

Professional Development Opportunities...One of AFP's FREE Resources!
Statewide AFP Workshops **AND Study Groups Fall 2013**

AFP Workshops are open to the public and are FREE of charge. Explore a topic with us!

**NAEYC Accreditation Overview Journey
AND
Technical Assistance for the *Fall 2013* AFP Application**



Join the Accreditation Facilitation Project (AFP) as we journey through the four steps of NAEYC Accreditation. This workshop is among several offerings provided by the Connecticut AFP in an effort to support continuous quality improvement through the NAEYC Accreditation process. Educators seeking accreditation or re –accreditation will find this workshop helpful to their understanding of the requirements of the system and the steps of the NAEYC Accreditation process.

Participants in this professional development session will:

- gain understanding of NAEYC's Program Standards and Accreditation Criteria;
- learn or be updated regarding the self-study materials, 4 steps of the NAEYC Accreditation process, and requirements;
- learn about current local and national resources to support programs engaged in the NAEYC Accreditation process.

Overview sessions may be separate from or paired with time to review the Fall 2013 AFP application and access technical assistance on its completion (see our list below). To learn more about applying for the AFP's individualized supports, contact Deb Flis at deb.flis@ct.gov.

Completed applications must be received at the Office of Early Childhood, 165 Capitol Avenue, Room 266, Hartford, CT 06106, by noon on Friday, October 18.

	Date and time	Region	Content	Location
1	Tuesday October 1st 9:30 – 11:30 am	North East	NAEYC Accreditation Overview &/or Technical Assistance for AFP Application	ONLINE Contact: dstipe@eastconn.org
2	Tuesday October 1st 1:30 – 3:30 pm	North East	Understanding the Renewal Process &/or Technical Assistance for AFP Application	ONLINE Contact: dstipe@eastconn.org
3	Tuesday October 1st 1 – 3 pm	South West	NAEYC Accreditation Overview & Technical Assistance for AFP Application	Norwalk City Hall 125 East Avenue Room 333 Norwalk

Professional Development Opportunities ...More of the AFP's FREE Resources!

	Date and time	Region	Content	Location
4	Tuesday October 1st 2 – 4 pm	North West	NAEYC Accreditation Overview & Technical Assistance for AFP Application	Education Connection 355 Goshen Road Litchfield
5	Thursday October 3rd 1:30 – 3:30 pm	South West	NAEYC Accreditation Overview & Technical Assistance for AFP Application	Hall/Care Around the Clock 500 State Street Bridgeport
6	Thursday October 3rd 2 – 5 pm	North Central	NAEYC Accreditation Overview & Technical Assistance for AFP Application	CREC Central Council Room 111 Charter Oak Avenue Hartford
7	Friday October 4th 9:30 – 11 am	South Central	NAEYC Accreditation Overview	Gateway Community College 20 Church Street New Haven Room S119
8	Friday October 4th 11 – noon	South Central	Technical Assistance for AFP Application	Gateway Community College 20 Church Street New Haven Room S119
9	Monday October 7th 2 – 4 pm	North West	NAEYC Accreditation Overview & Technical Assistance for AFP Application	Education Connection 345 Main Street Danbury
10	Wednesday October 16th 10 – 11 am	North East	Technical Assistance for AFP Application	ONLINE Contact: dstipe@eastconn.org

Study Groups Fall 2013

NAEYC Standard	Region	Date & Time	Location
Preparation for the Pathways Exam: Infant/Toddler Growth & Development	North Central	Mondays September 16 th October 7 th November 4 th 12:30 – 2 pm	CREC Central 111 Charter Oak Avenue Hartford

The Accreditation Facilitation Project is a component of Connecticut Charts-A-Course, the state's professional development and program improvement system, in the Office of Early Childhood.

Workshops Fall 2013

Reading and Eating: Infant Toddler Caregivers Book Club

Come and develop a network of support amongst those who spend time with the youngest members of the early childhood spectrum: **infant and toddler caregivers!!** Using materials from the Program for Infant Toddler Caregivers (PITC), we will explore the growth and development of infants and toddlers. However, the focus of this four part series is not only to increase knowledge of infant/toddler development: it also provides an opportunity to meet other caregivers and learn about various ways to provide quality, loving care and learning for infants and toddlers. Each participant must commit to attending all four sessions and will receive resource books (at no charge). Readings will be assigned between sessions and participants should consider this required component before signing up. A light meal will be served.

