

Wisconsin Early Childhood Care and Education Resource Listing

Updated April 25, 2022

Academic Standards

Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/standards>

Wisconsin Academic Standards specify what students K-12 should know and be able to do in the classroom. They serve as goals for teaching and learning.

Birth to 3 Program

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

1 W. Wilson Street, P.O. Box 7851

Madison, WI 53707-7851

Phone: 608-267-3270, Fax: 608-327-0237

Website: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/birthto3/index.htm>

Birth to 3 is Wisconsin's early intervention program for infants and toddlers with developmental delays and disabilities and their families. A federal law, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), provides a framework for a comprehensive program and coordinates developmental, health and social services within a community. The Department of Health Services oversees the Birth to 3 Program in Wisconsin.

The Birth to 3 Program is for children ages birth to 36 months. Eligibility is based on a diagnosed disability or significant delay in one or more areas of development. The team evaluates the child's ability to learn (cognitive development); move, see and hear (physical/motor development); communicate and understand other's communication (speech and language development); respond to and relate with others (social and emotional development); and eat, dress and care for daily living needs (adaptive development). A Birth to 3 service coordinator helps the family understand and participate in the evaluation process.

Black Child Development Institute - Milwaukee

1720 West Florist Avenue, Suite 200

Glendale, WI 53209

Phone: 855-MKE-BCDI (855-653-2234)

Website: <http://bcdi-milwaukee.org/>

BCDI-Milwaukee is the local Affiliate of the National Black Child Development Institute, whose mission is "To improve and advance the quality of life for Black children and their families through education and advocacy." BCDI-Milwaukee has been serving African-American children and their families in Milwaukee since 1997. BCDI-Milwaukee has established a number of programs dedicated to improving child welfare, education, and building family support that is vital to our children's health.

Celebrate Children Foundation (CCF)

110 E Main Street, Suite 810

Madison, WI 53703

608-266-6953

Website: <http://www.celebrate-children.org/>

The Celebrate Children Foundation is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) public charity that conducts research and develops resources, in partnership with the Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board, to help communities throughout Wisconsin strengthen families and prevent child abuse and neglect. Donor contributions, grant funding, and sales of Celebrate Children license plates add to the Foundation's permanent endowment to ensure that investments will continue to be made for young children throughout the state.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, Community Nutrition Programs

P.O. Box 7841

Madison, WI 53707

Phone: 608-267-9129

Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/community-nutrition/cacfp>

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) administers the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) in Wisconsin. CACFP promotes healthy and nutritious meals for children and adults in day care by reimbursing participating day care operators for their meal costs. In addition to day care, the CACFP also provides funding for meals served to children and youth residing in homeless shelters and for snacks provided to youth participating in eligible afterschool care programs. The USDA Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) has more information on its website: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program>

Child Care Certification

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cccertification>

DCF 202 establishes standards for the certification of persons who provide child care for 1 to 3 children under age 7 unrelated to the provider, or who are not otherwise required to be licensed as a child care center under Wisconsin Statutes 48.65. DCF contracts certification functions to local counties and tribes. The DCF Bureau of Early Care Regulation (BECR) administers certification in Milwaukee County. Certification agency contact information is available here: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/ccregulation/cccertification/certifiers.pdf> Compliance history for certified providers is available on the Child Care Finder public search website at: <https://childcarefinder.wisconsin.gov>

Child Care Counts

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/covid-19/childcare/payments>

A 2020-2023 series of Department of Children and Families payment programs to support Wisconsin's regulated child care providers.

Child Care Information Center (CCIC)

201 W. Washington Avenue, Suite 410, P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Phone: 608-535-3288 or 1-800-362-7353, Fax: 608-422-7156

E-mail: ccic@wi.gov

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/ccic>

The Department of Children and Families operates the CCIC mail-order lending library and information clearinghouse serving anyone in Wisconsin working in the field of early childhood care and education and afterschool care. CCIC offers educators statewide free written materials, help in planning individualized and group trainings, and loan of books and videos from a specialized collection. Staff will search for information as requested and mail it out in customized packets. CCIC has materials on numerous topics including: 1) child care, early childhood, and school-age care; 2) early childhood curriculum and assessment; 3) health and safety; 4) multicultural awareness; 5) inclusion of children with disabilities in child care programs; 6) brochures and other information that providers need to meet regulatory requirements; and 7) materials in Spanish and Hmong.

Child Care Licensing

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Early Care Regulation

201 W. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Phone: 608-421-7550, Fax: 608-422-7156

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cclicensing>

Child care programs that provide care for 4 or more children under age 7 who are unrelated to the provider are required to be licensed. There are 5 regional offices around the state that issue licenses, monitor programs for compliance with the licensing rules, and investigate complaints. The licensing offices maintain a file on each facility that includes copies of the center's complaint and compliance history. Information on that history is available by phone, mail, or in-person review, and on the Child Care Finder public search website at:

<https://childcarefinder.wisconsin.gov>

To assist you in locating and learning more about child care programs licensed by the Department of Children and Families (DCF), Child Care Finder contains information on the location and regulatory history of licensed and certified child care centers and day camps in Wisconsin, including YoungStar rated programs.

Information and resources required for **Starting a Licensed Child Care** may be downloaded at no cost from this webpage: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cclicensing/startcc>. If you prefer, you may purchase a Child Care Licensing Inquiry Packet for \$25 by filling out and sending the form at <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/forms/pdf/2022.pdf>, along with a \$25 cashier's check or money order made payable to the Department of Children and Families, to this address: Department of Children and Families, 2187 N Stevens St Ste C, Rhineland WI 54501.

Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&Rs)

c/o Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)

700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 6

Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 1 (888) 713.KIDS or (608) 443.2490 Fax: (608) 441.5399

E-mail: info@supportingfamilies.together.org

Website: <https://supportingfamilies.together.org/parents/child-care>

Wisconsin's Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies work within eight regions of the state, serving all 72 counties and 11 tribes to ensure that Wisconsin's youngest children have high quality early childhood experiences. CCR&Rs have something to offer everyone: families looking for care or supports, early care and education providers in need of professional development opportunities or communities looking for information, data or solutions.

- **For Families:** educating families, as consumers of child care, so that they can make the most informed choice that is best for their family, providing a list of referred providers based on their needs and priorities, and connecting them with other community resources or supports so that they are prepared to be successful in raising their family.
- **For Early Care and Education Professionals:** delivering high quality training on a range of content areas from developmentally appropriate practices to Strengthening Families, providing customized technical consultation to potential and current early care and education providers through programs like Licensing Preparation, Active Early & YoungStar, and collecting and annually updating business information to maximize referrals to their programs.
- **For Communities:** educating stakeholders about what quality early care and education is and how to support it in communities, compiling data and producing reports regarding the local child care industry and convening stakeholders to advocate for the best possible outcomes for Wisconsin's youngest children.

Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs Program (CYSHCN)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

Phone: 608-266-8178, Fax: 608-267-3824

Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/cyshcn/regionalcenters.htm>

The Wisconsin CYSHCN Program provides grants to promote care for Wisconsin children and youth with special health care needs and their families. It funds 5 Regional Centers which provide direct service to families and providers. The program's philosophy is that children are best served within their families, and family perspectives and presence must be included in all aspects of the system. The program directs projects and programs, provides leadership and technical assistance to support the efforts of agencies, provides education and training opportunities for staff and service providers, and coordinates a statewide system of nutrition services.

The program published *Finding Your Way: A Navigation Guide for Wisconsin Families Who Have Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs and Disabilities* to assist families who may have concerns or questions about their child's development or have recently received a diagnosis of a special health care need or disability. It provides brief descriptions of programs, services and systems of support and gives contact information to learn more about these and other resources. Download a pdf version of the booklet, in English or Spanish, at:

<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/products.php> under Health Products, Other Health Resources.

Children's Hospital of Wisconsin – Community Services/Child Welfare Services

Website: <https://childrenswi.org/childrens-and-the-community>

CHW partners with schools, local, state, and federal health and human service organizations, service providers, nonprofits, funders, law enforcement, and others to improve communities and ensure kids and families can thrive. It organizes and supports child abuse prevention efforts, child advocacy and protection services, foster care, treatment

foster care, adoption, respite care, child advocacy centers, family case management, and finding family members of children in foster care in Wisconsin.

Cooperative Educational Service Agency (CESA)

Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/cesa>

CESAs provide leadership and coordination of services for school districts, including curriculum development assistance, school district management development, coordination of vocational education, and exceptional/special education, research, human growth and development, data collection processing and dissemination, and in-service programs. CESAs work in partnership with school districts to provide leadership and to help facilitate change and continuous improvement in schools so that all children will achieve educational excellence. Twelve agencies across Wisconsin provide statewide service delivery.

Disabilities and Inclusive Practices – Technical Assistance

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/disabilities-support.php>

Program Support Teachers (PST) provide support to school district early childhood personnel within their CESA region. Emphasis is on providing training and technical assistance related to the state performance plan indicators (#2/6 Preschool Educational Environments, #3/7 Child Outcomes, and #8/12 Transition from Part C) and initiatives. Additionally, the CESA PSTs and Coordinators act as a liaison among early childhood systems that touch the life of a child with a disability and their family (B-3, Head Start, Child Care, 4K-5K and Early Childhood Special Education).

Credit for Prior Learning (CPL)

Website: <https://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/t-e-a-c-h/credit-for-prior-learning>

Pathways Brief: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/youngstar/pdf/pathwaysbrief.pdf>

Many Wisconsin child care providers haven't completed college degrees, but most have several years of relevant experience and many hours of non-credit-based training, mastering many of the skills and concepts that are learned through college courses. Credit for prior learning is an opportunity to recognize the current skill and knowledge level of Wisconsin's early childhood teachers, improve child care quality in the state, and meet expectations in the YoungStar program. Colleges that offer credit for prior learning award credit(s) to individuals who can demonstrate relevant skills and knowledge previously acquired through non-traditional schooling, non-credit-based training, work or other life experience.

