



Save The Date

March 16: Wave seven quality improvement grant wave opens (closes April 6)

March 25, 26, 30: Quality improvement grant [support sessions](#)



CENTER FOR
**EARLY LEARNING
PROFESSIONALS**
Professional Development • Technical Assistance • Resources

The Center for Early Learning Professionals has announced it's spring semester professional development offerings. Professionals can earn 12 to 15 PD hours by participating in one of their multi-session series on a wide variety of topics. Classes runs from April to June. Visit the professionals page at exceed.ri.gov for more information.

Modules designed to help ECE professionals advance their skills and knowledge

The Center for Early Learning Professionals has created a set of three self-paced online modules to help early learning educators and professionals better understand the Workforce Knowledge and Competency (WKC) frameworks. Rhode Island has designed these frameworks for family child care educators, early childhood teachers, early intervention/early childhood special educators, and early childhood teacher assistants. These WKC frameworks articulate the skill and knowledge that early learning educators need to support young children's healthy development and learning. They also present career pathways that specify the education, experience, professional development, and other activities required to move ahead in each career.

Module 1: Introduction

Module 2: Advance your career

Module 3: Create your individual professional development plan

Have you registered on the ECEDS?

In February, child care administrators, public school education leaders, and family child care providers should have received a registration packet for the Early Care and Education Data System (ECEDS). This packet included an overview of the ECEDS, registration credentials, and instructions. Refer to this handout from Exceed's website for additional details. Please help us launch the ECEDS by registering online and provide the most up-to-date information about your program.

Providers will receive an email next week with their registration information. If you are a child care administrator, public school education leader, or a family child care provider and did not receive a letter with registration information, please contact Erica Mandeville by email or calling (401) 222-8164. Si necesita asistencia en Español, por favor de ponerse en contacto con Franklin Brito a través de su correo electrónico, franklin.brito@ride.ri.gov o por teléfono al (401) 222-8184.

BrightStars Participation!

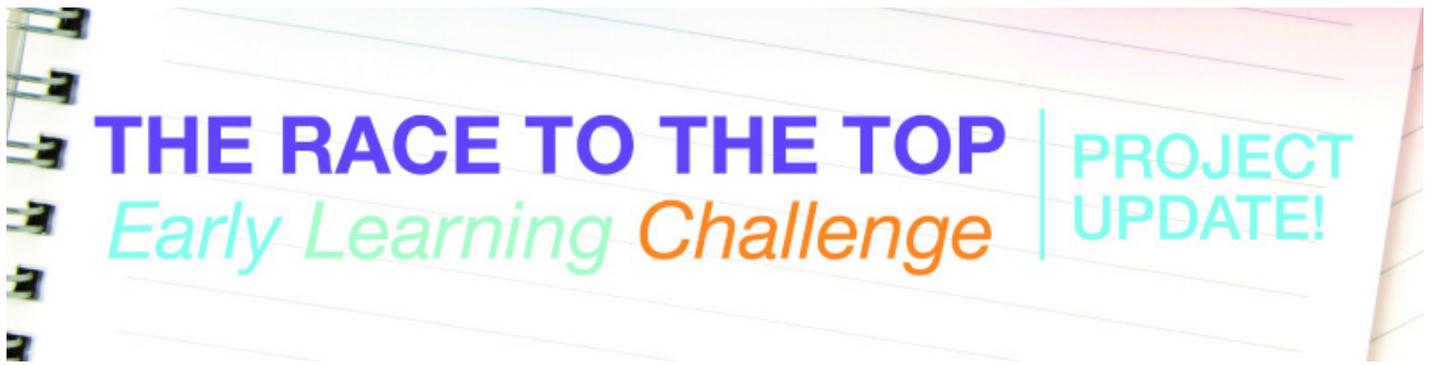
The Department of Human Services (DHS) and Department of Education (RIDE) continue to reach out to early learning and education providers to encourage participation in BrightStars. If you have any questions about your participation, do not hesitate to directly connect with BrightStars at 739-6100.

The chart below represents the total number of programs enrolled in BrightStars on January 31, 2015. The total number of early learning and education programs operating as of January 1, 2015 is 916; that represents 552 family child care providers, 311 centers, and 53 public schools.



BrightStars Rated Programs

	2015 BrightStars Enrollment Goal	ACTUAL (as of January 31, 2015)
1 Star	458	486
2 Star	183	118
3 Star	138	41
4 Star	73	48
5 Star	64	18
TOTAL	916	711
% OF GOAL	100%	77.9%



Interested in learning more about the work of the Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge grant from February 2015? A copy of the February report to the Early Learning Council is [available here](#).

Additional Next Steps RIELDS workshops added to calendar

On February 1, a new policy went into effect requiring programs applying to BrightStars to submit documents that allow the program to demonstrate curriculum and child assessment policies and practices. Requirements for submission depend upon the star rating requested:

- **Programs applying for a 3-4 star rating:** The “Curriculum Outline” and “Child Assessment Outline” programs first created or refined in RIELS/RIELDS professional development trainings, aligned to the RIELDS, and updated to reflect the current program.
- **Programs applying for a 5 star rating:** A fully developed Curriculum Framework and the “Child Assessment Outline” (or a fully development Child Assessment Plan)
- **Program applying for a 2-5 star rating:** A completed “Child Assessment Summary Form” is available [here](#).

To support providers, the R.I. Early Learning and Development Standards project has added Next Steps workshops to provide programs with guidance preparing these documents for submission. Refer to [this flier](#) for dates and times.

