

NEWSLETTER

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION



EARLY CHILDHOOD SPECIAL EDUCATION

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) is now part of the Exceptional Student Services (ESS) Unit. For early childhood SPED related questions, please use their new ECSE contact info: **Main Line: 602-542-4013** ECSEInbox@azed.gov

Early Literacy Grant Awarded to AZ

Arizona was recently awarded a five year \$20 million Comprehensive Literacy State Development Grant (CLSD) to improve language and literacy skills for students most in need. The grant project was developed through the collaboration of ADE, Read On Arizona, and First Things First.

"Children begin developing language and pre-literacy skills long before they enter kindergarten. This grant will help us support educators in childcare and preschool settings with the research-based tools they need to ensure young children start school ready to learn to read."

- Marilee Dal Pra, FTF CEO

[Full CLSD Grant Award Letter - 09.23.2020](#)

ECE COVID 19 GUIDANCE DOCUMENT

The Arizona Department of Education (ADE) and the Arizona Early Childhood Alliance (AZECA) came together to create the document: [Quality Early Learning COVID-19 Considerations](#). Since ADE released the [Roadmap for Reopening](#), Local

Education Agencies (LEAs) deployed scenario-based models for the delivery of instruction for the 2020-2021 school year utilizing [benchmarks](#) established by the [Arizona Department of Health Services](#). These instructional models have had significant impacts on the early care and education field, who are providing safe environments for children birth through age 12. This document serves to provide guidance and key considerations for providers and LEAs alike.

Teaching Strategies GOLD® Supports

Fall Checkpoint: October 9

Teaching Strategies Blog	3 Strategies to Provide Ambitious Interactions and Instructions for All
Teaching Strategies Webinars	Product Support Webinar Series—Upcoming for Teachers/Admins
	Using GOLD® for Kindergarten Entry Assessment in the Time of COVID-19 - Archive
	Reflecting on Our Virtual Kindergarten Camp - Archive

Early Childhood Education Team

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Click Office Hours to join
via Microsoft Teams

INTRODUCING THE 2ND EDITION OF ARIZONA'S ITDG

Arizona recently adopted newly revised Infant Toddler Developmental Guidelines. The new guidelines have been the result of two years of collaborative work, led by ECE Program Specialist, Sas Jakeo-Singer, amongst early childhood experts and thought partners to ensure Arizona has up-to-date developmental guidelines for our state's youngest learners. Several early childhood partner agencies, districts, and ECE partners worked together to make recommendations and revisions to the guidelines.

A PDF version of the publication is available here: [Arizona's Infant Toddler Developmental Guidelines, 2nd Edition](#). The manual link as well as information on how to order multiple print copies can be found on the [ECE Publications & Manuals](#) webpage. In addition, a new online course module that coincides and supports the updated Guidelines can be found on pg. 3 of this newsletter with Professional Development opportunities. The course can be found in the "October 2020 Online Courses" section entitled: **Intro to Infant and Toddler Developmental Guidelines**.



ECQUIP Update

ADE ECE strongly encourages the continued use of the ECQUIP process to improve outcomes for our state's youngest learners by connecting them, their families, and practitioners with supports needed, Arizona created the [Early Childhood Quality Improvement Process \(ECQUIP\)](#).

Early Childhood systems building is the ongoing process of improving infrastructure, connections, and components within our state. The ECQUIP process is intended to bring early care and education providers and stakeholders together to break down silos, improve communication, and align goals across and within the early care and education system.

Due to the fragmented nature of various systems that support young children, ECQUIP was created to be a vehicle for building, enhancing, and sustaining coherence so that infrastructure, programming, and the different early care and education sectors could operate as a whole to improve outcomes for children and their families. The local ECE systems created out of ECQUIP allow for the strong foundations needed to address a child's educational success.

If you have questions about ITDG, ECQUIP, or other general ECE inquiries, please email the Early Childhood Education team:
ECEinbox@azed.gov

If you have questions about preschool special education, please email the Early Childhood Special Education team:
ECSEInbox@azed.gov

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Southern Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children (SAZAEYC) Presents

**BETTER TOGETHER:
STRENGTHENING CONNECTIONS
BETWEEN EDUCATORS, FAMILIES,
AND OUR COMMUNITIES**

Virtual Event: December 5, 2020

Stay up to date with conference info here:
<https://sazaeyc.org>

For questions email: conference@sazaeyc.org

OCTOBER 2020 Online Courses

Click on the course title to register via EMS. Online courses include a recorded webinar and assessment.

1 hour/credit courses

[Intro to Arizona's Early Learning Standards \(AZELS\) *](#)

[Intro to Infant Toddler Developmental Guidelines \(ITDG\) *](#)

[AZELS Social Emotional](#)

[AZELS Approaches to Learning](#)

[AZELS Language & Literacy](#)

[AZELS Math](#)

[AZELS Science](#)

[AZELS Physical Development, Health & Safety](#)

[AZ School Readiness Framework](#)

[HQPG Family Engagement & Support](#)

[HQPG Program Guidelines for High Quality Early Education](#)

2 hour/credit courses

[AZELS Social Emotional \(2\)](#)

[AZELS Approaches to Learning \(2\)](#)

[AZELS Science \(2\)](#)

[AZELS Math \(2\)](#)

OCTOBER 2020 Live Virtual Training Schedule

Click on the training title to register via the ADE Event Management System (EMS). Live training sessions are delivered virtually by ECE / ECSE Program Specialists via Microsoft Teams.

Tues, Oct 6	10:00am - 3:00pm	HQPG Health and Nutrition
Wed, Oct 7	10:00am - 12:00pm	Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP)
Wed Oct 7 & Fri Oct 9	1:00pm - 3:00pm	AZELS Fine Arts
Wed Oct 14	10:00am - 12:00pm	HQPG Daily Routines & Schedules
Wed Oct 14	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Family Engagement & Cultural Awareness
Fri Oct 16	10:00am - 2:30pm	AZELS Math *
Tues Oct 20	10:00am - 12:00pm	Embedded Learning Opportunities
Wed Oct 21	10:00am - 2:30pm	AZELS Physical Development, Health and Safety *
Fri Oct 23	10:00am - 3:00pm	ITDG Physical & Motor Development *
Sat Oct 24	10:00am - 3:00pm	AZELS Language & Literacy *
Mon Oct 26	10:00am - 3:00pm	ITDG Language Development *
Tues Oct 27	3:00pm - 5:00pm	Cultural Competency
Wed Oct 28	1:00pm - 3:00pm	Language Modeling

*** Indicates Quality First trainings**

ITDG = Infant Toddler Developmental Guidelines

AZELS = Arizona Early Learning Standards

HQPG = High Quality Program Guidelines

All ADE ECE professional development opportunities and registration links are available on our ECE PD website:

<http://www.azed.gov/ece/professional-development/>