

## Professional Development Blast August 2026

### Virtual Trainings

#### More Than Drop-Off and Pick-Up: The Real Work of Family Engagement

In this course participants will explore the QRIS Family & Community Engagement standards, identifying specific methods of genuine connection that work across cultural contexts. Participants will learn to make family engagement a regular and rewarding part of their practice. 2 credit hours, \$12.00

| Date               | Time         | Registration                |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Thursday, August 6 | 6:30-8:30 pm | <a href="#">Early Years</a> |

#### Nurturing Little Minds: Interactions and Language Development

Join us as we explore the interplay of language and relationships in early childhood education! This course focuses on the types of interactions that enhance language and communication development in children from birth to age three. Participants will explore techniques and strategies to promote meaningful exchanges between adults and children. We will highlight the pivotal role that positive and responsive relationships play in nurturing essential early language skills. 2 credit hours, \$12.00

| Date              | Time         | Registration                |
|-------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Monday, August 10 | 6:30-8:30 pm | <a href="#">Early Years</a> |

#### Quality on Purpose: A Guide to Continuous Improvement in Child Care Programs

This course will explore why continuous improvement is essential, what it entails, and how to effectively implement the new QRIS requirement related to continuous quality improvement (CQI) plans. 2 credit hours, \$12.00

| Date                | Time         | Registration                |
|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Thursday, August 13 | 6:30-8:30 pm | <a href="#">Early Years</a> |

## Professional Development Blast

### Infant Toddler Zone: Building Relationships with Infants & Toddlers

Nurturing relationships are critical to the healthy development of infants and toddlers, and are essential to adult wellness. The focus of this training is on the components of important relationships that sustain us throughout our lives, and how we can build them with young children. Join us as we look into the process of developing relationships with infants, toddlers and each other as their caregivers and educators. 2 credit hours, \$12.00

| Date               | Time         | Registration                |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Tuesday, August 25 | 6:30-8:30 pm | <a href="#">Early Years</a> |

### ITS-SIDS

This training meets the DCDEE health and safety requirements. This workshop gives child care providers an overview of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, identifies SIDS risk factors, and describes ways to reduce the risk of SIDS in child care. 2 credit hours, \$12.00

| Date                 | Time         | Registration                |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------------|
| Monday, August 3     | 6:30-8:30 pm | <a href="#">Early Years</a> |
| Wednesday, August 12 | 6:30-8:30 pm | <a href="#">Early Years</a> |
| Wednesday, August 19 | 6:30-8:30 pm | <a href="#">Early Years</a> |
| Thursday, August 27  | 6:30-8:30 pm | <a href="#">Early Years</a> |

### On-Demand Trainings

### Essentials: NC Early Care & Learning

This course provides a comprehensive exploration of North Carolina's Early Care and Learning agencies and the resources available to support early childhood education. Participants will gain insights into the structure, functions, and services offered by various state agencies, enhancing their ability to navigate and utilize these resources effectively.

2 credit hours, \$20.00

[Click here](#) to register

## Professional Development Blast

### Essentials: Brain Development

This course explores how early experiences and interactions with caring, loving adults shape brain development in infants and toddlers. Participants will learn about the crucial role relationships play in nurturing healthy brain growth, how feeling safe and secure influences a child's development during their formative years, and the types of experiences necessary for healthy development.

2.5 credit hours, \$20.00

[Click here](#) to register

### Supporting Developmental Monitoring and Screening in Early Care and Education Settings

This training will help participants understand the differences in developmental monitoring and screening and why they are so important to children and families. Participants will learn how they can track and celebrate children's milestones and strategies for collaborating with families on supporting children's healthy growth. You can play an essential role in our state's early intervention efforts!

2 credit hours, \$20.00

[Click here](#) to register

### The Power of Positive Relationships: Supporting Birth-Three Social Emotional Development

This course is designed to equip early childhood professionals with the essential knowledge and practical skills necessary to foster healthy social-emotional development in infants and toddlers. Recognizing that the foundation of a child's lifelong emotional and social well-being is established during the formative years, this course aims to explore effective strategies that promote positive relationships between caregivers and young children.

2 credit hours, \$20.00

[Click here](#) to register

### Adult Learning and Why It Matters!

This training will: explain distinguishing features of adult learning; support early childhood education specialists, trainers, and coaches in understanding their learning styles and strengths; provide specific techniques to promote adult learning, and; highlight how learning is unique to each individual.

6 credit hours, \$20.00

[Click here](#) to register

### Math Concepts for Children Birth-Three

This course is designed to equip educators with the foundational knowledge and practical strategies necessary for integrating mathematical concepts into the daily lives of children from birth to three years of age. Recognizing the critical role that early experiences play in cognitive development, this course emphasizes the importance of fostering mathematical thinking through engaging, everyday interactions.

4 credit hours, \$20.00

[Click here](#) to register

### Temperaments of Infants and Toddlers

By exploring the unique temperamental characteristics of young children, educators will learn how to more effectively perceive and meet each child's needs. Participants will also discuss how the temperaments of both the teacher and the child influence relationships in a group setting, and will gain insight into how goodness of fit creates the most supportive care environment.

2 credit hours, \$20.00

[Click here](#) to register

## Professional Development Blast



Did you know that the first three years of a child's life is critical for brain development? Did you know that you play an important role in a child's life in terms of attachment and behavior guidance? You can learn about these concepts and more when you take the New Infant Toddler Teacher Orientation (NITTO).

NITTO provides foundational knowledge and skills that are essential for new teachers to understand and a great refresher for experienced teachers and administrators as well. **NITTO is free with 14 contact credit hours** earned upon completion. It is located on [DCDEE's Moodle website](#). You will need your NCID to register.

For more information about NITTO contact [itorientation@earlyyearsnc.org](mailto:itorientation@earlyyearsnc.org)