



Child Care News



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COPAYMENT WAIVERS ENDING FOR PUBLICLY FUNDED CHILD CARE (PFCC)

The temporary copayment waiver support for families receiving PFCC will end July 1, 2023. PFCC providers must begin collecting the assigned copayments for the service week beginning July 2, 2023. Programs providing PFCC must make sure they have signed copayment agreements with their families receiving PFCC.

Assigned copayments can be viewed in KinderConnect for each child with an authorization to your program. Click this link to get to the co-payment Quick Reference Card: [How to View Co-Payments](#).

NEW EARLY LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS TRAINING

The Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS) outline the essential domains of development and school readiness from infancy through the end of preschool. They describe what children need to learn and illustrate how skills may develop in the first five years of life. Early care and education providers across Ohio use the standards to guide curriculum selection and implementation. Programs participating in Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) are required to have a copy of the ELDS available in each classroom (may be an electronic or printed copy).

The ELDS were recently revised by the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) and the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). New training is available to support early care and education professionals who use the ELDS in their programming. The ELDS training is free and is Ohio Approved for two hours. The training is available in the [Ohio Professional Registry](#). It consists of online

on-demand modules. Search for Early Learning and Development Standards Overview Training or ST10129633. [Instructions for Accessing the Early Learning and Development Standards](#) are on [this page](#).

More ELDS trainings will be available. All ELDS trainings will be free, Ohio Approved, and listed in the Ohio Professional Registry. There will be in-person and online training options statewide.

The ODE and the ODJFS licensed sites serving infants, toddlers, or preschool children received one copy of the standards. Additional copies are available at no cost. They are available at in-person trainings through local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agencies. They are also available through State Support Teams. If you did not receive a copy, please reach out to your State Support Team or CCR&R.

Contact ELSR@education.ohio.gov for questions about the ELDS.

AUGUST 2 IS NATIONAL COLORING BOOK DAY

Coloring books help children develop fine motor skills. They also help children learn focus. Have children create their own classroom coloring books. Each child makes an outline drawing, and the teacher copies them to staple into books for the children to color in. Let them spend time coloring in their books and share their work with the class.

Spotlight on Child Care Professionals

Early care and education professionals are valuable members of our communities. They find passion and purpose working in a field that has a huge impact on the lives of children.

ODJFS is recognizing professionals who have worked in child care for 20 years or more. You are encouraged to submit a recommendation to spotlight an early care and education professional who has had an impact on the children in their care. ODJFS will review all submissions and honor selected individuals in a future issue of the Child Care News. Please email the following information to srnc@jfs.ohio.gov.

- Name,
- Photo, and
- A brief narrative of their life and career
- Years working in early care and education field

Some suggestions of items you can include in the narrative are:

- Why they chose early care and education as their profession
- What is their favorite part about working in child care
- Why you are submitting a recommendation to spotlight this professional
- What is their favorite tip for running their classroom

Please email this information by July 28, 2023.

LEARNING ABOUT ANIMAL CLASSIFICATION – FROGS AND TOADS

Children love learning about the natural world around them. Learning about animals is interesting to children because of the way animals interact, eat, move, and communicate. Children are also budding scientists who like to learn facts about animals and how to group them by their similarities and differences.

You can help children understand how to classify animals by exploring similarities and differences between frogs and toads:

- Read books to the children about frogs and toads. Then create a **Venn diagram** with the similarities and differences.
- Play a recording of frog sounds and then play one with toad sounds. Ask children to imitate the sounds and to describe the differences.

- Consider taking a field trip to a nature center, zoo, or pet store to observe frogs and toads. If a field trip is not practical, have the children watch videos of frogs and toads. Then ask the children to draw pictures of each and describe the differences.
- Teach children about the habitats of frogs and toads. Then ask them to describe the similarities and differences.