Region	Date and Time	Location
North West	Wednesdays October 9 th October 30 th December 4 th December 18 th 6:30 – 8:30 pm	Education Connection 345 Main Street Danbury

Math with Infants and Toddlers? You Bet!

Do you ever wonder if children under 3 years of age understand math and how on earth to explore math with them in the classroom or discuss math concepts with families? You will leave this workshop understanding early math concepts appropriate for infants and toddlers; and ready to create quality math experiences for our youngest learners.

Carmelita Valencia-Daye, Professor of Early Childhood, Gateway Community College

Region	Date and Time	Location
South Central	Monday October 21 st 7 – 9 pm	Gateway Community College 20 Church Street New Haven Room S217

Developing and Teaching Classroom Rules to Preschoolers

This is an introductory level session that addresses strategies to encourage and promote pro-social behaviors within preschool classrooms through class rules. We will discuss the benefits of classroom rules, communicating and teaching about rules, and children's participation in the rule making process. Participants will also explore using a "team" approach to limit setting and some of the emotional reactions around setting limits/managing behaviors of young children.

Region	Date and Time	Location
North West	Wednesday December 11 th 6 – 8 pm	Education Connection 355 Goshen Road Litchfield

Block Building as a Vehicle for Math and Science Learning

Unit blocks are a perfect material for helping young children to explore many different math and science concepts: cause/effect relationships, size, positioning, balance, etc. Discover ways that you can increase the math and science learning in your block center through your choice of materials, planned experiences, language, and “teachable moments.” This workshop is perfect for someone who feels that their block center is not being used enough...or not being used in a variety of constructive ways.

Region	Date and Time	Location
North West	Wednesday November 13 th 6 – 8 pm	Village Preschool 141 Greenwood Avenue Bethel

Beautiful Stuff: Working with Found Materials to Foster Creativity, Exploration and Experimentation

As we consider providing experiences for children to develop their higher-order thinking skills, let's ask ourselves these questions: Will providing children with unusual found and natural materials stimulate a child's sense of discovery? Will they use their sense of discovery to experiment, problem-solve, and create? This workshop asks teachers to think differently about the use of materials in the classroom. Participants will have the opportunity to collect, discover, and experiment with found and natural materials. Only when we learn to make meaning by studying these materials, can we facilitate the child's adventure with them.

Region	Date and Time	Location
East	Tuesday October 29 th 9 am – 3 pm	EASTCONN 376 Hartford Turnpike Hampton

A Golden Opportunity: NAEYC Portfolios

Can an assessor see what your program is like year-round with just one visit? Using classroom and program portfolios, each program has a chance to tell their unique stories. Find out how to maximize your collection time, space, and “story-telling.” Come away with tools to help build great portfolios and ideas about what to do with them after the assessor visit. Participants are encouraged to bring their portfolio items with them to share strategies, ask questions, and learn to answer the question “Does this piece of evidence fully answer the criteria and is it the best documentation I can provide?”

Region	Date and Time	Location
South West	Monday October 7 th 1:30 – 3:30 pm	Hall/Care Around the Clock 500 State Street Bridgeport
East	Thursday December 12 th 5:30 – 7:30 pm	Dime Savings Bank 276 Norwich Salem Turnpike Norwich

Professional Development Opportunities ...More of the AFP's FREE Resources!

Using the Classroom Portfolio for Professional Development & Reflection

You have already put your Classroom Portfolio together, the first time you went through NAEYC accreditation. Now what do you do with it? How do you sustain the quality of the evidence? Join us as we explore a way you can make your Classroom Portfolio work for you! Learn how you can use it as a tool for your own professional development.

Region	Date and Time	Location
East	Tuesday October 22 nd 5:30 – 7:30 pm	EASTCONN 376 Hartford Turnpike Hampton

Who's Got Your Back? NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct

Decisions, decisions, decisions. We make them every day. In an age of increasing accountability and in a career with immense responsibility, the NAEYC Code of Ethical Conduct helps build reflective practice, communication and collaboration. Learn how to use the Code for improved practice starting today. This training supports NAEYC criterion 6.A. 01.

Region	Date and Time	Location
North West	Tuesday October 1 st 6 – 8 pm	Cornwall Child Center 8 Cream Hill Road West Cornwall
South Central	Thursday October 10 th 6 – 8 pm	Gateway Community College 20 Church Street New Haven Room S217
North Central	Thursday November 7 th 3 – 5 pm	CREC Central 111 Charter Oak Avenue Hartford

Using Action Plans as a Strategy to Improve Program Quality

Developing an action plan is like setting the GPS to your next location. With a good plan, you can see how much you have progressed towards a goal and how far you are from your destination. This session will also introduce you to the Program Administration Scale (PAS) to help you set a goal and map out the steps needed to get there.....and keep you on your course. The rapidly changing early childhood landscape demands an increased attention to program quality and written action plans can become a program administrator's biggest asset. Free PAS books will be available for the first 15 programs who register.