Disability Rights Wisconsin

Website: <http://www.disabilityrightswi.org/>

Disability Rights Wisconsin (DRW) is a private non-profit organization. DRW is part of a national system of federally mandated independent disability agencies. DRW is completely independent of government and the disability service system in order to be free of any conflicts of interest which would undermine its capacity to advocate vigorously on behalf of the human and legal rights of people with disabilities. Disability Rights helps people across Wisconsin gain access to services and opportunity through its advocacy and legal expertise. It regularly challenges systems and society to create positive change and improve the lives of people with disabilities. DRW provides informational training and other learning opportunities for consumers, family members, attorneys and others who support people in the disability community. DRW trainers offer effective strategies to strengthen individual advocacy skills, improve the system's response to issues of access, broaden the understanding of disability rights and more.

Early Childhood and Economic Development in Wisconsin

Website: <http://www.wi-edi.org/publications.html#18>

Investing in high quality early childhood education is good business and establishes a strong foundation for success in school and in life. A growing body of research builds the case that investment in high quality early education will lead to a more educated, qualified, and talented workforce that will help Wisconsin better compete in a global economy.

Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS)

Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/ecids>

In 2011, the State of Wisconsin committed to developing an Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) to support regular data exchanges and research requests. Early childhood data linkages were established between the Departments of Public Instruction (DPI), Health Services (DHS), and Children and Families (DCF). The WI ECIDS was implemented in December of 2017. It provides DPI, DCF and DHS personnel with cross-departmental information to guide decisions about investing resources in effective, sustainable strategies while maintaining privacy, confidentiality and departmental accountability.

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
125 S. Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/sped/early-childhood>

Each school district in Wisconsin provides special education services to children with identified disabilities, ages three to 21. Programs serving children from three to five years of age are called Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) programs. Services are provided in the least restrictive environment within a range of settings including the home, child care, Head Start, kindergarten, and early childhood special education programs. When children are served in general education, consultation and support services are available to teachers and other staff. Each school district is responsible to provide a continuum of special education and related services to children with disabilities who need special education. Children are evaluated to determine if they meet state eligibility criteria.

Early Childhood Systems

Wisconsin Department of Health Services – Wisconsin Maternal & Child Health Program

Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/mch/childhood-systems.htm>

Wisconsin's Maternal and Child Health Program defines Early Childhood Systems as local public health departments working with community partners to build and integrate services and supports that promote optimal physical, mental, and social health and development of all children and their families. In the **Keeping Kids Alive** initiative, local health departments work with partners to establish a Child Death Review or Fetal and Infant Mortality Review Team. Teams collect and review data to identify and recommend community prevention activities. In the **Wisconsin Healthiest Families** initiative, local health departments work with partners to build and integrate services and supports to address child development, mental health, safety and injury prevention, and family supports.

Early Dual Language Learner Initiative (EDLLI)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction
125 S. Webster Street
Madison, WI 53707

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/pd-packages/dual-language-learners>

The Early Dual Language Learner Initiative (EDLLI) provides professional development, technical assistance and resources to community partners regarding culturally and linguistically responsive practices for young children, birth - six. The EDLLI Leadership Team, comprised of 25 stakeholders, and its smaller Steering Committee, were created as part of this initiative to help coordinate and advance efforts on behalf of young children who are dual language learners and their families throughout the state. In addition, the EDLLI collaborates with other state initiatives in order to include the strengths and needs of dual language learners and their families in different statewide trainings such as those provided by Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards, Preschool Options, and Wisconsin Pyramid Model for social emotional competence.

Family Resource Centers (FRCs)

c/o Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)
700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 6
Madison, WI 53711

Phone: 1 (888) 713.KIDS or (608) 443.2490, Fax: (608) 441.5399

E-mail: info@supportingfamilies.together.org

Website: <https://supportingfamilies.together.org/parents/child-care>

Family Resource Centers (FRCs) provide services and support systems that emphasize and build on family strengths. Each Family Resource Center is unique, but there are commonalities across programs. FRCs primarily

focus on parents or primary caregivers and their children from prenatal through early childhood and offer a wide range of services to meet the individual needs of each family and community. Each center aims to help parents and families develop additional positive parenting skills, and even grand-parenting skills. The specific services each center offers may be located at the center, in homes or at other locations in the community. In Wisconsin, FRCs may provide a combination of any of these core services and more:

- **Group services:** delivering parent education courses, workshops, support groups, drop-in programs, respite care, and play groups.
- **Individual services:** providing families with personal consultations and support through services such as telephone “warm-lines” for non-emergency parenting information, home visits, supervised visitation or safe exchange programs.
- **Outreach and family visiting services:** reaching out to parents and families in their homes or in other community-based locations convenient for families. This might be through collaborations with birthing hospitals to connect with new families, through community response to ensure families have support in times of need, or through universal services such as car seat checks.
- **Community resource and referral and follow-up services:** offering a reliable link to public and private agencies and providing strong family advocacy within local communities. Families can receive referrals to other community programs, public benefits, and assistance with transportation.

Governor’s Early Care and Education Advisory Council (ECAC)

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families
201 W. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916

Website: <https://dcf.wi.gov/ecac>

The Wisconsin ECAC was established in December 2008 and continues work dedicated to building a comprehensive, sustainable early childhood system in Wisconsin to help ensure that all children and families have access to quality early childhood programs and services. Its vision is that “every child will be healthy, nurtured, safe, and successful.” To move Wisconsin toward this vision, the Council established long-term outcomes of quality early learning experiences; safe and healthy children; and stable, nurturing, and economically secure families.

Great Lakes Inter-Tribal Council, Inc. (GLITC)

Website: <http://www.glitc.org>

The GLITC provides services to Native Americans in Wisconsin, Michigan, and Minnesota. It works to enhance the quality of life for all native people and to advocate for the advancement and promotion of tribal nations and communities. Member tribes of GLITC are: Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Forest County Potawatomi Community, Ho-Chunk Nation, Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin, Oneida Nation, Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians, Sokaogon Chippewa Community, Saint Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin, and the Stockbridge-Munsee Community.

Grow in Quality (GIQ) Materials

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Early Learning and Policy
201 W. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916

Phone: 608-266-7001, Fax: 608-266-8302

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/files/youngstar/pdf/growinqualitysummary.pdf>

This project was conducted in 2005-2007 to identify key indicators of child care quality and to begin the process of designing technical assistance specific to quality indicators. Data were gathered on quality indicators from licensed group and licensed family child care centers participating in targeted areas of the state. The two primary purposes of the Grow in Quality project were:

- 1) To design and test an efficient, accurate, and effective instrument that can be used reliably by trained observers to assess key quality indicators, including classroom environments and business practices in group center programs and family child care programs.
- 2) To use the information gathered from the assessments, in collaboration with early care and education

program directors, to develop meaningful plans for program improvement, to implement specified amounts and types of technical assistance, and to assess the impact of technical assistance on key quality indicators.

Healthy Early

Wisconsin Department of Health Services

1 West Wilson Street

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-1865

Healthy Early/WECOPI Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/WECOPI>

Nutrition, Physical Activity and Obesity Program Website: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/physical-activity/>

Early Care and Education Initiatives Website: <http://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/physical-activity/Childcare/index.htm>

Healthy Early (formerly the Wisconsin Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative or WECOPI) is a major statewide planning initiative, working toward developing and implementing a collaborative statewide multi-strategy, evidence-based initiative to enhance nutrition and physical activity among birth - five-year-olds and their families by engaging providers, families, community partners and other stakeholders. Partners involved in the initiative come from the areas of public health, public instruction, early care and education agencies, families, early care and education providers, statewide agencies, and groups that support the structure of early childhood.

Kids Forward

555 W Washington Avenue, Suite 200

Madison, Wisconsin 53703

Phone: 608-284-0580, Fax: 608-284-0583

E-mail: info@kidsforward.net

Website: <http://www.kidsforward.net>

Kids Forward (previously the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families or WCCF) is a nonprofit, multi-issue child and family advocacy agency. It advocates for effective, long-lasting solutions that break down barriers to success for children and families. Through research, policy analysis, public education, community engagement, and advocacy, it works to improve outcomes for children in areas of early care and education, health, economic security, racial equity, tax and budget issues, and juvenile justice. Its early education efforts focus on public investment in a high-quality early education system that provides the experiences kids need for healthy development.

Local YoungStar Offices

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/program/localoffice>

YoungStar is Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system. Local YoungStar Offices are the place to go for all things YoungStar in any Wisconsin community. Providers can learn more about YoungStar, sign up to participate, and also receive training and technical assistance to help them grow the quality of their child care program. Parents can find information about child care providers and learn what to look for when choosing a program to care for their children.

Multi-Level Systems of Supports (MLSS)

Multi-Level Systems of Supports systematically provide differing levels of intensity of supports (interventions, additional challenges, collaborative structures, monitoring of learner progress) based upon learner responsiveness to instruction and intervention. Wisconsin's Equitable Multi-level Systems of Supports (<https://dpi.wi.gov/rti>), used by public schools and districts, conveys the vision of an integrated system of behavioral, social, emotional, and academic support, includes all educators and all learners, considers the whole child and system, and attends to equitable access, opportunity, and outcomes. The Pyramid Model is an example of an early childhood MLSS.

Office of Early Learning (OEL)

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707

Phone: 608-267-9625

E-mail: sherry.kimball@dpi.wi.gov

Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/office-of-early-learning>

OEL is DPI's support for a statewide early childhood system to increase collaboration and coordination of the early learning community at local, regional and statewide levels throughout Wisconsin for children birth to age eight. The early childhood community includes parents, teachers, administrators, support staff, Cooperative Educational Service Agencies, public libraries, governmental and non-governmental agencies, consumer and professional associations, relevant philanthropic organizations, and legislators. The OEL includes an Early Education Consultant, the Head Start State Collaboration Office, and several Outreach Team members who work in the field. The OEL works collaboratively across DPI divisions, with other state departments, and with the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) to bring continuity and cohesiveness to the programs associated with early learning.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

Justyn Poulos, Wisconsin PBIS Network Assistant Director

Phone: 608-697-8615, poulosj@wisconsinrticenter.org

Website: <http://www.wisconsinpbisnetwork.org>

PBIS is a systemic approach to proactive, school-wide behavior based on a Response to Intervention (RtI) model. PBIS applies evidence-based programs, practices and strategies for all students to increase academic performance, improve safety, decrease problem behavior, and establish a positive school culture. Schools implementing PBIS build on existing strengths, complementing and organizing current programming and strategies. The PBIS model has been successfully implemented in thousands of schools in over 40 states, resulting in dramatic reductions in disciplinary interventions and increases in academic achievement. Data-based decision making is a hallmark of PBIS, allowing successes to be easily shared with all relevant stakeholders. The Wisconsin Pyramid Model is a preschool version of PBIS.

Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin

325 N Commercial Street

Neenah, WI 54956

Phone: 920-969-7925 or 1-800-CHILDREN

E-mail: pcaw@chw.org

Website: <http://www.preventchildabusewi.org/>

Prevent Child Abuse Wisconsin is a program of the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin. It builds community resources, provides training and public awareness, and carries out advocacy activities in order to strengthen child abuse prevention efforts in Wisconsin.

Professional Development Approval System (PDASystem)

Wisconsin Registry

2908 Marketplace Drive, #103

Fitchburg, WI 53719

Phone: 608-222-1123

E-mail: support@wiregistry.org

Website: <https://wiregistry.org/ttap-overview>

The PDASystem was created to allow practitioners in the early care profession to have a clearer understanding of what level of training is available, and to ensure accountability for those providing the content-based training. The approval process for trainers and technical assistance providers includes verification of education, experience and competencies in the delivery areas. Resources related to the PDASystem can be found at: <https://wiregistry.org/ttap-overview/resource-center>

Public School Kindergarten

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

125 S. Webster Street

Madison, WI 53707

4K Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/4k>

4K Community Approach (4KCA) Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/kind/4k/4kca>

5K Website: <https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/kind>

All Wisconsin public elementary schools include 5-year-old kindergarten and, as of the 2017-18 school-year, 98.3 percent of public school districts offered 4-year-old kindergarten programs, serving 48,905 students. Typically, these

programs have been in public school buildings. An increased number of school districts have initiated community-based approaches through partnerships that bring 4K and 5K programs into child care, preschool, or Head Start center settings. In these locations, licensed teachers may still have separate kindergarten classrooms, may team teach in a blended program, or teach through other arrangements.

The Registry

See **Wisconsin Registry**

REWARD Wisconsin Stipend Program (Rewarding Education with Wages And Respect for Dedication)

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA)

2908 Marketplace Drive, Suite 101

Fitchburg, WI 53719

Phone: 608-240-9880 or 800-783-9322, Fax: 877-248-7662

Website: <https://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/reward>

The REWARD Wisconsin Stipend Program is a compensation and retention initiative for members of the early care and education workforce who are at Wisconsin Registry Career Level 7 or higher. Incremental yearly salary supplements are awarded based on one's educational attainments and longevity in the field. This program encourages increased education and retention through increased compensation.

Statewide Training Calendar

Phone: 608-222-1123

E-mail: support@wiregistry.org

Website: <https://go.wiregistry.org/v7/trainings/search>

The Wisconsin Registry maintains a statewide, profession-wide, free, web-based interactive training calendar for anyone in the field of child care and education in Wisconsin. Events and trainings may be searched according to location, date, topic, format, language, and tier level, or one may browse the current course catalog. Agencies offering training are encouraged to register as sponsors and post their event information directly on the interactive Training Calendar.

Strengthening Families

Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board

110 East Main Street, Suite 810

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-266-6871

Website: <https://www.cssp.org/reform/strengtheningfamilies>

Wisconsin was one of the first seven states to pilot the Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education Initiative, an innovative, research-based strategy to prevent child maltreatment by building on the strong relationships that parents of young children typically have with their child care providers. The Wisconsin Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board, the Supporting Families Together Association, and other partners continue to work to increase the number of child care programs in the state that build protective factors with families, to enhance relationships between child welfare and early care and education, and to improve coordination across fields that work with young children and their families.

Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA)

700 Rayovac Drive, Suite 6

Madison WI 53711

Phone: 1-888-713-KIDS or 608-443-2490, Fax: 608-441-5399

E-mail: info@supportingfamieliestogether.org

Website: <https://supportingfamieliestogether.org>

Supporting Families Together Association envisions an environment in which all children have the opportunity to reach their highest potentials and all adults understand their roles and responsibilities to children. To make this happen, SFTA supports and sustains an effective network of family support and early care and education systems through statewide membership of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies, Family Resource Centers, and other organizations and individuals committed to early childhood. SFTA focuses efforts on four early childhood priorities:

- **Quality Early Care and Education:** SFTA is committed to working with our community-based organizations to advocate, educate and build Wisconsin's capacity to deliver high-quality early care and education experiences to all of Wisconsin's children. This is supported through programming like YoungStar, Training & Technical Assistance and Child Care Resource & Referral Services.
- **Strong Families:** SFTA provides concrete support to families in a strengths-based and evidence-informed manner in order to prevent child abuse and neglect. This is supported through child abuse and neglect prevention efforts and training, including Strengthening Families, Stewards of Children and SFTA's Annual Small Change Makes a Big Difference Campaign.
- **Healthy Children:** SFTA is actively engaged in a broad range of health promotion efforts that are designed to create better health outcomes for all of Wisconsin's children. This is supported through efforts to promote The Pyramid Model of Social Emotional Competence and obesity prevention initiatives like Active Early.
- **Responsive Systems:** SFTA builds systems and supports to early childhood that result in opportunities for all children to reach their highest potential. This is integrated into all programming at SFTA, including the radio program, Apoyando Familias Aprendiendo Juntos, and intentional supports for Wisconsin's 11 Tribes.

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Wisconsin Scholarship Program (Teacher Education And Compensation Helps)

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA)

2908 Marketplace Drive, Suite 101

Fitchburg, WI 53719

Phone: 608-240-9880 or 1-800-783-9322, option 3; Fax: 877-248-7662

Website: <http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/teach/>

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Wisconsin is a statewide scholarship program designed to help teaching staff in child care centers and after-school programs, Head Start teachers, family child care providers, and center directors and administrators advance their educational qualifications while continuing their current employment in regulated early childhood and school-age care settings. T.E.A.C.H. links education, compensation and commitment to improving the quality of early education. There is a variety of scholarship models designed to meet the diverse needs of the workforce. All models support credit-based education in Wisconsin institutions of higher education. By working in partnership with programs and scholarship recipients, T.E.A.C.H. pays the largest share of expenses related to the completion of an educational path towards a credential, degree, or coursework related to improving a YoungStar rating. T.E.A.C.H. provides professional development counseling and administrative support as well, plus bonus upon contract completion.

Tom Copeland

Website: <http://www.tomcopelandblog.com>

Tom Copeland is a leading trainer, author, and advocate on business issues for family child care providers since 1981. His *Taking Care of Business Blog* focuses on the business side of running a family child care program, including record keeping, taxes, contracts, legal issues, insurance, money management and retirement planning.

UMOS Migrant Child Care Program

300 S. Koeller Street

Oshkosh, WI 54902-5590

Other UMOs office locations: <https://www.umos.org/corporate/locations.html>

Phone: 414-389-6000

Website: https://www.umos.org/childhood/migrant_child_care.html

UMOS has received funding for the Migrant Child Care (MCC) Program through the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families. MCC and Migrant and Seasonal Head Start Programs work collaboratively to close the gap of un-served and underserved migrant children throughout Wisconsin. The UMOs MCC Program has several licensed centers in Wisconsin that provide an educational, nurturing, and safe environment for children.

University of Wisconsin Cooperative Extension Family Living Programs

637 Extension Building, 432 Lake Street

Madison, WI 53706

Phone: 608-263-1095

County offices: <https://counties.extension.wisc.edu>

Website: <https://flp.ces.uwex.edu>

Family Living's programs are developed using university research. Extension educators based in every county respond to the challenges facing today's families with evidence-informed programs and practices, as well as local knowledge gained from living in the communities they serve. Extension educators help to create an environment where families have the information, skills, and assets they need to contribute to their communities and improve their quality of life in such areas as family relationships, nutrition and health, and financial security. (On July 1, 2018, the former UW-Extension joined with UW-Madison and UW System Administration.)

Waisman Center

1500 Highland Avenue
Madison, WI 53705-2280
Phone: 608-263-5760

Website: <http://www.waisman.wisc.edu>

One of 67 university centers dedicated to the advancement of knowledge about human development and developmental disabilities through research and practice, the Waisman Center shares its resources in many ways: through public lectures and seminars; consultation to physicians, educators, and other professionals; an internet website and resource center (<http://www.waisman.wisc.edu/cedd/early.php>) specializing in topics related to developmental disabilities; and through articles in professional journals, books, and other publications.

Well Badger Resource Center

Phone: 1-800-642-7837

E-mail: help@wellbadger.org

Website: www.wellbadger.org

The Well Badger Resource Center provides health-related Information & Referral (I&R) services to individuals, families, and health professionals throughout the state. Individuals can access I&R services in two ways: 1) Connect with friendly, knowledgeable Certified Information & Referral Specialists by phone, email, text message, live chat, or Facebook messenger. Specialists are available 7 AM - 6 PM, Monday – Friday, and after-hours inquiries are responded to the following business day. 2) Use the up-to-date online directory and search thousands of available health and social service resources throughout the state.

Well Badger is home to the WI Maternal & Child Health Hotline, Wisconsin First Step, and the WI Informed Consent Helpline. Well Badger is operated by the Wisconsin Women's Health Foundation and funded by the WI Department of Health Services.

WIDA

School of Education, UW-Madison

Phone: 866-276-7735

E-mail: help@wida.us

Website: <https://wida.wisc.edu>

Housed at UW-Madison, WIDA advances academic language development and academic achievement for culturally and linguistically diverse children and youth through high-quality standards, assessments, research, and professional learning for educators. WIDA Early Years focuses specifically on the language development of multilingual children in ECE settings.

