



Welcome!

Accreditation Quality Improvement Support (AQIS) offers many opportunities to engage in professional learning **centered on NAEYC Accreditation and ongoing quality improvement**. AQIS is **funded through the Office of Early Childhood (OEC)**, in partnership with the Connecticut Association for the Education of Young Children (CTAEYC) and the RESC Alliance.

You'll find the following **free professional development** in this listing for April 2022 - June 2022:

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As you consider registering for sessions, please consider the following:

These virtual sessions are live and interactive. Your **active participation** is valuable to the success of the session. Be prepared to:

- **Share your thoughts and ideas when prompted**
- **Engage in conversation with other participants both in the larger group and in breakout rooms**
- **Ensure that you can devote your undivided attention to the session**

Please avoid registering for sessions during work when you are responsible for the supervision of children.

Also, you need to be able to do the following on the device you use:

- **mute/unmute yourself**
- **find the chat box and enter text**
- **open documents shared by the presenter**

If you find you are unable to join, please contact the presenter (email address is in the schedule) to let them know, so we can invite participants from the waiting list in your place. Most sessions have capacity limits and are not recorded. You will not have access to a recording by registering and not attending.

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Regional Study Groups

Join your regional AQIS facilitators and community peers to discuss the teaching and leadership practices that define quality in the field of early childhood education. These sessions (either single sessions or multi-part series) will provide engaging opportunities for you to reflect upon current practices in your program, determine your strengths, and identify next steps for improvement. We will model a team approach for exploring different components of quality. This model can be replicated with others from your program who are not able to attend the session(s). Study groups are open to administrators and teachers from **any** program (NAEYC Accredited or not) and we will be using the [NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation Standards and Assessment Items](#) document as the tool to guide our conversations. All sessions will be held **virtually**, and at no cost. Once you register in your region (see this [map](#) to find your program’s region), you will be sent a confirmation email with information about the Zoom link and related materials. We hope to see you soon!

CES Christina Lye (lyec@cestrumbull.org) Liz Parmelee (parmelee@cestrumbull.org)		
Offering	Dates	Register
General Monthly Study Group: NAEYC Early Learning Program Standards and Assessment Items Standard 2: Curriculum Topic Area 2J: Creative Expression for the Arts This session will focus on this Topic Area by discussing the “big ideas” conveyed in the <i>NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation Standards and Assessment Items</i> . Discussion will center on the analysis of high quality practices related to creative arts for young children. The study group process will model a team approach for exploring the Standards and will provide participants with strategies to extend discussions to their own settings. <i>Participants will receive their choice of materials that support best practices in this Topic Area.</i>	<u>April 5, 2022</u> 4:00 - 6:00 pm held virtually via Zoom	https://www.protrax.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=410927&CustomerID=180 *Once registered, participants should look for an email from Protrax with instructions for access*

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CREC & ACES		
Jean Barresi (ibarresi@crec.org) Natasha Robinson (nrobins@crec.org) Mary Stone (mstone@aces.org)		
Offering	Dates	Register
General Monthly Study Group: NAEYC Early Learning Program Standards and Assessment Items May: Standard 3: Topic E, F, G This session will focus on a standard(s) by discussing the “big ideas” conveyed in these new documents. Discussion will center on the analysis of best practices and what it looks like in practice. The study group process will model a team approach for exploring the Standards and will provide participants with strategies to extend discussions to their own settings. Please bring a copy of the NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation Standards & Assessment Items to each session.	<u>May 12, 2022</u> 1:30 - 3:30 pm held virtually via Zoom	Click here to register in advance for May’s Study Group

EASTCONN		
Sheri Lambert (slambert@eastconn.org) Cheryl LaMothe (clamothe@eastconn.org)		
Offering	Dates	Register
General Monthly Study Group: NAEYC Early Learning Program Standards and Assessment Items This series is a facilitated discussion based on the NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation Standards and Assessment Items. Each session will focus on a standard by discussing the “big ideas” conveyed in these documents. Discussion will center on the analysis of best practices and what it looks like in practice. The study group process will model a team approach for exploring the Standards and will provide participants with strategies to extend discussions to their own settings. <i>Intended audience: program administrators and teachers</i>	<u>May 18, 2022</u> From 1:00-2:30 pm held virtually via Zoom	https://events.dudesolutions.com/eastconn/event/naeyc-accreditation-study-group--may-2022/



LEARN		
Alison Zanardi (azanardi@learn.k12.ct.us)		
Lynn DePina (ldepina@learnct.us)		
Offering	Dates	Register
<p>General Monthly Study Group: NAEYC Early Learning Program Standards and Assessment Items</p> <p>This monthly series is a facilitated discussion based on the NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation Standards and Assessment Items. Each session will focus on a standard by discussing the “big ideas” conveyed in these new documents. Discussion will center on the analysis of best practices and what it looks like in practice. The study group process will model a team approach for exploring the Standards and will provide participants with strategies to extend discussions to their own settings.</p>	<p><u>April 20th, 2022</u> 1-2:30 pm held virtually via Zoom</p> <p><u>June 15th, 2022</u> 1-2:30pm held virtually via Zoom</p>	<p>Please contact Ali Zanardi at: azanardi@learn.k12.ct.us to register. Include your name, program name, town where program is located, OEC registry ID number</p>

Statewide Professional Learning Opportunities

Join colleagues and AQIS facilitators from across the state to engage in professional learning connected to NAEYC Early Learning Program Standards and Assessment Items. These opportunities will follow a set agenda, with defined goals and outcomes. Each session (or series) is open to any early childhood professional in any region who is interested in exploring high quality practices that support children, families and communities.