Extension activities:

- **Play leapfrog:**
Show children what lily pads look like. Have kids cut large green circles out of construction paper. Let them cut out one small 'v' shape out of the side to make it look like a lily pad shape. Let them design a lily pad course on the floor. Then have the children jump from lily pad to lily pad. You can combine it with a game of 'Simon says.' Tell the children to jump or stop jumping, but only if you say "Simon says" first. The lily pads could also be outside on a sidewalk or drawn with green sidewalk chalk.
- **Help the children make a Toad Abode:**
Toads are most active at night or on cloudy days. On sunny days they like to stay in burrows underground to stay moist and cool. The children can help make a cool, dark spot for a toad on a hot day by making a "toad abode." Ask for donations of small clay flower pots for the children to decorate. Have the children turn the pot upside down and decorate the outside with paint or markers. Let the children take home their pots. Let them know to prop up one side of the upside-down pot to make an opening for the toad to enter when they place it outside. Additional information about "toad abodes" is on page 19 of the Wild Ohio for Kids Wildlife Journal at: <https://ohiodnr.gov/static/documents/wildlife/education/Wild%20Ohio%20for%20Kids%20Wildlife%20Journal.pdf>
- Suggestions of books to check out from the library about frogs and toads are:
National Geographic Kids, Frogs by Marfé Ferguson Delano
Warty Toads by Meish Goldish
Toad by Ruth Owen
Frog or Toad? by Jamie Rice
Is it a Frog or a Toad? by Susan B. Katz
Toad Weather by Sandra Markle

PIE TIME

Favorite summer desserts include fruit pies! Cherry pie, blackberry pie, and strawberry pie are a few of the favorites. Summer is a great time to include fun pie activities in your lesson plans.

Hands-on pie making:

- Take the children on a field trip to pick berries. If you cannot take a field trip you can use store bought berries. You can ask someone from your county extension office to come to your program. Ask them to talk about how berries grow. Here's a link with contact information for county extension offices: <https://extension.osu.edu/lao#county>
- Have the children wash, dry, and remove any stems or leaves from the berries. Large berries, such as strawberries, may need to be cut into smaller pieces.
- Let the children work together to mix up ingredients for pie dough, then give each child a small amount of dough to roll out two circles of dough. Have them pat one circle into a mini pie pan.
- Have the children add the berries, sprinkle sugar on top, cover with the second circle of dough, pinch the edges together, and prick with a fork. Place the pies on a baking sheet that is covered with parchment paper. Write the children's names next to their pies and bake.

The children could also make homemade ice cream to eat with their pies. Here's a website with instructions for making ice cream in a bag: www.thebestideasforkids.com/ice-cream-in-a-bag/

Dramatic play, pie delivery:

- Give children pie pans and pictures of fruit to put in them.
- Have children take turns being pie bakers, pie sellers, pie deliverers, and pie buyers.
- Give the children play money and boxes to use as cash registers.
- Let the children make signs with the price of pies.
- If age appropriate, let them pay with the pretend money and make change.

Teach the children about graphs by making a pie graph about pies:

- Cut a large circle from a poster board.
- Cut the circle into as many pie pieces as there are children in the room.
- Have the children write their name on their pie slice.
- Ask the children what kind of fruit pie or plain fruit they like best. Have the children draw a picture of that fruit on the pie slice.
- Have them tape their pie slices back in the circle. Group fruit types together.

Practice letters and names by making shaving cream pies:

- Put shaving cream in a pie plate.
- Give the children spoons and let them stir washable paint into the shaving cream.
- Add scent to the shaving cream by sprinkling in some vanilla or cinnamon.
- Let them practice writing their names and letters in the shaving cream.

Books about pie:

Pie's in the Oven by Betty G. Birney

Chef Kate's Can't-Wait-to-Try Pie by Laurie Friedman

The Apple Pie Tree by Zoe Hall

The Apple Pie That Papa Baked by Lauren Thompson

Resources for Providers

Receive free guidance to help prevent non-compliances before they happen!

Visit the [ODJFS Programs](#) webpage and [BOLDBeginning!](#) website to obtain your free resources NOW!