Wisconsin AfterSchool Association (WAA)

See **Wisconsin Child Care Administrators Association** which is now the Wisconsin affiliate of the **National AfterSchool Association**.

Wisconsin Afterschool Network (WAN)

Randy Neeve, Center for Community Health Advancement
Marshfield Clinic Health System
1000 N Oak Avenue (F1C)
Marshfield, WI 54449
Phone: 715-221-8400

E-mail: communityhealth@marshfieldclinic.org

Website: <http://wiafterschoolnetwork.org>

WAN is a public/private partnership of local and state organizations. Its vision is to: 1) create a comprehensive statewide system for professional development for school-age programs in Wisconsin to foster a system of multiple pathways for training and technical assistance and to ensure high quality programs across the state are initiated to meet the needs of diverse populations, 2) maintain and expand a sustainable structure of statewide, regional, and local partnerships, particularly school-community partnerships, focused on supporting policy development at all levels, and 3) support the development and growth of statewide policies that will secure the resources that are needed to sustain new and existing school-based/school-linked afterschool programs.

Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health (WI-AIMH)

6213 Middleton Springs Drive, Suite 205

Middleton, WI 53562

Phone: 608-442-0360

E-mail: info@wiaimh.org

Website: <http://wiaimh.org>

WI-AIMH strives to promote infant and early childhood mental health through building awareness, promoting professional capacity, fostering partnerships and supporting policies which are in the best interest of infants, young children and their families. WI-AIMH works to weave infant and early childhood mental health principles into the fabric of all systems that touch the lives of young children and their families and to provide professionals working with young children and their families the knowledge, skills, and relationship-based, culturally sensitive practices that support healthy social and emotional development.

Wisconsin Birth to 3 REsource Project

Cooperative Service Agency #5 (CESA 5)

626 E Slifer Street, Portage WI 53901

Phone: 608-745-5400

Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/birthto3/regions.htm>

REsource staff are responsible for assisting state staff in technical assistance and monitoring of county Birth to 3 Programs. They participate in and co-facilitate county program reviews and provide ongoing technical assistance for county Birth to 3 programs in their designated regions. REsource provides county programs a liaison to state staff to disseminate information and assist in program implementation.

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education – Project Learning Tree (WCEE-PLT)

Nicole Filizetti, Wisconsin PLT State Coordinator

Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education

University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point

800 Reserve Street

Stevens Point, WI 54481

Phone: 906-450-3106

E-mail: wcee-plt@uwsp.edu

Website: <https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/wcee/Pages/project-learning-tree.aspx>

PLT offers teacher workshops and educational materials – such as an Early Childhood Activity Guide and Music/Movement CD – that use trees and forests to teach kids how to think, not what to think, about environmental issues.

Wisconsin Child Care Administrators Association (WCCAA)

Board President – Joan Beck

E-mail: contactwccaa@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.wccaa.org/>

WCCAA was founded in 1976 to help child care administrators in Wisconsin network with each other, spread the news about issues affecting them, take joint action on advocacy issues, and help administrators find out about classes and training specifically designed to meet their needs. WCCAA plays a critical role in directing the future of professionalism in child care in Wisconsin by working with local, state, and federal government officials to educate

them about the organization, its members, and their commitment to professionalism and excellence in child care. WCCAA is the state affiliate of the National AfterSchool Association.

Wisconsin Child Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (Lead-Safe Wisconsin)

Wisconsin Department of Health Services, Division of Public Health,
Bureau of Environmental and Occupational Health
1 W. Wilson Street, Room 145, P. O. Box 2659
Madison, Wisconsin 53701-2659
Phone: 608-266-5817
Fax: 608-267-0402

Website: <http://dhs.wi.gov/lead>

The Lead-Safe Wisconsin website has tools, resources and information for child care providers to help protect children from exposure to lead and prevent childhood lead poisoning. This includes information on the effects of lead on young children and the lifelong health outcomes associated with lead exposure and actions that can be taken to prevent it. The site also has important information about lead-safe work practices that must be followed in child care centers when painting and renovating in a child-occupied facility built before 1978. If you want to know if childhood lead poisoning occurs in your community, this website tells you how to obtain maps of Wisconsin communities indicating the locations of homes where children have been found to be lead-poisoned; see <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lead/data.htm>, or call the Wisconsin Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program at 608-266-5817.

Wisconsin Circuit Court Access (WCCA)

Website: <http://wcca.wicourts.gov/index.xsl>

WCCA is a website that provides access to certain public records of the circuit courts of Wisconsin. The information displayed is an exact copy of the case information entered into the Consolidated Court Automation Programs (CCAP) case management system by court staff in the counties where the case files are located. The court record summaries viewed here are all public records under Wisconsin open records law. However, it may be a violation of state law for an employer to discriminate against a job applicant because of an arrest or conviction record. Generally speaking, an employer may refuse to hire an applicant on the basis of a conviction only if the circumstances of the conviction substantially relate to the particular job. For more information, see *Wisconsin Statute 111.335* (<http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/statutes/statutes/111/II/335>) and the Department of Workforce Development's *Arrest and Conviction Record* webpage (<https://dwd.wisconsin.gov/er/civilrights/discrimination/arrest.htm>), or contact Child Care Licensing at the Department of Children and Families (<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cclicensing>).

Wisconsin Council on Children and Families (WCCF)

See **Kids Forward**

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP)

2811 Agriculture Drive
PO Box 8911
Madison, WI 53708-8911
Phone: 608-224-5012

Website: <http://datcp.wi.gov/>

DATCP is responsible for food safety, animal and plant health, protecting water and soil and monitoring fair and safe business practices. The agency is responsible for inspecting and licensing more than 100,000 businesses and individuals, analyzing millions of laboratory samples, conducting hundreds of hearings and investigations, educating businesses and consumers about best practices, adopting rules that have the force of law, and promoting Wisconsin agriculture at home and abroad.

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of YoungStar

201 W. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916

Quality Initiatives: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/quality>

The DCF Bureau of YoungStar has lead planning responsibility for quality improvement efforts and delivery of resources and support to child care programming. The Bureau, in cooperation with the early childhood community, provides knowledgeable leadership, guidance, and joint planning to achieve this vision. The Bureau directs the YoungStar Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System, the Scholarship and Bonus Initiative administered through the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association, the Child Care Resource and Referral Contract administered through the Supporting Families Together Association, and the quality contracts for training and technical assistance delivery for quality programming and planned supply of child care and early education services.

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) – Project Learning Tree

See **Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education – Project Learning Tree**

Wisconsin Department of Safety and Professional Services – Division of Industry Services (DSPS-DIS)

4822 Madison Yards Way

Madison, WI 53705

Phone: 608-266-2112

Website: <https://dsps.wi.gov/Pages/AboutDSPS/Divisions.aspx>

DSPS-DIS sets standards, reviews plans, and performs inspections for commercial buildings and makes safety and Commercial Building Code information available in multiple formats.

Wisconsin Division for Early Childhood (WDEC)

Cathy Thorsen, Ed.D., President

E-mail: thorseca@uwec.edu

Website: <http://www.dec-sped.org/wisconsin-dec>

WDEC is a state chapter of the Division for Early Childhood (DEC), one of 17 divisions of the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) - the largest international professional organization dedicated to improving educational outcomes for individuals with exceptionalities, students with disabilities, and/or the gifted. DEC is especially for individuals who work with or on behalf of children with special needs, birth through age eight, and their families. Founded in 1973, the Division is dedicated to promoting policies and practices that support families and enhance the optimal development of children. DEC is an international community of 5,000 professionals and family members - in 50 U.S. states, 9 Canadian provinces, and 22 other countries - all working together to support the development of young children with special needs and to create a system of support for all young children and their families. WDEC established the Jenny Lange Scholarship Fund through UW-Whitewater and is a co-sponsor of the annual WI Early Childhood Education and Care Conference and the biennial JoLyn Beeman Memorial Lecture Series. Membership in WDEC provides reduced fees at these conferences; a state newsletter; and monthly publications, including the *Young Exceptional Children* journal.

Wisconsin Early Care and Education Career Guide

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/professionalism/career-guide>

The intent of the Career Guide is to support individuals in identifying career paths within the field of early care and education. Links are provided to connect individuals to the organizations with which they may be interested in seeking employment. Links are also provided to sites with information on educational and degree requirements. Resources are identified to support individuals seeking to further their education through credit-based coursework.

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA)

2908 Marketplace Drive, Suite 101, Fitchburg, WI 53719

Phone: 608-240-9880 or 1-800-783-9322, Fax: 877-248-7662

E-mail: weca@wisconsinearlychildhood.org

Website: <http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org>

WECA is a statewide, nonprofit organization serving as a professional association whose members care for and educate well over 70% of Wisconsin's children ages birth to eight. WECA works to advance positive change for children by strengthening the capacities of child care professionals through a variety of services including the T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Scholarship and REWARD stipend programs, the Wisconsin Early Education Shared Services Network, conferences and trainings, and a food program. WECA also advocates for policies and programs that support the well-being of children and early childhood educators. WECA is an affiliate of the National Association for the Education for Young Children (NAEYC).

Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners (WECCP)

Department of Public Instruction

P.O. Box 7841

Madison, WI 53707-7841

Fax: 608-266-2529

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com>

WECCP was started in 1994. It focuses on collaboration among diverse early childhood partners. It exists now as a “braided” funding effort among three state agencies: Department of Public Instruction (DPI), Department of Children and Families (DCF), and Department of Health Services (DHS). The WECCP website serves as the collaborative source of information on issues of cross-sector interest, state initiatives, and research-based practices. A team of Outreach Specialists supports ongoing cross-sector professional development and improvement activities.

The WECCP listserv - <https://dpi.wi.gov/early-childhood/programs/listservs> - is designed to facilitate interactive, electronic communication among agencies, associations, and individuals providing services to Wisconsin’s young children (birth to age 8) and their families. The focus of this listserv is on state, community and interagency efforts to improve service delivery approaches for young children and their families.

