AQIS Accreditation Quality Improvement Support

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 ACES, CES, CREC, EdAdvance, EASTCONN, and LEARN.

You'll find the following **free professional development** in this listing for January 2024 - March 2024:

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

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*

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 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 through the lens of the NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation Standards. This model can be replicated with others from your program who are not able to attend the session(s). Each session will focus on a standard by discussing the "big ideas" conveyed in the *NAEYC Early Learning Program Accreditation Standards and Assessment Items*; participants should bring a copy of the standards with them to each session. Discussion will center on the analysis and implementation of recommended practices and will provide participants with strategies to extend conversations to their own settings.

Some study groups are more "organic" with NAEYC Standards and Topic Areas being chosen by the group from month to month. These are in the section titled **General Monthly Study Groups (page 3)**. Other study groups have NAEYC Standards and Topic Areas determined ahead of time and are in the section titled **Standard Specific Study Groups (page 4).** Participants can attend as many or as few as they need! Choose the format that best meets your needs!

Study groups are open to Administrators and Educators from **any** program (NAEYC Accredited or not). Once you register, you will be sent a confirmation email with information about the Zoom link and related materials. **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.

We hope to "see" you soon!

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General Monthly Study Group: Standards/Topic Areas determined by group from session to session		
General Monthly Study Group: NAEYC Early Learning Program Standards and Assessment Items These sessions are 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. *Intended audience: Educators and Program Administrators, for renewals and initials*		
Facilitators	Date/Time/Location	Registration
EASTCONN Sheri Lambert slambert@eastconn.org Cheryl LaMothe clamothe@eastconn.org Paula Gooslin pgooslin@eastconn.org	Wednesday, February 21, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 17, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 12, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **In person at:** **Three Rivers Community College** 574 New London Turnpike Norwich, CT 06360	Register Here for Feb. 21st! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426922&CustomerID=186) Register Here for April 17th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426923&CustomerID=186) Register Here for June 12th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426929&CustomerID=186)
LEARN	Wednesday, January 17, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Register Here!

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| Ali Zanardi azanardi@learn.k12.ct.us
Lynn DePina ldepina@learn.k12.ct.us
Maria Jose Beteta mjbeteta@learn.k12.ct.us | <u>Wednesday, March 20, 2024</u>
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

<u>Wednesday, May 15, 2024</u>
1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

In Person at:
Three Rivers Community College
574 New London Turnpike
Norwich, CT 06360 | (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426605&CustomerID=186) |

Standards Specific Study Groups				
Standard	Intended Audience	Facilitator(s)	Date/Time/Location	Registration
Standard 2: Curriculum Topic Area 2A: Essential Characteristics	Program Administrators Initials and Renewals	Christina Lye, CES lyec@cestrumbull.org	Thursday, January 25, 2024 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426362&CustomerID=186)
Standard 4: Assessment	Program Administrators and Educators Initial and/or Renewal	Mary Stone, ACES MStone@aces.org Kim Cellini, ACES kcellini@aces.org	Wednesday, January 17, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426607&CustomerID=186)
Standard 2, 3, 4 A Focus on - Lesson Planning	Program Administrators and Educators	Jean Barresi, CREC jbarresi@crec.org Natasha Robinson, CREC nrobinson@crec.org Traci Protz, CREC tprotz@crec.org Sara Castle, CREC scastle@crec.org	Thursday, February 8, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426462&CustomerID=186)