April 2022			
Topic	Dates	Presenters	Registration Info
<p>Circle Time for Preschoolers: Reflecting on Best Practice</p> <p>Whether you are a seasoned or new teacher, you may be wondering how to create large/full group experiences that are appropriate for preschool age children. Through small group conversations, we will explore questions such as: How do I effectively get children to transition over to circle time? What are my learning objectives for this part of the children’s day? How do I keep children engaged? What curriculum content am I covering during this time of day? Do I have appropriate expectations for children’s behaviors? Programs that participate in this session will receive resource materials related to this topic.</p> <p><i>NAEYC Standard 3: Teaching</i></p> <p><i>Intended audience: Preschool teachers and Program Administrators</i></p>	<p><u>April 7, 2022</u></p> <p>6:00 - 8:00 pm</p> <p>held virtually via Zoom</p>	<p>Kristen Kennen (EdAdvance)</p> <p>Donna Delohery (EdAdvance)</p>	<p>Please contact kennen@edadvance.org to register.</p> <p>Include your name, program name, town where program is located, and OEC Registry ID number.</p>

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<p>Aligning Your Professional Development Plans: This session is focused on taking the requirements you may have as a participant in School Readiness and Care 4 Kids and review the professional development needs of your program in a streamlined approach.</p> <p><i>NAEYC Standard 6: Staff Competencies, Preparation and Support</i></p> <p><i>Intended audience: Program Administrators</i></p>	<p><u>April 6, 2022</u></p> <p>6:00-8:00 pm held virtually via Zoom</p>	<p>Mary Stone (ACES) Michelle DellaCamera (ACES)</p>	<p>Click here to register for this session</p>
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May 2022			
Topic	Dates	Presenters	Registration Info
<p>Everyone Has A Story to Tell: Oral Storytelling in the Early Childhood Classroom</p> <p>This 2-part workshop explores the art of oral storytelling and the benefits associated with using oral storytelling in the early childhood classroom. In this workshop you will also create your own oral stories and begin thinking about how to bring this wonderful experience into your early childhood classroom.</p> <p><i>NAEYC Standard 1: Relationships</i> <i>NAEYC Standard 2: Curriculum</i></p> <p><i>Intended audience: Teachers and Program Administrators</i></p>	<p><u>May 12, 2022</u></p> <p>AND</p> <p><u>June 2, 2022</u></p> <p>6:00 - 8:00 p.m. held virtually via Zoom</p>	<p>Lori Blake (CTAEYC) Christina Lye (CES)</p>	<p>https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=412641&CustomerID=180</p>
<p>Program Evaluation and Strategic Planning</p> <p>Using a data-driven process designed to fundamentally improve the overall program's well-being. We will review a process of a comprehensive needs assessment and how to incorporate that information in a mission driven strategic plan.</p> <p><i>NAEYC Standard 10: Leadership and Management</i></p> <p><i>Intended audience: Program Administrators</i></p>	<p><u>May 18, 2022</u></p> <p>5:00-7:00 p.m. held virtually via Zoom</p>	<p>Mary Stone (ACES)</p>	<p>Click here to join this session</p>

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<p>“Use Your Words”: Helping Adults to Deliver Difficult Messages</p> <p>Early childhood teachers and administrators participate in numerous relationships - both with co-workers and families in the program. Whether you have been in the field for twelve months or twelve years, there are times when necessary and difficult conversations can strain your emotions. We will examine the reasons why this might be and enable you to take an approach that keeps your program’s mission and vision in mind. Through role play scenarios, we can expand our skills in these situations.</p> <p><i>NAEYC Standard 1: Relationships</i></p> <p><i>Intended audience: Teachers and Program Administrators</i></p>	<p><u>May 25, 2021</u></p> <p>2:00 - 4:00 pm held virtually via Zoom</p>	<p>Kristen Kennen (EdAdvance) Donna Delohery (EdAdvance)</p>	<p>Please contact kennen@edadvance.org to register. Include your name, program name, town where program is located, and OEC Registry ID number.</p>
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June 2022			
Topic	Dates	Presenters	Registration Info
<p>Developing High Performance Teams</p> <p>As the program administrator, you carefully plan which staff will be members of teaching teams. Many variables are considered when making these thoughtfully planned teams. Yet, the outcome is sometimes not as planned. Join us in this session as we explore styles of team players, stages of team development, and strategies to employ at various stages to develop high performance teams. The first 15 participants /programs to register will receive a copy of the book <u>Inspiring Peak Performance</u> by Bloom, Hentschel, and Bella.</p> <p><i>NAEYC Standard 10: Leadership and Management</i></p> <p><i>Intended audience: Program Administrators</i></p>	<p><u>June 2, 2021</u></p> <p>2:00 - 4:00 pm</p> <p>held virtually via Zoom</p>	<p>Kristen Kennen (EdAdvance)</p> <p>Donna Delohery (EdAdvance)</p>	<p>Please contact delohery@edadvance.org to register. Include your name, program name, town where program is located, and OEC Registry ID number.</p>

We look forward to seeing you.

To ensure you have all the latest information you can check out the [AQIS Page](#) on the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) website.

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