



WCAA Updates

November 2012

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STARS is a program of the Wyoming Children's Action Alliance. Other programs include Kids Count, Providers Empowering Providers and Pathways for Professional Development

Clearinghouse Notices Automated

The due date, and over due notices for the STARS Clearinghouse have been automated. STARS staff members will no longer be making reminder phone calls about materials that are due back into the Clearinghouse.

Providers will now get those notices via email and US Postal mail if they do not have email. STARS staff members will be asking for email addresses when you call STARS.

Up to four items can be checked out for three weeks with one two-week extension. For extensions, providers should call or renew on line before their due date to request additional time if they need the full five weeks.

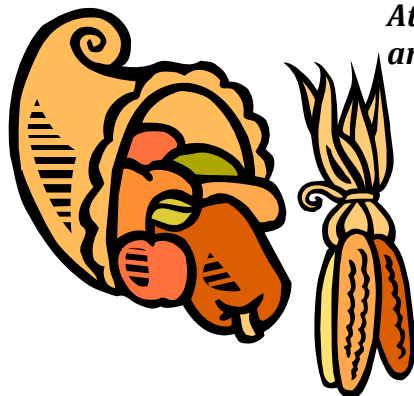
Clearinghouse items are in high demand so the prompt return of the books and DVDs is critical. Prompt return of borrowed materials respects the needs of others who use Clearinghouse.

Borrowers are responsible for return postage and payment for any materials that are damaged, lost or not returned to the Clearinghouse.

New Instructional Coordinator Hired

STARS has hired a new instructional coordinator to manage the approval of instructors and classes for the training registry. Sandy Graham has a strong background in supporting adults in education.

Sandy is a long-time Cheyenne resident and UW grad who previously worked with Adult Basic Education at LCCC, and business and technology education at Cheyenne Central High School. She was also the state Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) coordinator for several years.



At the State Training and Resource System we are thankful for

- *Instructors who give of their time to prepare and teach classes*
- *Sponsors who put forth the effort to host classes*
- *Care providers who invest personal time to learn more about child care and child development*



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STARS Board of Review seeks new board members

The STARS Board of Review is looking for two new members.

We are looking for a provider in Region 4 (Sheridan, Johnson, Campbell, Crook or Weston Counties) to fill a term which began Oct. 1, 2012 and complete in the fall of 2015.

The second vacancy on the board is an unexpired term in Region 6 (Teton, Lincoln, Uinta, Sweetwater or Sublette Counties).

Candidates may be either home or center child care providers. Application forms are available at www.wykids.org by clicking on "Stars Board of Review" and scrolling to the bottom of the page. Applications should be submitted by close of business on November 30 in order to be considered at the December 4 quarterly board meeting.

One class—one time for training credit

Providers can gain training credit for classes they take and clearinghouse materials they use one time in their careers. Each class and each piece of clearinghouse material has a reference number. The reference number appears on the training calendar when the class is announced and one is assigned to each clearinghouse item. When credit is earned for a class or clearinghouse material the reference number is listed in the individual's training history just before the class title. This is how the item will look on the training record: 7349—"PEP Talks" Learn, Laugh and Grow in Family Child Care. When searching for a class individuals should check their records to avoid duplication.

The notable exception to this one-time rule are the core trainings, provided by DFS which must be taken in every licensing biennium, and SIDS training.

Grades of C or better required for college courses

If you would like to receive STARS training credit for college courses focused on early care and education, submit a transcript to STARS. You must have received a letter grade of C or better to gain credit. Pass/fail classes are not accepted for college credit in the STARS system. The class must also have been taken at a regionally accredited institution of higher education. Students should pay close attention to the accreditation status of the college, especially on-line only colleges.

In some limited instances certain pass/fail college classes in early care and education can be approved for standard STARS credit. This is a limited specialized process. Providers who plan to take a course on a pass/fail basis should contact STARS in advance to discuss the potential for gaining credit.

Tip of the Month—Do you know what is covered in Health Nutrition and Safety (HNS)?

Area of Knowledge: Health Nutrition and Safety

***Rationale:** Health, nutrition and safety are important components of early care and education programs for children. Good nutrition, injury prevention, infection control, health promotion and emergency planning support children in strong growth and sound development.*