Region	Date and Time	Location
South Central	Wednesday November 13 th 6 – 8 pm	Gateway Community College 20 Church Street New Haven Room S217
North West	Tuesday December 3 rd 2 – 4 pm	Education Connection 345 Main Street Danbury

Professional Development Opportunities ...More of the AFP's FREE Resources!

Bring Out the Leader in You

Me? A leader? Completion of this **2-part series** for teaching staff that supervise or mentor other staff members meets the time requirement and professional development detailed in **NAEYC criterion 6.A.09**. Participants will learn to recognize “traits of a leader” in themselves and use those traits to develop skills in supervision and mentoring to foster a more effective teaching team in the classroom.

Participants should plan to attend both parts of the series!

Region	Date and Time	Location
East	Thursdays October 10 th & 31 st 5:30 – 7:30 pm	Dime Savings Bank 290 Salem Turnpike Norwich
North Central	Tuesdays October 15 th & November 12 th 2 – 4 pm	CREC Central 111 Charter Oak Avenue Hartford
South West	Tuesdays December 10 th & 17 th 1:30 – 3:30 pm	Earthplace Nature Center 10 Woodside Lane Westport

Technology and the ECE Community

We live in a world filled with technology. How does it fit into an early childhood program? Should technology use be for administrative purposes only? What are teachers using in their classrooms with children?

We are starting a book/study group to prod our thinking and start some discussions. Want to join us? Wendy McGrath and I will facilitate the discussion. It will be a guided discovery with fellow explorers.

Some of the resources we will use will include the NAEYC/Fred Rogers' Center position statement; Making Digital Decisions, Fran Simon & Karen Nemeth; and Teaching in the Digital Classroom, Brian Puerling.

Topics we might discuss include:

- Having a program statement on technology, including social media use
- Using software for documentation purposes
- Using iPads/iPods with children
- Communicating with parents via technology
- Evaluating apps for children's use
- Pinterest
- Any questions you want to pose; any software or hardware you are using and want to share with the rest of us.

We are scheduling 3 sessions and request you commit to attending all sessions.

Discussion Facilitators: Wendy McGrath and Carol Annette

Region	Date and Time	Location
South Central	Tuesday, October 22 nd	S119
	Thursday, November 14 th	S121
	Thursday, December 12 th	S121
	2 – 4 pm	Gateway Community College 20 Church Street New Haven

Professional Development Opportunities ...More of the AFP's FREE Resources!

Statewide AFP Fall 2013 Registration Information



Please be considerate and professional by registering for events. Registering ensures that facilitators have enough materials for you and that you are informed of changes or cancellations!

Northwest Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please phone or email name, program information and session(s) you will be attending to Kristen Kennen, 203-791-1904 x178, kennen@educationconnection.org

Southwest Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please phone or email name, program information and session(s) you will be attending to Donna Delohery, 203-791-1904, x140 or delohery@educationconnection.org **at least one week in advance of the scheduled date.**

For directions, please use www.mapquest.com. For weather related cancellations, call 203-791-1904, x140.

North Central Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required. Register by email to Michelle Blocker**, at mblocker@crec.org, and include your name, program name and town, contact information and sessions you would like to attend. Confirmations will be sent by email.

In case of inclement weather, sessions may be cancelled or postponed. Call 860.509.3692 for information.

If you need to register by phone, please leave your name, contact information, program name and town at 860.509.3692.

South Central Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please email name, program information and session(s) you will be attending to: Carol Annette, cannette@gwcc.commnet.edu or call 203.285.2229 or 800.236.2714. You will only be contacted if there is no room left in the workshop or there is a change in schedule.

For directions to Gateway Community College go to www.gwcc.commnet.edu

Northeast Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please email name, program information and session(s) you will be attending to Debra Stipe at dstipe@eastconn.org.

RSVPs must be received two weeks before the first scheduled date of the workshop and/or study group.

Southeast Registration Information:

All workshops are offered free of charge. **Registration is required.** Please register online at www.learn.k12.ct.us. For information, call or email Michele Pearson: 800-292-6971 or mpearson@learn.k12.ct.us.