WECCP information on community approaches to serving children is available at:

<http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/family-community-engagement/4k-community-approaches>

Information on curriculum is available at <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/learning-experiences> and

information on screening and assessment is at <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/screening-assessment>.

Wisconsin Early Childhood Obesity Prevention Initiative (WECOPI)

See **Healthy Early**

Wisconsin Early Education Shared Services Network (WEESN)

Kelly Matthews, WEESN Coordinator

Wisconsin Early Childhood Association

2908 Marketplace Drive, Suite 101, Fitchburg, WI 53719

Phone: 608-729-1042, Fax: 877-248-7662

E-mail: weesn@wisconsinearlychildhood.org

Website: <https://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/programs/weesn>

WEESN reduces operational costs for family and group child care providers who participate and provides them with specialized child care management data systems and other intentional supports. By streamlining regulation compliance, business practices, purchasing, and program logistics, the network makes the lives of child care providers easier and supports them in their mission of educating kids, caring for families, and serving the community.

Wisconsin Early Learning Coalition

Kids Forward Website: <http://kidsforward.net/early-learning-coalition-launches-agenda-2017-19>

Comprised of 14 prominent early childhood organizations, the Early Learning Coalition conducted the Great Start: Early Learning Matters campaign, advocating that all Wisconsin children get a “Great Start.” The Coalition’s agenda for the 2017-2019 biennial budget focused on supporting high-quality child care and expanding home visiting opportunities. Coalition members promote public policies and public investments that make high-quality early care and education a top priority in Wisconsin. Kids Forward is the organizational home of the Coalition.

WI FACETS

600 W. Virginia Street, Suite 501

Milwaukee, WI 53204

Phone: 877-374-0511 or 414-374-4645

Website: <http://www.wifacets.org/>

Wisconsin Family Assistance Center for Education, Training & Support, Inc. (WI FACETS) is a nonprofit organization serving Wisconsin children and adults with disabilities, their families and those who support them. Services provided include: public awareness, parent education, specialized workshops, parent support, parent leadership, and promotion of partnership activities between parents and professionals.

Wisconsin Family Child Care Association (WFCCA)

Website: <http://www.wisconsinfamilychildcare.org>

WFCCA is a statewide organization of family child care providers and their supporters, formed to provide support, involvement, and communication with others in the profession. The goal of the Association is to help maintain the high quality of care that promotes the physical, intellectual, emotional, and social development of children by:

- Promoting the awareness of family child care as a viable choice in child care.
- Promoting awareness of the professionalism of family child care.
- Providing an opportunity for input into laws concerning children.
- Providing a statewide information/assistance network.
- Providing an opportunity for involvement, support, and communication with others.

Wisconsin First Step

See **Well Badger Resource Center**

Wisconsin Head Start Association (WHSA)

5250 E. Terrace Drive, Suite 112

Madison, WI 53718

Phone: 608-442-6879 Fax: 608-442-7672

E-mail: whsaassist@whsaonline.org

Website: <http://www.whsaonline.org/>

WHSA is a private, not-for-profit, membership organization representing more than 16,000 children, upwards of 3,000 staff, and 39 grantees providing Head Start and Early Head Start services to families throughout Wisconsin. WHSA works to assure the availability of comprehensive, top quality services for children and families. It accomplishes this through advocacy, the delivery of professional development services, and the creation of unique resources for people and organizations committed to families.

Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA)

Ron Slade

611 W. National Avenue, Suite 110

Milwaukee, WI 53204

Phone: 414-227-4039 or 1-800-628-4833, Fax: 414-227-4704

E-mail: info@wheda.com

Website: <http://www.wheda.com>

WHEDA's Small Business Guarantee can assist in the expansion or acquisition of a small business or assist in the start-up of a child care business which may be owned by an individual, a partnership, a corporation, a non-profit organization, or a cooperative. For additional information about eligibility requirements, eligible uses of loan proceeds, terms and conditions, and the application process and fees, contact WHEDA.

Wisconsin Immunization Program

Phone: 608-267-9959

Website: <http://dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/>

Local Health Department and Tribal Agency Listing: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/lh-depts/counties.htm>

The Wisconsin Division of Public Health Immunization Program, in partnership and collaboration with local partners, strives to eliminate the transmission of vaccine-preventable disease through effective immunization programs and outbreak control measures. Utilizing best-practice strategies and evidence-based programming, the steps to achieve this mission include: improving the effectiveness of immunization delivery systems; increasing immunization access for all; identifying and eliminating racial, ethnic and other disparities; and protecting the community through high immunization rates. This web page contains vaccine information as well as many links to other pages and sites.

Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR)

Wisconsin Division of Public Health
Bureau of Communicable Diseases
Immunization Section
1 W. Wilson Street, Rm 318
PO Box 2659
Madison, WI 53701-2659
Phone: 608-261-9691
Fax: 608-267-9493
E-mail: dhsuirhelp@dhs.wisconsin.gov

Website: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/wir.htm>

The Wisconsin Immunization Registry (WIR) is a computerized Internet database application that was developed to record and track immunization dates of Wisconsin's children and adults, in order to help keep everyone on track for their recommended immunizations. Statewide release occurred in May 2000. All demographic information for births occurring in Wisconsin was back-loaded to January 1995 and continues to be downloaded on a weekly basis.

Wisconsin Infant Toddler Policy Project (WITPP)

2908 Marketplace Drive, Suite 101, Fitchburg, WI 53719
Phone: 608-240-9880 or 1-800-783-9322, Fax: 877-248-7662
E-mail: weca@wisconsinearlychildhood.org
Website: <http://wisconsinearlychildhood.org>

In April 2020, the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA) were awarded a \$100,000 planning grant from the Pritzker Children's Initiative to develop a policy agenda to expand the availability of high-quality infant and toddler child care in Wisconsin by 25% by 2023. In 2019 the grantees are recruiting a coalition of state- and community-level partners inside and outside government – family members, business owners, community leaders, program directors, health providers, caregivers, legislators, everyone with ideas on how to expand the capacity for infant toddler programming – to develop an ambitious prenatal-to-age-three policy agency and action plan. Planning grant recipients will be eligible for implementation grants based on the quality of the plan they develop. Learn more and submit your ideas at: <https://wisconsinearlychildhood.org/get-involved/wi-infant-toddler-policy-project-pritzker-childrens-initiative-grant-2019>

Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards (WMELS)

Website: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/wmels>

WMELS specify developmental expectations for children birth to first grade, supported by practice-based evidence and scientific research. Samples of children's behavior and adult strategies are also provided. WMELS cover all the domains of children's early learning and development and apply to all settings in which children receive care and education. They provide a shared framework for understanding and communicating expectations for young children's development, and are a guide for parents, early care and education professionals, and policymakers, all of whom share responsibility for the well-being of young children. WMELS were developed by the WMELS Steering Committee, including representatives from the state Departments of Public Instruction, Health Services, and Children and Families; the Head Start State Collaboration Office; and Wisconsin Early Childhood Collaborating Partners.

A copy of the WMELS can be downloaded at <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/wmels/order-wi-model-early-learning-standards>. The Frequently Asked Questions section of the WMELS website lists commonly asked questions regarding the development and intended use of the standards.

Training for Wisconsin Model Early Learning Standards takes place throughout Wisconsin for educators, child care providers, and families who want to continue to improve the quality of early education and care for children birth to first grade: <http://www.collaboratingpartners.com/wmels/trainings/training-opportunities>

Wisconsin Nature Action Collaborative for Children (WiNACC)

Gerry Slater

Phone: 414-610-7529

E-mail: wisconsinnatureacc@gmail.com

Website: <https://www.wisnacc.org>

WiNACC is a consortium of agencies and individuals who are committed to the mission of reconnecting Wisconsin children with the natural world by reaching adults and helping them make developmentally appropriate nature education a sustaining and enriching part of the children's daily lives.

Wisconsin Pyramid Model for Social and Emotional Competence

Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health

133 S. Butler Street, Suite 340

Madison, WI 53703

Phone: 608-442-0360

Website: <https://wiaimh.org/pyramid-model>

The Pyramid Model is a multi-level system of support to increase social and emotional competence and decrease challenging behaviors in very young children. Evidence-based practices promoted by the Pyramid Model apply to multiple contexts in which children learn and grow, specifically early care and education settings ranging from regulated group and family child care, and four-year-old kindergarten programs, to center-based Early Head Start and Head Start programs. In 2019, 108 sites were implementing the Pyramid Model in 36 programs/communities throughout Wisconsin. Implementation of the Pyramid Model has been correlated with improvements for child outcomes, staff morale, and staff retention. Since 2009, the Wisconsin Alliance for Infant Mental Health has been the lead agency on promoting and guiding professional development and implementation of the Pyramid Model.

Wisconsin Registry

2908 Marketplace Drive, Suite 103

Fitchburg, WI 53719

Phone: 608-222-1123

E-mail: support@wiregistry.org

Website: <https://wiregistry.org>

The Wisconsin Registry is a career level system which awards a certificate verifying that an individual has met all State of Wisconsin, Department of Children and Family Services entry-level training and is qualified for the position that s/he holds. Additional credit-based training is categorized by core knowledge areas as defined by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The Registry encourages professional development by defining set goals and recognizes the attainment of those goals by individuals. The Registry has developed highly specialized professional credentials and awards completion of the credential to those individuals who have met all prescribed goals. Resource and support materials related to Wisconsin Registry services are available on its website.

