

Subject: Save the Date - Core Competencies for Early Childhood Educators in Rhode Island Feedback Forums

Dear Early Learning Educator:

The Department of Human Services and the Rhode Island Department of Education will be holding several forums in July and August to solicit feedback on the first draft of the Core Competencies for Early Childhood Educators in Rhode Island.

This document is designed for several purposes including:

- Supporting teacher's individual professional development efforts;
- Assisting program administrators with articulating teacher job expectations and designing evaluation processes;
- Serving as a framework for Rhode Island's early education leaders for developing a state-wide professional development system;
- Guiding higher education and professional development providers in the development of curricula and training opportunities, and;
- Helping families to identify quality early education settings for their children.

The goal of the forums is to gather feedback from stakeholders that will ensure that the core competencies document can be used effectively for these purposes. Attending stakeholders will participate in a structured discussion designed to elicit specific feedback and diverse views. Information and ideas gleaned through this discussion will be used to provide comments and feedback to the Core Competency Team who worked to develop the draft set of competencies. This feedback will be considered as the Team refines and finalizes the document.

Session Schedule and Registration

The forums will be held at the following times and locations. Please note that two of the forums will be focused on program director perspectives and four of the forums will be focused on teacher perspectives. **Please note the "Target Participant" column in the far right. It is important that you plan to attend a session that is appropriate to your role.** The "Director" sessions on July 15 and August 9 will focus on the usefulness of the document from the directors' perspective ONLY. Sessions on July 28 and August 9, 24, and 29 will focus only on the teachers' perspective.

Target Participant	Date	Time	Location
Teachers	July 28, 2011	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	Riverside Branch Library
Teachers	August 9, 2011	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	URI Multicultural Center
Teachers	August 24, 2011	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	Northern Collaborative
Teachers	August 29, 2011	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	Warwick Public Library
Program Directors	July 25, 2011	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	URI Multicultural Center
Program Directors	August 4, 2011	6:00 – 7:30 p.m.	United Way

Please register for the session you would like to attend by clicking on the following link:
<http://www.eride.ri.gov/workshopreg/>

In advance of the meeting, a draft of the competencies will be distributed via email. If you cannot attend one of the sessions above but would like to share your comments, you will also receive instructions on how to share your feedback via an online survey.

If you have questions about the feedback forums, please feel free to contact Michele Palermo at Michele.palermo@ride.ri.gov or (401) 222-8941.

We hope you will attend.

Sincerely,

Michele Palermo
Coordinator of Early Childhood Initiatives
Rhode Island Department of Education

Karen Beese
Child Care Specialist
Rhode Island Department of Human Services