



WCAA Updates

March 2013

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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

Classes are expiring, is yours one of them?

In 2010 STARS began using an improved instructor and class approval system. Under that system all classes and instructors are approved for a period of two years. Many of those original classes and instructor approvals are now expiring. Instructors need to update their contact and experience information and classes need to be refreshed to remain active in the system. Instructors can update their instructor information by signing into their on-line trainer account with their trainer identification number and password. Instructors will need to mail or fax other supporting information such as renewed licenses to validate their updated information. Updated class approval forms are needed to revise or refresh a class which has expired.



The classes expiring include staff orientation classes for child care facilities which have employees. Email messages are going out to all facility directors having staff orientation classes which need to be updated. DFS licensing rules require all child care facilities with employees to provide a staff orientation class of at least two -hours within three months of hire. A combined instructor and class approval form for staff orientation is available at www.wykids.org under the word, "Forms" on the left side. The form also includes a sample class outlining the elements recommended for staff orientation in the OKAY Manual from DFS.

2013 DFS Regional Workshops Under Construction

Watch the WCAA website and training calendar for the dates of the fall DFS regional workshops.

The Early Childhood Division at the Department of Family Services in collaboration with the Wyoming Children's Action Alliance have begun planning for a series of five fall regional workshops to provide training to licensed child care providers in Wyoming.

The workshops will follow a pattern similar to the workshops conducted from August through early October of 2012. Workshops will again be located at community colleges across the state. Stay tuned for more details.



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

Check it out!

The Clearinghouse has a brand new design! The search feature is improved, you get a personal check-out cart and a much easier way to tell what is on your check out list. You can also look to see if items are currently available or checked out.

Go to www.wykids.org and click on "Clearinghouse" on the left side and experiment with the new format.

SBR member sought for western Wyoming

Are you looking for a professional growth opportunity? The STARS Board of Review is looking for a representative from Region VI which includes Teton, Lincoln, Uinta, Sweetwater and Sublette Counties. This position needs to be filled by a family home child care provider.

The board member job description and application form is available on the website by clicking on STARS Board of Review on the left side of the main page and then STARS Board of Review Application near the bottom of the page. For additional questions, call Rose Kor at 1-800-400-3999.

The board meets quarterly by telephone conference call. Travel is limited but time to participate and prepare for the meetings is required.



New Instructional Coordinator Hired

Sarah Horen has joined the STARS team as the new Instructional Coordinator. If you are an instructor or someone submitting a class for approval you will have the opportunity to speak with Sarah.

Sarah grew up in Cheyenne and holds a master's degree in curriculum and instruction in reading from Grand Canyon University. She previously taught in Burns and worked in a child care setting in Sheridan.

Knowledge Area Tip of the Month— No more Uniqueness and Cultural Awareness

With the new DFS rules adopted in April 2012, the knowledge area known as Uniqueness and Cultural Awareness was eliminated. The learning objectives for this area were distributed to Family, Community and Cultural Awareness and Child Growth and Development. While you will still see this category in biennium training transcripts, it is there only to keep track of past history for classes before April 16, 2012. This listing will disappear from training reports in April 2014.