Wisconsin Registry Credentials

Website: <https://wiregistry.org/credentials-overview>

The 11 Credentials awarded by the Wisconsin Registry are: Afterschool & Youth Development, Family Child Care, Infant Toddler, Preschool, Administrator, Leadership, Program Development, Diversity, Inclusion, Nature-Based Early Childhood Education, and Supporting Dual Language Learners. Each Credential is earned by taking a sequence of 4 to 6 specific, credit-based, college courses developed by the Wisconsin Registry and teams of experts to meet the unique professional needs of childhood care and education practitioners. Each Credential includes a Capstone Course to implement knowledge gained, culminates in the development of a portfolio or project, and has a commission process. Those awarded the 12-credit Afterschool & Youth Development, Diversity, Family Child Care, Inclusion, Infant Toddler, Leadership, Nature-Based Early Childhood Education, Program Development, or Supporting Dual Language Learners Credential are at Level 9 on Wisconsin Registry Career Levels; those awarded the 18-credit Administrator or Preschool Credential are at Level 10. The Career Levels can be found at: <https://wiregistry.org/individuals/career-levels>

Wisconsin Registry Program Profile - YoungStar

Website: <https://wiregistry.org/programs-organizations/direct-care-programs>

The Registry Program Profile for YoungStar collects details pertaining to the educational qualifications of staff as well as the assignment of staff to YoungStar-relevant positions. All education and training related sections within

YoungStar are verified by the Wisconsin Registry and taken directly from a program's Registry Program Profile. Programs that would like the education and training of their staff to be reflected in their YoungStar rating MUST complete the YoungStar section of the Registry Program Profile. Programs without Program Profiles who go through a YoungStar Technical or Formal Rating cannot earn more than 2 Stars.

The items that will be directly factored into a YoungStar rating include:

- Director of Record or Licensee
- Classroom Description – This refers to all physical classrooms. In most cases, family child care homes will only have one classroom.
- YoungStar Lead Teacher for each classroom – An individual may only be a YoungStar Lead Teacher in one classroom including classrooms in other programs. In most cases, family child care homes will list the Licensee as the YoungStar Lead Teacher.

Resource and support materials related to the Wisconsin Registry services are available at:

<https://wregistry.org/programs-organizations/resource-center>

Wisconsin School Garden Network (WSGN)

2702 International Lane, Suite 200

Madison, WI 53704

Phone: 608-240-0409

E-mail: info@wischoolgardens.org

Website: <https://wischoolgardens.org>

The WSGN supports the growing school garden movement in Wisconsin. It offers support for new and existing gardens at schools, early care and education centers, community centers, and afterschool programs. The Network is funded by the Wisconsin Partnership Program at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of Child Care Subsidy Administration

201 W. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916

Madison, WI 53708-8916

Website: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/wishares>

The Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program supports low-income working families by subsidizing a portion of the cost of quality child care while the parents or caregivers are working or participating in another approved activity. Low-income working families with children under the age of 13 may be eligible for Wisconsin Shares. If a child has a special need, the child may remain eligible until the child's 19th birthday. Wisconsin Shares is implemented locally by counties and tribes. The DCF Bureau of Child Care Subsidy Administration provides management, development, and coordination of public child care assistance to families.

Wisconsin State Reading Association (WSRA)

Website: <http://www.wsra.org/>

The Wisconsin State Reading Association (WSRA) has several committees that do work related to early literacy learning, including Children's Literature, Early Childhood Literacy, Early Literacy Intervention, and Families and Literacy. The Families and Literacy committee maintains a newsletter, "Families and Literacy," that can be downloaded at: <https://wsra.memberclicks.net/families-literacy>. The Families and Literacy committee also produced a video, "The Power of Reading to Your Child." It can be ordered at:

http://www.wsra.org/assets/media/updated_power_of_reading_to_your_child_dvd_order.pdf

Wisconsin Statewide Parent-Educator Initiative (WSPEI)

Phone: 833-879-7734

E-mail: wspei@cesa12.org

Website: <https://wspei.org>

WSPEI is a service for parents, educators, and others interested in parent-educator partnerships for children with disabilities. WSPEI has the goal of helping parents and school districts find or create the resources that will help them build positive working relationships that lead to shared decision-making and children's learning. WSPEI

supports increased sharing of information among parents, schools, projects, organizations and agencies through networking meetings, conferences, person-to-person contact and media.

Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS): Early Childhood Education (ECE) – Two-Year Associate Degree Program

ECE Career Program Website: <http://www.wistechcolleges.org/explore-careers/program/early-childhood-education>
Working with and understanding preschool children is the goal of the Early Childhood Education Program. Students learn to plan and guide children’s activities such as dramatic play, art, music, language arts, project activities, and field trips. Emphasis is also placed on children’s physical and intellectual growth, getting along with others, and positive behavior techniques. Child care settings are varied, with many new programs developing constantly. Child care needs have far surpassed the number of graduates available and trends are indicating a steady growth in this field. Jobs are many and varied, and may include preschool teachers and directors, special education teacher aides, assistant teachers and nannies.

Wisconsin Women’s Business Initiative Corporation (WWBIC)

Milwaukee Business Office
1533 N. Rivercenter Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53212

Phone: 414-263-5450, Fax: 414-263-5456

Other offices: <https://www.wwbic.com/contact>

Website: <http://www.wwbic.com>

Madison – South Central Region Office
2300 S. Park Street, Suite 103
Madison, WI 53713

Phone: 608-257-5450, Fax: 608-257-5454

The WWBIC is an economic development corporation providing quality business education and access to capital for entrepreneurs. WWBIC consults with, educates, and mentors owners of small and micro businesses throughout Wisconsin. WWBIC can provide a free business assessment, and individuals can gain a thorough understanding of financing options available for business start-up or expansion. WWBIC can also help individuals start out by developing a business plan outline. WWBIC’s website provides many resources to finance and grow a business.

YoungStar – Wisconsin’s Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System

Wisconsin Department of Children and Families, Bureau of YoungStar
201 W. Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 8916
Madison, WI 53708-8916

Website: <https://www.dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar>

YoungStar is Wisconsin’s Child Care Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS). It sets a five-star rating system for child care providers based on the quality components of educational qualifications, learning environment and curriculum, business practices, and health and well-being of children. YoungStar drives quality improvement in child care throughout the state by: 1) helping providers who want to improve the quality of their care, 2) creating financial incentives that encourage providers to deliver better services to children, 3) giving parents the meaningful information they need to make informed child care decisions for their children, and 4) supporting ongoing child care quality improvement by linking higher quality care to higher Wisconsin Shares subsidy amounts and YoungStar Quality Adjustments. YoungStar helps child care providers succeed by offering a clear path to improvement, including training programs, technical assistance, an objective measure of program quality, and other resources.

Supporting Families Together Association (SFTA) manages YoungStar across the state. Local administration of YoungStar occurs through 12 Local YoungStar Offices. Contact information is available at:

<https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/program/localoffice>

The YoungStar Rating Criteria for Family Child Care, Group Child Care, School-Age Care, and Short-Term Operational Programs (such as day camps) are available at: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/youngstar/providers/rating-criteria>

The Star ratings of child care programs may be seen on the Child Care Finder search site at:

<https://childcarefinder.wisconsin.gov>

National Resources

Afterschool Alliance

1101 14th Street NW, Suite 700

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 866-KIDS-TODAY

E-mail: info@afterschoolalliance.org

Website: <https://www.afterschoolalliance.org>

The Afterschool Alliance is an organization dedicated to raising awareness of the importance of afterschool programs and advocating for more afterschool investments. The Alliance works with the Presidential Administration, the U.S. Congress, governors, mayors, and advocates across the country. It has more than 25,000 afterschool program partners. Alliance efforts include *Lights On Afterschool*, a nationwide celebration of afterschool programs that attracts 1 million Americans to 8,000 events across the country; an ongoing media campaign; and many other lobbying, training, and publishing efforts.

Allergy and Asthma Network

8229 Boone Boulevard, Suite 260

Vienna, VA 22182

Phone: 800-878-4403, Fax: 703-288-5271

Website: <https://allergyasthmanetwork.org>

Founded in 1985, AANMA is a national nonprofit network of families whose desire is to overcome, not cope with, allergies and asthma. AANMA helps patients and caregivers through outreach, education, advocacy and research.

American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)

345 Park Boulevard

Itasca, IL 60143

Phone: 630-626-6000 or 1-888-227-1770

Fax: 847-228-1281

Website: <https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/healthy-child-care>

AAP is an organization of 67,000 pediatricians committed to the optimal physical, mental, and social health and well-being for all infants, children, adolescents, and young adults. Its website provides health-related news and information on research, professional education, quality improvement, and public policy.

American Camp Association (ACA)

5000 State Road 67 North

Martinsville, IN 46151-7902

Phone: 765-342-8456 or 1-800-428-2267

Fax: 765-342-2065

Website: <https://www.acacamps.org>

Established in 1910, ACA is a private, nonprofit, educational organization that works to preserve, promote, and improve the camp experience. Its 12,000 members represent a diverse constituency of camp owners and directors and many individuals associated with the operation of camps for children and adults. The ACA community of camps promotes active participation, caring relationships, and a focus on the emotional, social, spiritual, and physical growth of the individual camper.

ACA local offices deliver the camp accreditation program. ACA accreditation is equivalent to a 4 Star or 5 Star rating (depending on staff education levels) in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system.

American Federation of Teachers: Center for the Child Care Workforce (CCW)

See **Center for the Study of Child Care Employment (CSCCE)**

American Lung Association

55 W Wacker Drive, Suite 1150

Chicago, IL 60601

Phone: 1-800-LUNGUSA (1-800-586-4872)

Website: <https://www.lung.org>

The mission of the American Lung Association® is to prevent lung disease and promote lung health. The ALA has many programs and strategies for fighting lung disease. Among these are Open Airways for Schools, the American Lung Association's elementary-school education program for children with asthma. Open Airways teaches children with asthma to understand and manage their illness so they can lead more normal lives. The ALA offers a variety of smoking control and prevention programs targeted to specific groups: some aimed at adults, others intended for school use, and still others designed to build bridges between the home and school and involve community leaders along with parents and educators.