Standard 3D: Using Time, Grouping, and Routines to Achieve Learning Goals	Program Administrators and Educators	Jean Barresi, CREC jbarresi@crec.org Natasha Robinson, CREC nrobinson@crec.org Traci Protz, CREC tprotz@crec.org Sara Castle, CREC scastle@crec.org	Thursday, March 14, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426466&CustomerID=186)
Standard 5: Health	Program Administrators Initials and Renewals	Kristen Kennen, EdAdvance kennen@edadvance.org Sarah Witkiewicz, EdAdvance Witkiewicz@edadvance.org	Tuesday, February 13, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426738&CustomerID=186)
Standard 9: Physical Environment	Program Administrators and Educators Initial and/or Renewal	Michelle F. DellaCamera, ACES mdellacamera@aces.org Rosaria Giannetti, ACES rgiannetti@aces.org	Wednesday, March 20, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426689&CustomerID=186)
Standard 10: Leadership and Management	Program Administrators Initial and/or Renewal	Liz Parmelee, CES parmelee@cestrumbull.org	Wednesday, January 31, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Register Here!

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			Virtual via Zoom (link will be sent following registration)	(https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426363&CustomerID=186)

<u>Statewide Professional Learning Opportunities</u>

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. **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.

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

January 2024			
Topic	**Dates/Times Location**	**Presenter(s)**	**Registration Info**
Infants & Toddlers: Play the DAP Way Participants will explore the principles of Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP), emphasizing how these practices align with the unique needs, abilities, and stages of infants and toddlers. Participants will gain practical insights and actionable strategies to apply DAP principles effectively in their interactions and activities with infants and toddlers, fostering holistic development in these crucial early years.	<u>Friday, January 26, 2024</u> 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Jean Barresi, CREC jbarresi@crec.org Natasha Robinson, CREC nrobinson@crec.org Traci Protz, CREC tprotz@crec.org	[Register Here](#)! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426468&CustomerID=186)

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Intended audience: Infant and toddler educators		Sara Castle, CREC scastle@crec.org	
NAEYC Standard 1: Relationships **NAEYC Standard 2**: Curriculum **NAEYC Standard 3**: Teaching			

February 2024			
Topic	**Dates/Times Location**	**Presenter(s)**	**Registration Info**
Using the NAEYC Class Observation and Class Portfolio Tools for Accreditation The **Class Observation Tool** and **Class Portfolio Tool** are two sources of evidence used by NAEYC assessors to evaluate classrooms during a site visit. They also help teachers to reflect on and improve their teaching practices! In this session, we will examine both tools, practice using them, and see how they support quality. *Intended Audience*: Educators and Program Administrators who are actively pursuing NAEYC initial accreditation or renewal *NAEYC Standards:* 1 - 10	Tuesday, February 6, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Liz Parmelee, CES parmelee@cestrumbull.org Laurie Franzino, CES franzinl@cestrumbull.org	Register Here! https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426360&CustomerID=186

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Using the NAEYC Program Observation and Program Portfolio Tools for Accreditation The *Program Observation Tool* and *Program Portfolio Tool* are two sources of evidence used by NAEYC assessors to evaluate the program during a site visit. They also help administrators to reflect on and improve their practices! In this session, we will examine both tools, practice using them, and see how they support quality. This session is designed for those who are early in their NAEYC Accreditation journey, looking for a refresh or not familiar with the process. *Intended Audience*: Program Administrators who are actively pursuing NAEYC initial accreditation or renewal *NAEYC Standards:* 1 - 10	Tuesday, February 27, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Ali Zanardi, LEARN azanardi@learn.k12.ct.us Lynn DePina, LEARN ldepina@learn.k12.ct.us Maria Jose Beteta, LEARN mjbeteta@learn.k12.ct.us	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426676&CustomerID=186)
Tiny Steps, Big Impact: Orientation and Onboarding Strategies that Support Retention In this session, participants will explore effective orientation and onboarding strategies that significantly contribute to staff retention in early childhood education settings. Program leaders will gain the tools and knowledge needed to create a positive and supportive onboarding experience that leads to long-term staff engagement and fulfillment. *Intended Audience*: Program Administrators who are actively pursuing NAEYC initial accreditation or renewal *NAEYC Standard* 6: Staff Competencies *NAEYC Standard* 10: Leadership	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Jean Barresi, CREC jbarresi@crec.org Natasha Robinson, CREC nrobinson@crec.org Traci Protz, CREC tprotz@crec.org Sara Castle, CREC scastle@crec.org	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426470&CustomerID=186)

