflicts based on training tips and tricks to make conflict less scary, and to see them as more of a growth opportunity for all involved! If you are weary of conflict situations, this training is for you!

**Who Should Attend:** Classroom Teachers/Administrators

**Instructor:** Dora Esparza, Denver's Early Childhood Council

**Date:** Wednesday, November 4th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/TP/CDA/Professional Development and Leadership

**Stipend:** \$37.50

## TIS

### Trauma Informed Supports

In this two-hour session, Resilient Futures will draw on our expertise in mental health, trauma-informed practices, and early childhood education to explore understanding and supporting young children who have experienced trauma. Participants will learn ways to support children and families during and after traumatic events, while also building awareness of how our own experiences can shape how we show up when supporting and educating young children. Grounded in a compassionate, relationship-centered approach, the session will offer concrete tools for creating safety, connection, regulation, and healing in early childhood settings.

**Who Should Attend:** Classroom Teachers/Home Providers/Administrators

**Facilitator:** Laura McArthur

**Date:** Thursday, January 7th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 2 hours/PDIS/TP/CDA/Social and Emotional

**Stipend:** \$50



# WORKSHOPS CONTINUED

## **GOLD** Teaching Strategies GOLD: Using Documentation to Guide your Teaching

During this session, teachers and home providers will Learn how to take authentic observations, assign multiple assessments, and use documentation to guide teaching practices. Using different tools and discussions, participants will be able to look at all aspects of their day to find and complete assessments with TS GOLD.

**Who Should Attend:** Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Lizz Holm, Education Coordinator at Mountain Sprouts Academy

**Dates:** Wednesday, January 13th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 2 hours/PDIS/SEHD/CDA/Observing and Recording Children's Behavior

**Stipend:** \$50

## **SICP**

## Supporting Independent Daily Creativity for Preschoolers

This training will review:

- Process vs Product art
- Sourcing Materials
- Activities to Promote Creativity
- How to Build out a Classroom Space that Allows for Daily Creation

**Who Should Attend:** Preschool Teachers/Home Providers Working with Preschool Children

**Facilitator:** Che Chenhall, Early Childhood Consultant

**Date:** Thursday, February 18th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/SEHD/CDA/Teaching Practices

**Stipend:** \$37.50



Register For TRAINING  
SESSIONS  
Using  
This QR Code





# WORKSHOPS CONTINUED

WPC

## Work Place Culture

A quality early learning environment starts with leadership who actively promote a positive social and emotional environment that is built on caring and responsive relationships with children, families, and each other. The relationships built among administrators and staff set the tone for the climate and culture experienced by children and families. Administrators will learn about the NAEYC endorsed concept of a Culture of Care. This session will address the qualities and strategies needed to develop a center that exhibits a Culture of Care.

**Who Should Attend:** Administrators/Classroom Teachers

**Facilitator:** Che Chenhall, Early Childhood Consultant

**Date:** Wednesday, February 10th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/SEHD/CDA/Building Productive Relationships with Families

**Stipend:** \$37.50

PBS

## Positive Behavior Support

This training gives early childhood educators a clear, practical understanding of positive behavior supports as a proactive, relationship-centered approach to guiding young children's social-emotional development. Grounded in the evidence-based practices of Prevent-Teach-Reinforce for Young Children (PTRYC) and the Pyramid Model, the session emphasizes how intentionally supporting positive behaviors reduces the likelihood of challenging behaviors before they occur. Educators will explore how nurturing relationships, high-quality environments, and explicit teaching of social-emotional skills form the foundation of a preventative system. This aligns with the Pyramid Model's tiered framework, which promotes universal supports for all children, targeted strategies for children at risk, and individualized interventions for children with persistent challenges.

**Who Should Attend:** Classroom Teachers/Administrators/Family Home Child Care Providers

**Facilitator:** Megan Matza, Professional Development Coordinator, Little Red Schoolhouse

**Date:** Thursday, March 18th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/TP/CDA/Planning a Safe and Healthy Learning Environment

**Stipend:** \$37.50

PTA

## Potty Training Approaches

This training provides caregivers with a developmentally grounded, strength-based framework for supporting young children through potty training. Participants learn how to recognize readiness, build on each child's emerging capabilities, and guide toileting with encouragement, patience, and confidence. The approach centers on emotional safety, autonomy, and celebrating progress rather than perfection.

