

Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood

REACH

A newsletter for early childhood education professionals

Dear early childhood professionals,

Welcome to the September edition of REACH, your trusted resource with streamlined information and supports for Delaware's early childhood professionals. As we jump into the new school year and get ready to welcome fall, we are excited to bring you valuable information and opportunities that will enhance your experience as an early childhood education professional.

In this edition, we share updates related to Delaware's Quality Improvement System, highlight a valuable resource to support family child care educators as business owners, and outline an exciting lineup of upcoming professional learning experiences. We also include some upcoming events you won't want to miss. Sign up to participate with our Children's Book Week festivities in November, and make sure to check out the upcoming 2nd annual 1st State Family Child Care Conference - registration is now open!

With warm regards,

Kristy Sheffler
DIEEC Deputy Director

Delaware Institute for Excellence in Early Childhood
501 South College, Newark, DE 19716

www.dieec.udel.edu ecinstitute@udel.edu (302) 831-3239



www.facebook.com/UDDIEEC



www.instagram.com/uddieec



Delaware
Department of Education



<https://twitter.com/UDDIEEC>

DIEEC QUALITY IMPROVEMENT SPECIALISTS

Delaware Quality Improvement System Update

DIEEC technical assistants (TAs) have been supporting Delaware's early childhood programs since 2012. As the state revises the overall Quality Improvement System (QIS), this role has also evolved. In recognition of the new supports offered, you'll start to hear the title "Quality Improvement Specialist", which better reflects their new role. But don't worry, your trusted DIEEC TA is still here to be your quality improvement partner. For the latest information on Delaware's Quality Improvement System, visit the QIS revision page on our website.

Access the QIS page by visiting: <https://www.dieec.udel.edu/qis-revision-update/>

2ND ANNUAL 1ST STATE FCC CONFERENCE

Educate, Elevate, Empower

DIEEC will hold the 2nd Annual 1st State Family Child Care Conference on Saturday, October 14th, at the Chase Center on the Riverfront in Wilmington. The day will include a variety of professional learning experiences (PLEs) along with vendors from across the state. In addition, we are excited to be welcoming a national family child care advocate and business consultant as our keynote speaker. Keep an eye out to hear more about who it is! Registration is now open and we are also accepting applications for vendors and raffle contributions.



Visit the FCC Conference page at:

<https://www.dieec.udel.edu/whats-new/1st-state-fcc-conference/>

TOM COPELAND: FCC BUSINESS EXPERT

Early Childhood Education Resource Highlight

Tom Copeland has been the nation's leading trainer, author, and advocate for the business of family child care (FCC) since 1981. Prior to his retirement in 2022, he developed a wealth of resources to support FCC business owners. For instance, check out these videos, '[How do providers pay themselves?](#)' and '[How much should you save for retirement?](#)', as well as a [series of articles](#) on a variety of business topics.

COMING SOON: CHILDREN'S BOOK WEEK

November 6-10, 2023

Join us in November as we celebrate Children's Book Week, the country's longest-running national literacy initiative. For this year's festivities, our theme will be "Connecting Children with Nature." Volunteer readers are eager to visit your program, read to the children, and donate the books to your program's library.

Check out our webpage: <https://www.dieec.udel.edu/whats-new/childrens-book-week/>

Sign up here: bit.ly/3sSaEjB to have a reader come to you and celebrate the joy of reading.



DIEEC PLE PREVIEW

Preview of Upcoming Opportunities

As always, the DIEEC training calendar features a wide variety of professional learning experiences (PLEs) tailored to Delaware early childhood programs and professionals. This month, we're highlighting opportunities that focus on supporting children as individuals. These PLEs offer valuable insights and strategies to assist you in supporting the children in your care.

- **Anti-Bias Education: Diversity PLUS**, 5-hour intermediate offering beginning 9/13/2023
- **Using Responsive Care Techniques to Foster Social-Emotional Development**, 5-hour intermediate offering beginning 9/18/2023
- **Differences Matter: The Diversity of Gender in the Early Childhood Program**, 4-hour intermediate offering beginning 9/19/2023
- **Promoting Language as Cultural Heritage: Benefits and Strategies PLUS**, 4-hour introductory offering beginning 9/26/2023
- **The Importance of "I" in IEP: Individualizing in Early Childhood PLUS**, 4-hour introductory offering beginning 9/26/2023
- **Self-Paced: Culturally Responsive Teaching**, 4-hour intermediate self-paced offering opening 10/1/2023
- **DAP PLUS: Developmentally Appropriate Practice in Early Care and Education Fourth Edition PLUS**, 10-hour introductory offering beginning 10/2/2023

For more information and to register for any of the above PLEs visit: <https://dieecpd.org/registry/calendar>

SELF-PACED EXPERIENCES

Transition to Canvas Platform

We're excited to announce that we are transitioning the DIEEC self-paced PLEs to a new platform, the University of Delaware's Canvas learning management system. Starting this fall, when you register for a self-paced experience, you will access it through Canvas. To get started, we encourage you to enter your name and email address here: bit.ly/3r7bgRV - you'll receive an email to activate your guest account so that you are then able to enroll in any self-paced course in the future.

Here's a quick tutorial to demonstrate the simple process for getting set up.



Tap on the image to start the tutorial