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March 2024			
Topic	**Dates/Times Location**	**Presenter(s)**	**Registration Info**
Social Studies: What does it look like in early childhood classrooms Through teaching social studies, teachers help children to have a positive identity and sense of self and sense of others. This workshop will address how teachers can plan experiences to support children's understanding of: social roles and rules, the local community, their contributions to the well-being of the social and physical environments in which they live, and diversity not only within their classroom, but also in the larger world. **Intended Audience:** Educators and Assistant Educators *NAEYC Standard 2:* Curriculum *NAEYC Standard 8:* Community Relationships	Tuesday, March 5, 2024 5:00 p.m. -7:00 p.m. **In Person at EASTCONN** 376 Hartford Turnpike Hampton, CT 06247	Sheri Lambert, EASTCONN slambert@eastconn.org Cheryl LaMothe, EASTCONN clamothe@eastconn.org Paula Gooslin, EASTCONN pgooslin@eastconn.org	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426930&CustomerID=186)
If You're Healthy and You Know It: Infusing Health Content Into Your Early Childhood Curriculum Early childhood classrooms are wonderful places for young children to learn about healthy eating, good sleep, pedestrian safety, and more! Join us as we discover many different learning experiences, strategies, materials, resources, and routines that can help to lay a foundation of good health for years to come. *The first ten programs to register and attend will receive books/curriculum materials relevant to the topic.*	Tuesday, March 12, 2024 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Sarah Witkiewicz, EdAdvance Witkiewicz@edadvance.org	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426751&CustomerID=186)

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Intended audience: Educators of toddlers and preschoolers. *NAEYC Standard 2*: Curriculum *NAEYC Standard 5:* Health			
One Size Does Not Fit All: Resources Designed Specifically for Infant Toddler Care Have you ever wondered what resources were developed specifically for the infant and toddler age groups? This is the session for you! You will have an opportunity to both learn about and directly explore resources that were created with the infant/toddler age group in mind. You will develop a plan for selecting at least one explored resource and determining how you will use it within your infant/toddler setting. If you are a program administrator with limited infant/toddler experience yourself, you will also find this session very beneficial! *The first 10 programs that register and attend will receive a copy of the Infant /Toddler Environment Rating Scale - 3rd Edition (ITERS-3) by Harms, Cryer, Clifford, and Yazejian* *Intended Audience:* Program Administrators; Infant and Toddler Educators *NAEYC Standards 1 - 5:* Relationships, Curriculum, Teaching, Assessment, Health	Thursday, March 28, 2024 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. **In Person at** WorkSpaceCT 16 Trowbridge Dr. Bethel, CT 06801	Kristen Kennen, EdAdvance kennen@edadvance.org	Register Here! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426739&CustomerID=186)

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AQIS Facilitator Office Hours

AQIS Facilitator Office Hours are available for your convenience so that you might connect with your regional facilitator. Use the contact information to set up a time during the set office hours to ask questions regarding your program's accreditation, what next steps you might need to be taking, or where you can get more information for your staff on accreditation support. You do not need to be accredited to reach out to the facilitators listed.

Region	Facilitator	When	Contact Info
CES	Liz Parmelee Laurie Franzino Christina Lye	Mondays, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Thursdays, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.	parmelee@cestrumbull.org (Mon) franzinl@cestrumbull.org (Mon & Thurs) lyec@cestrumbull.org (Thurs)
ACES	Kim Cellini Mary Stone Michelle DellaCamera Rosaria Giannetti	Mondays, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Thursdays, 12:30 p.m. -3:30 p.m.	kcellini@aces.org mstone@aces.org mdellacamera@aces.org rgiannetti@aces.org