**Who Should Attend:** Classroom Teachers, Administrators/Home Providers

**Facilitator:** Megan Matza, Professional Development Coordinator, Little Red Schoolhouse

**Dates:** Tuesday, May 18th

**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1.5 hours/PDIS/COA/CDA/Observing & Recording Children's Behavior

**Stipend:** \$37.50

PHR

## Public Health Refresher

This training provides Summit County child care staff with a practical overview of environmental health regulations and best practices for maintaining a safe and healthy environments for children and staff. Participants will review common violations, proper cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting procedures, safe food handling practices, illness prevention strategies, and other key environmental health requirements. The session is designed to help staff strengthen compliance with Colorado Child Care regulations while promoting the health and well-being of children in their care

**Who Should Attend:** Administrators, Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Maya Kulick, Public Health

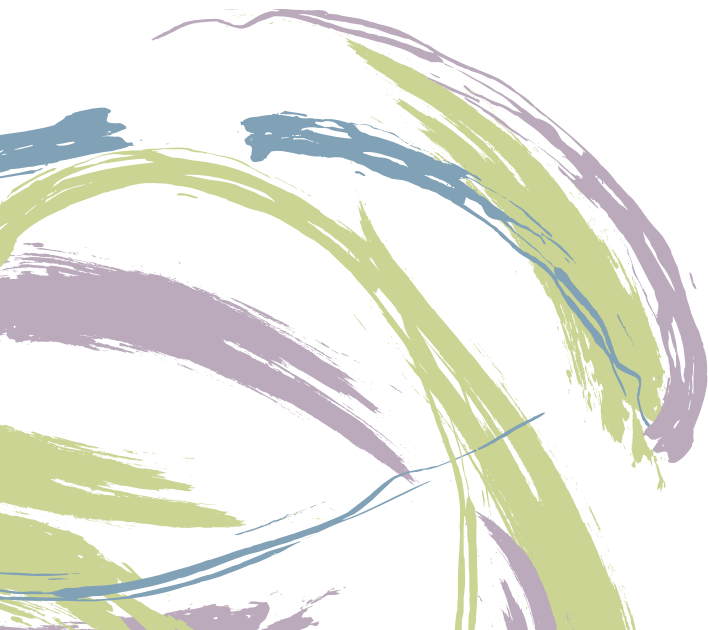
**Date:** Thursday, May 6th

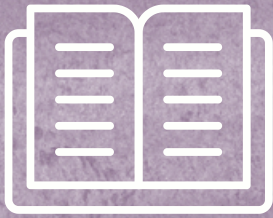
**Time:** 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 1 hour/PDIS/TP/CDA/Supporting Children's Physical and Intellectual Development

**Stipend:** \$25





# THINK TANK

## IN DEPTH LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

These opportunities are designed to give professionals time to dive deeply into topics and develop relationships with colleagues.

**EQIT**

### Expanding Quality for Infants and Toddlers

The Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler Care (EQ) Initiative works with the Early Childhood Councils, Infant and Toddler Specialists and Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler Care (EQIT) trainers to work toward its primary goal of increasing the quality and availability of responsive care for infants and toddlers throughout Colorado by:

- Strengthening the skills and knowledge base of Early Childhood professionals working with infants and toddlers
- Building capacity and promoting systemic change to foster increased quality and availability of care and services
- Supporting leadership and collaboration at the community level
- Facilitating professional development for infant and toddler professionals, particularly those who are teaching or coaching infant and toddler teachers

**Who Should Attend:** Infant/Toddler Teachers/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Judy Segrest, Kelly Esch, Nick Fettkether, Carmen Marsh and Jessee Blumentritt

**Dates:** Orientation, Monday August 3<sup>rd</sup> from 4:30-5:30 pm; Classes, Mondays August 10th through December 7th

**Time:** 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 48 hours/PDIS/CGDD/CDA/Understanding the Principles of Child Development & Learning

**\*\*Participants can only miss up to two classes and makeup work is required.**

**\*\*Participants must go to PDIS to Register for EQIT.**

-Log into PDIS and do a "Learning Search." Type in Expanding Quality in Infant Toddler Care (48-hour EQIT Curriculum) and select that once it pops up.

-Scroll down find the Mesa County sessions. Summit County teachers will be given priority for these sessions. Select view details and then register. THE REGISTRATION FEE SHOULD BE IGNORED! IT WILL BE WAVED!

**\*\*If it would work better for someone's schedule to take EQIT in the Spring, look on PDIS for virtual classes offered by other counties. Participants in that specific county are given priority but if there are still spots available they can accommodate people from other counties.**



# THINK TANK OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

## P

### PYRAMID

The Pyramid Approach is a collaborative professional development system that fosters and sustains evidenced-based practices to support the social-emotional development and inclusion of children. The Pyramid Approach builds upon a tiered public health approach to providing universal support to all children to promote wellness, targeted services to those who need more support, and intensive services to those who need them. Pyramid Approach is a framework in which each center can utilize in conjunction with their curriculum. This offering utilizes the revised Pyramid Infant/Toddler, Preschool modules.

*Per Healthy Child Care Colorado, the following parameters will be followed:*

*Participants must attend and actively participate in all 50-hours of training to successfully complete the training and receive the Training of Special Recognition badge in the Professional Development Information System (PDIS). For virtual training, participants' cameras must be turned on. It is required that all participants attend the first Module, "Getting Started". If a participant misses the first Module, their participation in the training is immediately forfeited and they will have to re-register for a new training. If a participant misses 15-minutes or more of any Module, it is considered an absence, and the participant must make-up the Module in its entirety. No more than three (3) Modules can be missed and made-up. Make up modules will cost the participant \$15.00/module.*

**Who Should Attend:** Teachers /Administrators/Home Providers

**Instructor:** Kim Theller

**Dates:** Mondays; January 4th, 11th, 25th; February 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd; March 1st

**Time:** 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Location:** Virtual Zoom Meeting

**Colorado Approved:** 50 hours/PDIS/SEHD/CDA/Supporting Children's Social/Emotional Development





# TRAINING CALENDAR

The training calendar lists each professional development opportunity each day for the months of September 2024 through July of 2025. Administrative opportunities, workshops, and professional learning communities are listed.