Resources for Families

Please share this page with families enrolled in your program.

PUBLICLY FUNDED CHILD CARE (PFCC) COPAYMENT WAIVER SUPPORT ENDING

The PFCC co-payment waiver support will end on July 1, 2023. All families receiving PFCC will pay their assigned co-payments to their authorized provider(s) beginning the service week starting July 2, 2023. Talk to your provider to make sure you have a signed co-payment agreement.

If you want to know what your weekly co-payment amount is, you may view it in the following systems:

KinderSign/Time Attendance and Payment System (TAP)

Follow the instructions on this co-payment Quick Reference Card: <https://ohiocctap.info/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/KSign-QRC-How-to-See-Co-Pay-OH-0223.pdf>

For assistance using the TAP system, please call 1-833-866-1708.

Ohio Benefits Self-Service Portal (SSP)

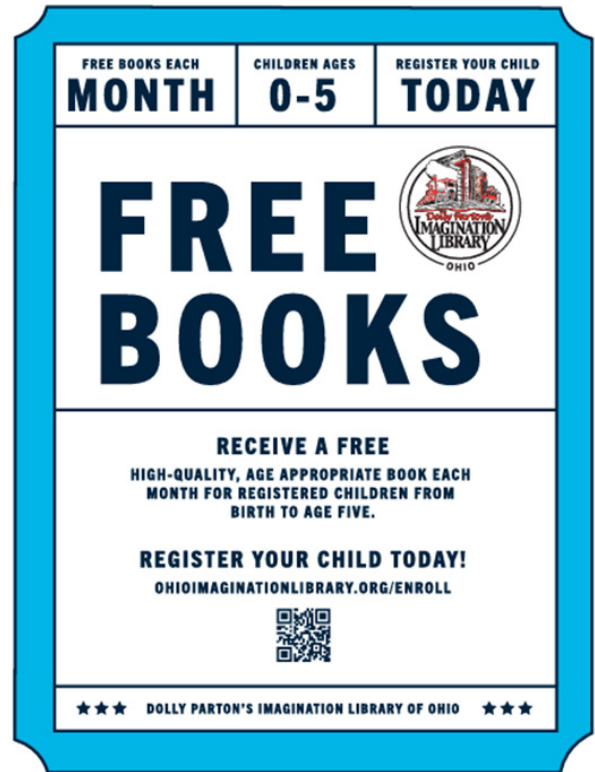
The Ohio Benefits website (benefits.ohio.gov) has helpful step-by-step video instructions for navigating the SSP.

To see your PFCC copayment amount in the SSP:

- Hover over Access My Benefits and then click on "View My Benefits."
- Select the desired case and click "Save and Continue." You will be taken to the screen which provides benefit information for the case.
- In the child care section, you can see the weekly copayment amount.

The attached flyer has additional information regarding the Ohio Benefits website

IMAGINATION LIBRARY: FREE BOOKS FOR CHILDREN UNDER FIVE



EXPECTING A NEW BABY IN YOUR FAMILY?

A new baby means many changes for the whole family. Some tips to help you prepare your older children are:

- See if your hospital offers a sibling preparation class.
- Let your child know who will care for them when mom goes to the hospital.
- Read books about new babies.
- Show your child pictures from when they were a baby.
- Talk to your child about what will be different in your home when the new baby arrives.
- Talk to your child about ways they can help care for the baby. For example, they can hand you a new diaper or wipes at changing time.

For more age appropriate ways to prepare children for a new baby: www.healthychildren.org/English/ages-stages/prenatal/Pages/Preparing-Your-Family-for-a-New-Baby.aspx

Resources for Families

Please share this page with families enrolled in your program.

WHAT IS SUMMER LEARNING SLIDE?

A Johns Hopkins study found that children can lose up to 2 months of what they learned during the school year. Help children use the skills they have learned in school during summer months. This can help stop the summer slide. Families can have fun with children while helping them exercise their minds.