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CREC	Natasha Robinson Sara Castle Jean Barresi Traci Protz	Mondays, 12:30 p.m. -3:30 p.m. Fridays, 9:30 p.m. - 12:30 p.m.	scastle@crec.org (Mon) nrobinson@crec.org (Mon) jbarresi@crec.org (Fri) tprotz@crec.org (Fri)
EdAdvance	Kristen Kennen Sarah Witkiewicz	Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Mondays, 12:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	kennen@edadvance.org witkiewicz@edadvance.org
EASTCONN	Sheri Lambert Paula Gooslin Cheryl LaMothe	Tuesdays, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Mondays, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Tuesdays, 12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.	slambert@eastconn.org pgooslin@eastconn.org clamothe@eastconn.org
LEARN	Ali Zanardi Lynn DePina Maria Jose Beteta	Mondays, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Wednesdays, 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	azanardi@learn.k12.ct.us ldepina@learn.k12.ct.us mjbeteta@learn.k12.ct.us

AQIS Administrator Forums

Join colleagues and AQIS facilitators in your region to engage in professional learning connected to NAEYC Early Learning Program Standards and Assessment Items. Each forum is open to early childhood program leaders pursuing re-accreditation interested in connecting with colleagues in their community. To determine your region, visit the AQIS Page on the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) website, and scroll down to the interactive map.

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

Region	Facilitator(s)	When	Registration
ACES	Mary Stone, ACES MStone@aces.org Michelle F. DellaCamera, ACES mdellacamera@aces.org Kim Cellini, ACES kcellini@aces.org Rosaria Giannetti, ACES rgiannetti@aces.org	Wednesday, March 27, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 19, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here for March 27th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426693&CustomerID=186) Register Here for June 19th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426694&CustomerID=186)
CES	Liz Parmelee parmelee@cestrumbull.org Christina Lye lyec@cestrumbull.org Laurie Franzino franzinl@cestrumbull.org	Wednesday, March 13, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, May 29th, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here for March 13th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426361&CustomerID=186)

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AQIS Accreditation Quality Improvement Support

CREC	Jean Barresi jbarresi@crec.org Sara Castle scastle@crec.org Traci Protz tprotz@crec.org Natasha Robinson nrobinson@crec.org	Thursday, February 1, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m. Thursday, May 2, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 2:50 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here for Feb. 1st! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426651&CustomerID=186) Save the date for May 2nd, registration coming soon!
EASTCONN	Sheri Lambert SLambert@eastconn.org Cheryl LaMothe CLamothe@eastconn.org Paula Gooslin PGooslin@eastconn.org	Wednesday, February 28, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Wednesday, May 22, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **In person at:** EASTCONN 376 Hartford Turnpike Hampton, CT 06247	Register Here for Feb. 28th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426917&CustomerID=186) Register Here for May 22nd! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426920&CustomerID=186)
EdAdvance	Kristen Kennen kennen@edadvance.org Sarah Witkiewicz witkiewicz@edadvance.org	Thursday, January 4, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here for Jan. 4th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=424551&CustomerID=186)

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		Thursday, April 4, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **In Person at Location** WorkSpaceCT 16 Trowbridge Drive Bethel, CT 06801 Thursday, June 6, 2024 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here for April 4th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426817&CustomerID=186) Register Here for June 6th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426818&CustomerID=186)
LEARN	Ali Zanardi, LEARN azanardi@learn.k12.ct.us Lynn DePina, LEARN ldepina@learn.k12.ct.us Maria Jose Beteta, LEARN mjbeteta@learn.k12.ct.us	Wednesday, February 14, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. Wednesday, April 24, 2024 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. **Virtual via Zoom** (link will be sent following registration)	Register Here for Feb. 14th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426684&CustomerID=186) Register Here for April 24th! (https://www.protraxx.com/Scripts/EzCatalogNY/ViewClass.aspx?ID=426685&CustomerID=186)