Please note weekends and holidays are marked out in GREY and BLACK, respectively. The GOLD Strategies checkpoints are indicated in **GOLD** and marked when the observation periods begin and end. For example, on August 15, the fall checkpoint period begins (FB). On October 18, the fall checkpoint ends (FE). You will see these marked for the fall, winter, and spring checkpoints.



REMINDER FOR TEACHERS: Attend at least one RS/SPK Think Tank Series, Edvantage Training Series, or attend two or more RS/ SPK sponsored Level Up Workshops



Edvantage Trainings dive deeper into the content, so several sessions are scheduled and are indicated in **GREEN**.

Level Up Workshops are generally one session trainings and are indicated in **PURPLE**.

Think Tank sessions are indicated in **BLUE**.



Sign Up at:  
[earlychildhoodoptions.org](https://earlychildhoodoptions.org)



**Register for the  
training sessions  
using the QR  
Code**



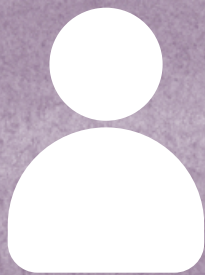
# 2026-2027 Training Calendar

|           | 1   | 2    | 3    | 4    | 5    | 6          | 7          | 8          | 9    | 10   | 11  | 12         | 13     | 14   |
|-----------|-----|------|------|------|------|------------|------------|------------|------|------|-----|------------|--------|------|
| August    |     |      | EQIT |      |      |            |            |            |      | EQIT |     |            |        |      |
| September |     |      | DM   |      |      |            |            |            | ASQ  | ECM  |     |            |        | EQIT |
| October   |     |      |      |      | EQIT |            |            | ECM<br>OEP |      |      |     |            | HFMGSS |      |
| November  |     | EQIT |      | CRPT |      |            |            |            | EQIT |      |     | ECM<br>CCC |        |      |
| December  |     |      | DM   |      |      |            | EQIT       | BSLC       |      | ECM  |     |            |        | CTT  |
| January   |     |      |      | P    |      |            | ECM<br>TIS |            |      |      | P   |            | GOLD   |      |
| February  | P   |      |      |      | WE   |            |            | P<br>SPB   |      | WPC  | ECM |            |        |      |
| March     | P   |      |      | DM   |      |            |            | ASQ        |      |      | ECM |            |        |      |
| April     |     |      |      |      |      |            |            | CIT        | ECM  |      |     |            |        |      |
| May       | SPE |      |      |      |      | ECM<br>PHR |            |            |      |      |     |            | PTA    |      |
| June      |     |      | DM   |      |      |            |            |            |      | ECM  |     |            |        |      |
| July      |     |      |      |      |      |            |            | ECM        |      |      |     |            |        |      |





20



# CONTACT US

The Early Childhood Options staff, consultants and contractors are committed to supporting you.

Contact us with questions, concerns, and ideas. We value your suggestions.

**CATHERINE SCHAAF**

Executive Director

[catherine@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:catherine@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3067

**KIMBERLY THELLER**

Operations Director

[kim@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:kim@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3074

**SHANNON BROWN**

Finance and HR Director

[shannon@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:shannon@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.30

## Programs

**JESSEE BLUMENTRITT**

Quality Improvement Manager

[jessee@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:jessee@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3064

**ALISON EARNEST**

Early Childhood Business Strategy  
and Professional Growth Advisor

[aearnest@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:aearnest@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3066

**MICHELLE MAHONEY**

Tuition Assistance Manager

[Michelle@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:Michelle@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3060

**LAURA CRONIN**

Early Childhood Business Strategy  
and Professional Growth Advisor

[laura@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:laura@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3066

**DULCE HERNANDEZ**

Intake & Eligibility Specialist

[dulce@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:dulce@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3060

## Head Start 0-5

**JACQUELINE LUJAN**

Head Start Director

[jacqueline@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:jacqueline@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3068

**GLORIA HERNANDEZ**

Family Engagement Specialist

[gloria@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:gloria@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3

**MARTHA LEYVA**

Family Engagement Specialist

[martha@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:martha@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3061

**DAMARYS PERALTA**

Head Start Program Manager

[Damarys@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:Damarys@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3070

**NATALIA SAAVEDRA**

Family Engagement Specialist

[natalia@earlychildhoodoptions.org](mailto:natalia@earlychildhoodoptions.org)

970.406.3062



Sign Up at:  
[earlychildhoodoptions.org](http://earlychildhoodoptions.org)