Association for Early Learning Leaders (formerly known as the National Association of Child Care Professionals, or NAC)

1250 S. Capital of Texas Hwy, Building 3, Suite 400

Austin, TX 78746

Phone: 800-537-1118

E-mail: info@earlylearningleaders.org

Website: <https://www.earlylearningleaders.org>

The Association for Early Learning Leaders, formerly known as the National Association of Child Care Professionals, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to excellence by promoting leadership development and enhancing program quality through the National Accreditation Commission's standards. Early Learning Leader's goal is to strengthen the knowledge, skills, and abilities of early care directors, owners, emerging leaders and other early learning professionals to ensure quality child care programs for young children. Accreditation by Early Learning Leaders is equivalent to a 5 Star rating in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system.

BUILD Initiative

Send postal mail to BUILD's fiscal sponsor, Third Sector New England (TSNE), at:

BUILD Initiative/TSNE

89 South Street, Suite 700

Boston, MA 02111

E-mail: info@buildinitiative.org

Website: <https://www.buildinitiative.org>

Related Websites:

Office of Child Care: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ>

National Center on Child Care Quality Assurance: <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov/centers/national-center-early-childhood-quality-assurance>

QRIS National Learning Network: <https://qrisnetwork.org>

Early Learning Challenge Collaborative: <https://www.buildinitiative.org/Our-Work/State-and-Local/Early-Learning-Challenge>

The BUILD Initiative helps states create comprehensive early childhood systems and coordinated, effective policies that address children's health, mental health and nutrition, early care and education, family support, and early intervention. BUILD's vision is at the center of an emerging and vibrant state-based policy movement in the early childhood development field. BUILD works with those who set policies, provide services and advocate for the youngest children to make sure that they are safe, healthy, eager to learn and ready to succeed in school.

Center for the Study of Child Care Employment (CSCCE)

2521 Channing Way #5555

Berkeley, CA 94720-5555

Phone: 510-643-8293

E-mail: cscceinfo@berkeley.edu

Website: <https://cscce.berkeley.edu>

Established in 1999, CSCCE (formerly the Center for the Child Care Workforce) focuses on achieving comprehensive public investments that enable the early childhood workforce to deliver high-quality care and education for all children. It provides research and expert analysis on topics that include compensation and economic insecurity among early educators, early childhood teacher preparation and access to educational opportunities, work environments, and early childhood workforce data sources and systems. CSCCE also works directly with

policymakers and a range of national, state, and local organizations to assess policy proposals and provide technical assistance on implementing sound early care and education workforce policy.

Center on Law and Social Policy (CLASP)

1310 L Street NW, Suite 900

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202-906-8000

Website: <https://www.clasp.org>

High-quality child care and early education can build a strong foundation for young children's healthy development and ensure that children have all they need to thrive. This knowledge drives CLASP's work to promote policies that support both child development and the needs of low-income working parents. CLASP supports policies that expand resources for child care and early education initiatives at the federal, state, and local levels. CLASP also studies the relationships among child care subsidy systems, Head Start and Early Head Start, state pre-kindergarten programs, and other birth to five early education efforts, to advance ideas that ensure these systems address the full range of needs of children and families.

Center on the Developing Child, Harvard University

50 Church Street, 4th Floor

Cambridge, MA 02138

Phone: 617-496-0578

E-mail: developingchild@harvard.edu

Website: <https://developingchild.harvard.edu>

The mission of the Center on the Developing Child is to leverage science to enhance child well-being through innovations in policy and practice. Specifically, the Center strives to translate advances in neuroscience, molecular biology, genomics, and the behavioral and social sciences into creative new strategies for action. Their website includes reports and videos that very effectively show what society can do to help expand opportunities early in life for all children to achieve their full potential and engage in responsible and productive citizenship.

Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)

See **National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations (NCPMI)**

CSEFEL website archived at: <http://csefel.vanderbilt.edu/>

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

1600 Clifton Road

Atlanta, GA 30333

Phone: 800-CDC-INFO (1-800-232-4636)

Website: <https://www.cdc.gov>

Information for Early Childhood Educators about the *Learn the Signs. Act Early.* campaign:

<https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/Information-for-Early-Childhood-Educators.html>

The CDC is a U.S. public health agency, part of the Department of Health and Human Services. Its main goal is to protect public health and safety through the control and prevention of disease, injury, and disability in the U.S. and internationally. It researches and provides information on infectious diseases, non-infectious diseases such as obesity and diabetes, food borne pathogens, environmental health, occupational safety and health, health promotion, injury prevention, and educational activities designed to improve the health of U.S. citizens.

Child Care Aware

1515 N Courthouse Rd, 11th Fl

Arlington, VA 22201

Phone: 800-424-2246

E-mail: info@childcareaware.org

Website: <https://www.childcareaware.org>

Child Care Aware® of America (formerly NACCRRA) is a national voice for child care. Child Care Aware works with more than 600 state and local Child Care Resource and Referral agencies to ensure that families in every local community have access to quality, affordable child care. Child Care Aware leads projects that increase the quality

and availability of child care. It offers comprehensive training to child care professionals, undertakes groundbreaking research, and advocates for child care policies that positively impact the lives of children and families. The mission of this organization is to promote national policies and partnerships to advance the development and learning of all children and to provide vision, leadership, and support to community Child Care Resource and Referral.

Child Care Law Center

1832 Second Street
Berkeley, CA 94710
Phone: 415-558-8005
E-mail: info@childcarelaw.org
Website: <https://www.childcarelaw.org>

The CCLC is a national nonprofit legal services organization that uses legal tools to make high quality, affordable child care available to every child, every family, and every community. This is the only organization in the country devoted exclusively to the complex legal issues that affect child care. The work of CCLC encompasses public benefits, civil rights, housing, economic development, regulation and licensing, and land use.

Child Care Technical Assistance Network (CCTAN)

See **Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance System (ECTTAS)**, which replaced the Child Care Technical Assistance Network.

Climate of Healthy Interactions for Learning & Development (CHILD)

Website: <https://socialemotionalchild.org>
The CHILD is a comprehensive toolkit for improving the quality of early childhood care and education. Developed by Yale University scientists, it includes an observational measure of classroom climate; resources for teachers; and materials for early childhood mental health consultants, coaches, and others who provide support and professional development to teachers.

Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL)

815 West Van Buren Street, Suite 210
Chicago, IL 60607-3566
Phone: 312-226-3770
E-mail: info@casel.org
Website: <https://casel.org>
CASEL is a not-for-profit organization that works to advance the science and evidence-based practice of social and emotional learning. It was founded in 1994 by Daniel Goleman, the author of the book *Emotional Intelligence*, educator/philanthropist Eileen Rockefeller Growald, and a group of distinguished researchers and practitioners. The *CASEL Program Guide: Effective Social and Emotional Learning Programs* - <https://pg.casel.org/>

Council on Accreditation (COA)

45 Broadway, 29th Floor, NY, NY 10006
Phone: 212-797-3000
Website: <https://coanet.org>
The Council on Accreditation (COA) partners with human service organizations worldwide to improve service delivery outcomes by developing, applying, and promoting accreditation standards. Its accreditation is accepted for licensed group and school-age programs as equivalent to 4 Stars in YoungStar, Wisconsin's child care quality rating and improvement system. If the education and training levels of staff members in the COA-accredited organizations meet 5 Star minimums, the program is awarded a 5 Star rating.

Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center (ECLKC)

Office of Head Start (OHS), Administration for Children & Families (ACF)
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)
Phone: 1-866-763-6481
E-mail: HeadStart@eclkc.info
Website: <https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov>

The ECLKC website contains a wealth of informative, engaging, well-organized, written and video resources developed specifically for Head Start programs, early care and education programs, and families. Use the site's search box or browse by topic to find quick tips or in-depth resources for professional development or in-service training. Resources are organized under topics such as culture and language, teaching practices, learning environments, curriculum, transitions, child screening and assessment, children with disabilities, family engagement, parenting, health and safety, program management and much, much more.

Early Childhood Training and Technical Assistance System (ECTTAS)

Administration for Children & Families (ACF)

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (DHHS)

Website: <https://childcareta.acf.hhs.gov>

The ECTTAS is one of the most important ways the federal Office of Child Care (OCC) supports its grantees. The system brings together resources from the Office of Child Care, the Office of Head Start, and their health partners to offer Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Administrators and their stakeholders information, tools, training, and other supports. The following centers and partners comprise the ECTTAS:

- National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE)
- National Center on Child Care Data and Reporting
- Child Care State Capacity Building Center (SCBC)
- Child Care Communications Management Center (CMC)
- National Center on Early Childhood Quality Assurance (ECQA Center)
- National Technical Assistance Center for Preschool Development Grants Birth Through Five (PDG B-5 TA)
- National Center on Subsidy Innovation and Accountability (SIAC)
- National Center on Tribal Early Childhood Development
- Child Care and Early Education Research Connections
- National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL)
- National Center on Health, Behavioral Health, and Safety (NCHBHS)
- National Center on Parent, Family and Community Engagement (NCPFCE)
- National Center on Program Management and Fiscal Operations (NCPMFO)

First Five Years Fund (FFYF)

1010 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 1000

Washington DC 20005

Phone: 202-730-0943

Website: <https://www.ffyf.org>

FFYF is an advocacy organization that works with policymakers, business leaders, and advocates to advance federal investments in quality early childhood education for disadvantaged children from birth to age five. It works with leaders from the local, state, and federal levels to help build consensus and craft early childhood policies that provide lasting economic and social returns for children, families, taxpayers, and communities.

Healthy Children

American Academy of Pediatrics

345 Park Boulevard

Itasca, IL 60143

Phone: 630-626-6000

E-mail: info@healthychildren.org

Website: <http://www.healthychildren.org>

The American Academy of Pediatrics' consumer website has excellent information on health and safety for parents and child care providers.

Healthy Kids, Healthy Future

(continues the work of Let's Move! Child Care)

Website: <https://www.healthychildren.org>

This website is full of tips for child care and early education providers who want to help children learn habits that will keep them healthy for life. It is structured around five healthy goals: nurturing healthy eaters, providing healthy beverages, increasing physical activity, limiting screen time, and supporting breastfeeding.

