



WCAA Updates

March 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

Changes to Licensing Regulations Coming this Spring

There are some changes to DFS Child Care certification rules that will take effect this spring. The Department of Family Services anticipates the rule changes will occur on April 15.

Some of the changes include:

- A requirement to have SIDS prevention training once in every biennium for staff working with infants. Both on-line and live classes have been approved for training credit.
- There is also improved language about cribs and safe sleep environments for infants.
- A reduction in the number of areas of knowledge from eight to seven. Uniqueness and Cultural Awareness is being folded into Family, Community and Cultural Awareness and Child Growth and Development. Providers will still need 30 hours of training in each biennium but over seven instead of eight areas of knowledge.
- The minimum unit of training credit required in each area of knowledge will increase to one hour per biennium.
- There are changes to clarify some safety requirements connected with window wells, electrical outlets, ponds and other safety issues.
- Some language changes in Chapter 9 dealing with commercial sanitation sprays, animals in child care settings, eggs and other disease safety issues have been made.

For a full explanation of the proposed changes go to <http://dfswapps.state.wy.us/> and click on the public notice for the proposed changes.

Consult with your licensor if you have questions about how these changes directly affect your biennium period.



Grants for Training Still Available

WY Quality Counts! still has funding for professional development! If you are interested in getting a grant to help you pay for a class or a training above and beyond licensing hours, please go to www.wyqualitycounts.org or call Denise at 307-777-2439.



Awareness & Training
For Quality Childcare





3116 Old Faithful Rd., Ste. 100
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82001



Regional Training Opportunities

If you live in Crook, Weston, Converse, Niobrara, Platte or Goshen Counties, Eastern Wyoming College is offering a series of Child Care Business Management and Leadership Workshops in March. Call Janan McCreery at 307-575-3553 for information and registration.

If you live in Park, Big Horn, Washakie, or Hot Springs Counties and are looking for summer courses to get your CDA, call Autourina Mains at Northwest Community College, (307) 754-6188. NWC will offer a summer CDA class if there are six or more students interested.

Outreach centers in your community college services areas mean you don't have to leave town to get training.

HELP! I need training!

Are you looking for training in your area? Have you checked the Training Calendar at www.wykids.org? When you go to the website, look in the column on the left side. You will see the phrase "Training Calendar", click on it.

You can then search for training by selecting a geographic area including "anywhere in Wyoming" or a specific county. You can also search by area of knowledge. Remember the calendar changes continually. What you see today may not be what you see tomorrow.

If you don't see the kind of training you need then go back to the main page and move down to the word "Trainers" and click on "Search for a Trainer". You can look for a trainer in your county who does training in the area of knowledge you need. You can then contact that trainer to see if they are planning a class soon or are willing to offer a class.

When you call be prepared to be specific about what you need or would like. Don't just say, "I need training in Family Relationships." Give the potential trainer some details about what you would like to know more about. For instance, are your client parents not understanding your policies? Would you like help in getting them to pay better attention to policies on payment, illness and other issues? Then tell the trainer those things.

In Wyoming the process for developing and delivering training is not centralized. Acquiring training is the responsibility of the child care provider. No entity is charged with delivering all the training required by licensed providers every two years.

Training opportunities are provided by a variety of organizations. The Department of Family Services provides on-line training for core health and safety issues. The WY Quality Counts program provides child care business and management classes as well as basic literacy classes through Align Organizational Consulting. Children and Nutrition Services provides a variety of trainings through the state. And local provider groups frequently offer training opportunities for providers in local areas. If you need training you can also contact your local provider groups to see what training they are planning or ask that your topic be included in their training schedule.



Credit for college courses:

If you take college courses which are related to early care and education you can use those courses for required training hours for licensing as well as for career development in STARS. Submit a transcript or a copy of a transcript to gain credit. Your transcript must contain: the name of the college, your name, the code and number of the class (EDEC 1020), the name of the course (Intro to Early Childhood), the number of credits for the course and the grade you received and the semester in which you took the course. Please understand that if you send a copy of the original transcript or a copy of the screenshot these copies must be clear and readable. Staff at STARS are not allowed to guess at what your record says.