



Key Organizations Dedicated to the Early Childhood Education Workforce and Professional Development Opportunities

Partner with and utilize the resources of organizations and professional development providers to create and meet career goals. Work with other members of the early childhood workforce to improve career options and industry norms for all.

Center for the Child Care Workforce

<http://ccw.cleverspin.com/>

Begin by joining this network of professionals and become an active advocate for the early childhood workforce with this national organization. Research and media information are available for learning more about the field as a whole.

Center for Improving the Readiness of Children for Learning and Education (C.I.R.C.L.E) at the State Center for Early Childhood Development

<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/circle/training.htm>

The State Center provides training for early education professionals that is focused on literacy development and best practice implementation.

Child Care Bureau

<http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/ccb/index.htm>

Within the federal Administration for Children and Families, this bureau provides statistics about child care in Texas, as well as national data for comparison. Click on *Provider Resources* for information on locating detailed information about government-provided funding sources.

Collaborative For Children

<http://www.collabforchildren.org/>

Be sure to notice opportunities for Texas Rising Star providers to receive training scholarships from this Houston-based group. Training programs and wage raise campaign information are also available.

Council for Professional Recognition

<http://www.cdacouncil.org/>

Child Development Associate certification and training materials are a couple of the services offered by this organization that seeks to raise the level of professional recognition that early care and education providers receive.

Early Childhood Educator Professional Development Program

<http://www.ed.gov/programs/eceducator/index.html>

The U.S. Department of Education offers grants to early childhood professionals who collaborate with public and private groups to meet the needs of low-income children. Refer to this site periodically for updates on the 2007 application process if you are working with multiple groups and seek to improve the school readiness of low-income children.

National Association of Child Care Professionals (NACCP)

<http://www.naccp.org/>

Membership with this Austin-based national organization unlocks professional development courses, job postings and more.

National Child Care Association

<http://www.nccanet.org/profdev/profdev.asp>

Designed to enable private child care providers interested in professional development to enhance and hone their skills through nationally recognized certification programs.

Texas Early Care and Education Career Development System (TECECDS)

<http://www.uth.tmc.edu/tececds/>

Core knowledge and skills development are available for in-home providers, center providers and center administrators. Locate a trainer in your area to provide guidance and class options to enhance your ability to effectively work with children and their families.

Workforce Development Boards

<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/dirs/wdbs/wdbweb.html>

Consult this list for the Work Force Development Board in your region that assists parents and professionals in the search for and improvement of high quality child care services.