National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs (NAC)
See **Association for Early Learning Leaders**

National AfterSchool Association (NAA)

2961A Hunter Mill Road, #626

Oakton, VA 22124

Phone: 703-610-9002, Fax 703-610-9003

E-mail: info@naaweb.org

Website: <https://naaweb.org>

NAA is the membership association for professionals who work with children and youth in diverse school and community-based settings to provide a wide variety of extended learning opportunities and care during out-of-school hours. NAA's mission is to promote development, provide education and encourage advocacy for the out-of-school-time community and to further the afterschool profession. It provides publications, resources, and services that reflect best-practice thinking, and it offers access to affordable training, technical assistance, and professional development for afterschool program staff. The Wisconsin Child Care Administrators Association is a state affiliate of NAA.

National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC)

Phone: 202-937-0100

E-mail: nafcc@nafcc.org

Website: <https://nafcc.org>

The mission of NAFCC is to support the profession of family child care and to encourage high-quality care for children. NAFCC has promoted high-quality family child care through accreditation, leadership training, technical assistance, public education, policy initiatives, and its annual national conference. YoungStar accepts the NFCCA accreditation as an automatic 4 Star rating. If the program meets the educational requirements of a 5 Star program, it is eligible for a 5 Star rating.

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

1401 H Street NW, Suite 600

Washington, DC 20005

Phone: 202-232-8777 or 1-800-424-2460

E-mail: help@naeyc.org

Website: <https://www.naeyc.org>

NAEYC is a professional membership organization of nearly 60,000 individuals and 52 Affiliates. Members of the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA) are members of NAEYC. NAEYC works to promote high-quality early learning for all young children, birth through age 8, by connecting early childhood practice, policy, and research. NAEYC advances a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and supports all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children. NAEYC members' collective vision is that all young children thrive and learn in a society dedicated to ensuring they reach their full potential. Part of NAEYC's efforts to improve early childhood education is through different systems of accreditation for programs that are committed to meeting national standards of quality. YoungStar accepts the NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation as equivalent to a 5 Star rating.

National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations (NCPMI)

University of South Florida

Website: <https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu>

NCPMI assists in the sustainable implementation of the Pyramid Model for Supporting Social Emotional Competence in Infants and Young Children within early intervention and early education programs. Its website offers resources to help states and programs promote the social, emotional, and behavioral outcomes of young children birth to five, especially those with, and at risk for, developmental disabilities or delays. NCPMI resources also help

reduce the use of inappropriate discipline practices, promote family engagement, use data for decision-making, integrate early childhood and infant mental health consultation, and foster inclusion.

National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA)

NECPA Commission, Inc.

PO Box 2948

Merrifield, VA 22116

Phone: 855-706-3272

E-mail: necpa@necpa.net

Website: <https://necpa.net>

NECPA was established in 1991 to encourage quality and recognize excellence in early childhood programs throughout the United States and other countries. The accreditation standards assess quality in the areas of adult and child interaction, curriculum, staff qualifications and development, health and safety, physical environment, administration, and parent and community relationships. A strong emphasis is placed on current developments in health and safety, brain research, and risk management. YoungStar accepts the NECPA accreditation as equivalent to a 4 Star or a 5 Star rating, depending on staff education levels.

National Institute for Early Education Research (NIEER)

Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey

73 Easton Avenue

New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1879

Phone: 848-932-4350, Fax: 732-932-4360

Website: <https://nieer.org>

NIEER conducts academic research to inform policy supporting high-quality, early education for all young children and promoting the physical, cognitive, and social development needed for children to succeed in school and later life. NIEER provides independent, research-based analysis and technical assistance to policymakers, journalists, researchers, and educators.

National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)

PO Box 3006

Rockville, MD 20847

Phone: 1-800-370-2943

E-mail: NICHDInformationResourceCenter@mail.nih.gov

Website: <https://safetosleep.nichd.nih.gov>

The NICHD in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is home to the Safe to Sleep Public Education Campaign, formerly known as the Back to Sleep campaign. Safe to Sleep focuses on actions that can be taken to help babies sleep safely and to reduce their risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and other sleep-related causes of infant death. The campaign has been successful in promoting infant back sleeping and other safe sleep practices to parents, family members, child care providers, health professionals, and all other caregivers of infants.

National Institute on Out-of-School Time (NIOST)

Wellesley Centers for Women

Wellesley College

106 Central Street

Wellesley, MA 02481-8203

Phone: 781-283-2547, Fax 781-283-3657

E-mail: nioست@wellesley.edu

Website: <https://www.nioست.org>

NIOST has been a leader in defining, shaping, and promoting out-of-school time (OST) as a distinct professional field with evidence-based quality standards. It bridges the worlds of research and practice to provide OST directors, staff, planners, school administrators, community leaders, and others with research, training, evaluation, and consultation to enhance and improve the quality of programs for all children and youth. Issues of its national, peer-reviewed journal *Afterschool Matters* may be downloaded from its website.

National Program for Playground Safety (NPPS)

University of Northern Iowa
103 Human Performance Center
Cedar Falls, IA 50614-0618
Phone: 1-800-554-PLAY (7529)
E-mail: playground-safety@uni.edu
Website: <https://www.playgroundsafety.org>

The NPPS at the University of Northern Iowa works for all children to have access to safe environments for play. It educates and advocates at the local, state, and national levels to support play, access, and enjoyable playground environments. Its efforts include investigations to understand child injury rates and epidemiology, field testing, and observations that lead to a broader understanding of issues that affect the design of playgrounds and the health of the child. NPPS advocates for best practices for playground safety assessment. It sells videos and other training materials in addition to online and onsite training.

National Resource Center for Health and Safety in Child Care and Early Education (NRC)

University of Colorado College of Nursing, Anschutz Medical Campus
Aurora, CO
Phone: 1-800-598-KIDS (5437)
E-mail: info@nrckids.org
Website: <https://nrckids.org>

The NRC's primary mission is to promote health and safety in out-of-home child care settings throughout the nation. The standard resource for information concerning this subject is *Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs (CFOC)*. The NRC manages the updating of the CFOC standards to reflect current evidence and policy. On the NRC website, you can search the *CFOC Online Standards Database* by health and safety topic, search term, chapter, or standard number.

National Women's Law Center (NWLC)

11 Dupont Circle, NW, #800
Washington, D.C. 20036
Phone: 202-588-5180
E-mail: info@nwlc.org
Website: <https://nwlc.org>

The NWLC is an organization of advocates, experts, and lawyers who fight for gender justice, taking on issues that are central to the lives of women and girls. It drives change in the courts, in public policy, and in our society, especially for women of color, LGBTQ people, and low-income women and families. In May 2021, it launched *We Are the Backbone: Faces of a Care Nation*, a national campaign to prioritize the essential work of child care providers and the value of child care by shifting the narrative around care work from being a personal responsibility to public infrastructure.

Partnership for After School Education (PASE)

120 Broadway, Suite 230
New York, NY 10271
Phone: 212-571-2664
Website: <https://pasesetter.org>

PASE is a child-focused organization that promotes and supports quality afterschool programs, particularly those serving young people from underserved communities. It provides training and technical assistance, consults with organizations to build their capacity and sustainability, convenes afterschool leaders and others from allied professions, acts as a laboratory for innovative afterschool programs and practices, recognizes outstanding afterschool staff, and advocates for the afterschool field. The PASE Resources page (<https://pasesetter.org/resources>) links to the *Afterschool Youth Outcomes Inventory*, a comprehensive free tool for afterschool practitioners to use in assessing and articulating their programs' impact on youth.

Tribes Learning Community

Peace Learning Center

6040 Delong Road
Indianapolis, IN 46254
E-mail: tribes@peacelearningcenter.org
Website: <https://tribes.com>

The research-based Tribes TLC® process is an effective way to improve behavior and learning by creating a positive school, classroom, or afterschool environment. Beyond lesson plans, bully-proofing, conflict management, discipline and academic achievement, Tribes TLC® offers collaborative skills, community agreements, meaningful participation, strategies for integrating curriculum, and professional development for elementary through high school teachers and administrators.

US Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

4330 E West Highway
Bethesda, MD 20814
Toll-Free Consumer Hotline: 1-800-638-2772
Website: <https://www.cpsc.gov>

The U.S. CPSC is charged with protecting the public from unreasonable risks of serious injury or death from the use of thousands of types of consumer products under the agency's jurisdiction. The CPSC is committed to protecting consumers and families from products that pose a fire, electrical, chemical, or mechanical hazard or can injure children. The CPSC's work to ensure the safety of consumer products – such as toys, cribs, power tools, cigarette lighters, and household chemicals – has contributed to a decline in the rate of deaths and injuries associated with consumer products over the past 40 years.

US Department of Agriculture Child and Adult Care Food Program (USDA CACFP)

Food & Nutrition Service (FNS) National Office:
1320 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA 22314
Phone: 703-305-2062

Food & Nutrition Service (FNS) Midwest Regional Office
77 W Jackson Blvd, 20th Floor
Chicago, IL 60604-3507
Phone: 312-353-6664

Website: <https://www.fns.usda.gov/cacfp/child-and-adult-care-food-program>

Through the Child and Adult Care Food Program, children in child care settings have access to healthy meals and snacks. Child care centers and home child care providers can participate in the program.

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Healthy Child Care

US EPA Headquarters
Office of Children's Health Protection
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Mail Code 1107T
Washington, DC 20460
Website: <https://www.epa.gov/childcare>

The EPA provides information on how to identify potentially harmful environmental contaminants in child care settings and steps providers can take to reduce or eliminate those hazards.

Zero to Three

1255 23rd Street NW, Suite 350
Washington, DC 20037
Phone: 202-638-1144 or 1-800-899-4301
Website: <https://www.zerotothree.org>

Zero to Three is a nonprofit, multidisciplinary organization that informs, educates and supports adults who influence the lives of infants and toddlers. Zero to Three's mission is to ensure that all babies and toddlers have a strong start in life, and that society has the knowledge and will to support all infants and toddlers in reaching their full potential.