Tips for combating summer learning slide:

- **Cooking together:** Cooking reinforces math and reading skills. Reading the recipe and following the directions together helps with reading skills. Measuring and mixing helps with math skills such as fractions, estimating, and planning.
- **Making a scrapbook:** Take pictures of fun summer activities the children take part in. Print the pictures and have the children tape them into a notebook. Help your children write sentences about the activities.
- **Playing games:** Children love to play games. A deck of cards will let you play many different card games with your kids and help their math skills. Games like 'Go fish' and 'Concentration' help with number recognition and prediction. Games like '31' and 'Hearts' help teach addition. The great thing about card games is you can modify them for different age and skill levels.

The following website has math card games to play with your kids: <https://www.weareteachers.com/math-card-games/>

DANGERS OF BUTTON BATTERIES

Button cell batteries are flat, coin or button shaped batteries. They are found in many toys, remote controls, and other household items. Their small size makes them easy for children to swallow. Children may also be tempted to insert the batteries into noses or ears. These batteries cause serious internal damage and possible death when swallowed. Doctors warn families to keep these and all batteries away from children.

- Never leave batteries out.
- Keep remote controls out of the reach of children.
- Check items to make sure the battery compartments are securely fastened.
- Don't let children play with anything that has batteries that are easily accessed.
- If an item falls or is damaged, make sure the battery compartment is still securely fastened.
- Remind family members with hearing aids to keep their batteries and aids out of the reach of children.
- Immediately take your child to an emergency room if you think they swallowed a battery.

For additional information, please see: <https://healthychildren.org/English/safety-prevention/at-home/Pages/Button-Battery-Injuries-in-Children-A-Growing-Risk.aspx>

Lithium coin batteries can cause severe tissue burns in as little as **2 hours** and can cause lifelong injuries.



American Academy of Pediatrics
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Resources for Families

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SUMMERTIME SAFETY TIPS

Summer is a great time for children to spend time playing outdoors. However, there's a higher risk of some injuries that happen in the summer, according to Children's Hospital of Richmond, Virginia. Below is a list of some safety tips to help keep kids safe during summer months:

- Children should wear sunscreen with a sun protection factor higher than 30. Make sure they wait 20 minutes after applying it before getting in the water.
- The American Academy of Pediatrics states that hats, sunglasses, shade, and appropriate clothing help protect children from too much sun.
- Avoid prolonged sun exposure from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.
- Make sure children drink enough water. The American Academy of Pediatrics states:
 - Children ages 1-3 need approximately 4 cups of beverages per day, including milk and water.
 - Children ages 4-8 need approximately 5 cups per day.
 - Older children need approximately 7-8 cups per day.
 - Amounts should increase during times of heat and humidity.
 - Amounts should increase during high activity periods.
- Don't let children play with sparklers. Give them safe light up toys instead.
- Children should always wear appropriate helmets while riding bikes, scooters, and skateboards. Make sure the helmet fits correctly.
- Make sure children wear the correct size life jacket on boats and near open bodies of water.
- Don't let children use water wings or swim noodles instead of life jackets.
- An adult that can swim must watch children swimming at all times. The adult should not be distracted. Keep young children within arm's reach at all times.

Benefits.Ohio.Gov Refresh!

Fresh New Look and Answers to Your Common Questions!



Easily Access:

- Your benefits account via the SSP
- Answers to frequently asked questions
- Additional programs available to you
- Latest updates!



NEW LOOK



GET ANSWERS!

Families can now view commonly asked questions and receive answers and additional resources to assist them.

VISIT US AT:

benefits.ohio.gov

Benefits.Ohio.Gov Enhancements

EXPLORE PROGRAMS

Families can learn about other assistance programs and support services they may qualify for.

HOW TO VIDEOS

Families can view step-by-step video instructions of common SSP actions and navigation.

UPDATES + ALERTS

Families can receive the latest updates and alerts related to benefit assistance.