



GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY®
Illinois Professional Development System



Spring 2021 Newsletter

In This Issue

**SAYD
Credential
Level 1**

**Spanish Professional
Development
Advisors Available**

**COVID-19
Vaccine
Information**

**Pandemic Teaching
Experiences Survey**

**Gateways
Scholarship
Program Video**

Gateways School-Age and Youth Development Credential Level 1

Update: More Gateways School-Age and Youth Development Credential Level 1 modules are online!

Good News! You can complete half of the SAYD Credential Level 1 training online.

The modules available are:

- SAYD Credential Level 1 - Module 1: Introduction to Child and Youth Development
- SAYD Credential Level 1 - Module 2a: School Age Development (Ages 5-12)
- SAYD Credential Level 1 - Module 2b: Early Adolescent Development (Ages 11-16)
- SAYD Credential Level 1 - Module 2c: Late Adolescent/Young Adulthood Development (Ages 15-18)
- SAYD Credential Level 1 - Module 3a: Infant/Toddler Development (Ages Birth-36 Months)
- SAYD Credential Level 1 - Module 3b: Preschool Development (Ages 3-5)
- SAYD Credential Level 1 - Module 4a: Health and Nutrition
- SAYD Credential Level 1 - Module 4b: Safety

Not only can these trainings lead toward the SAYD Credential Level 1, but they can be used as clock hours of training for some Credential renewals and yearly professional development training requirements.

Eventually, all modules will be made available online. In the meantime, all unavailable Modules 5a, 5b, 6, 7a, 7b, 7c, 8a, 8b, and 9 must be completed face-to-face.

Contact your local CCR&R for more information or visit our website at www.ilgateways.com/credentials.



The Gateways Professional Development Advisor (PDA) Program now offers assistance in Spanish!

We are here to help enhance the quality of your child care program by increasing your staff's professional development with the Gateways to Opportunity Professional Development Advisor (PDA) Program.

PDA services include help with the following, and more:

- Assistance in choosing a degree and program to best fit needs
- Support in achieving Gateways Credentials, a Professional Educator License, or other professional credentials
- Help to identify scholarships and financial aid to assist with college expenses
- Guidance through career goal development

Let us help you and your staff learn more about what opportunities await. Professional Development Advisor services are **FREE!**

Request a Professional Development Advisor in [Spanish](#) or [English](#) on our website today so that we can help you and your staff achieve your professional goals!

COVID-19 Vaccine Information

Thank you for your tireless service in the care and education of children across Illinois. Like you, we are committed to the health, safety, and well-being of the children in care, their families, and you - their provider. We know this has been a challenging year on so many levels, and we are excited to now be turning our focus and efforts to rolling out COVID-19 vaccinations in Illinois. Please use the links below to access information on the vaccines in Illinois.

**COVID-19
Vaccine Information**

**COVID-19
Vaccine FAQs**

Pandemic Teaching Experiences Survey

Has your preschool staff been teaching during the pandemic? Erikson Institute's **Early Math Collaborative** wants to learn more about what preschool teachers' experiences have been like during these challenging times.

Please **encourage your preschool teachers to complete the survey by sharing the survey** link and information with them. Their responses will inform the field about what pandemic teaching looks like in early childhood education.

Teachers who **complete the survey by March 31st, 2021** will be entered for a chance to win math resources for their preschool classroom! [Click here](#) to take the pandemic teaching survey.

**Erikson
Institute**
Early Math
Collaborative

Looking for more information on a Gateways Scholarship? Watch this 5-minute video for details!

Introduction to **The Gateways Scholarship Program** Video



Be Safe Outdoors

The play yard offers an endless array of opportunities for physical exercise, discovery, creativity, and socialization.

- Enclose the outdoor space with a fence.
- Arrange large play equipment for easy supervision.
- Anchor large equipment with metal pins or concrete.
- Make sure stairs on climbing equipment have handrails the children can reach.
- Monitor the play yard every morning for debris.
- Inspect equipment daily for jagged or sharp edges, loose bolts or screws, and broken or missing parts.
- Limit sun exposure when ultraviolet rays are strongest, keep babies younger than 6 months out of direct sunlight, and apply sunscreen with parents permission.
- Have children drink water before, during, and after active play, especially in hot weather.
- Cover sandboxes overnight, and empty water from buckets and tubs.
- If storms and lightning threaten, take children inside. Remember the slogan: "When thunder roars, go indoors."



Gateways to Opportunity is administered through Inccrra and funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services Bureau of Child Care and Development and the McCormick Foundation. Gateways to Opportunity, the arch logo and Illinois Professional Development System are registered trademarks of Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies.

Copyright © 2021 INCCRRA, All rights reserved.
Our mailing address is: INCCRRA • 1226 Towanda Plaza • Bloomington, IL 61701

You received this email because you are a member of the Gateways to Opportunity Registry and are listed as the Director of a licensed center. Please unsubscribe at the bottom of the Director Download email to let us know if you wish to unsubscribe from this list. This will only remove you from receiving the Director Download. All other program specific emails will still continue to be sent. To ensure you receive future emails of the Director Download, add directordownload@ilgateways.com to your address book. GR93 © 2021 INCCRRA