

# November Update



## KSDE Early Childhood Program Updates

Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Sent by listserv to Early Learning 0-8 and posted at [www.ksde.org/default.aspx?tabid=514](http://www.ksde.org/default.aspx?tabid=514)

### No KSDE Early Childhood Webinar this Friday, November 6

We know that it's a busy time, with multiple opportunities to connect with peers this month. **We are cancelling the KSDE Early Childhood webinar previously scheduled for this Friday, November 6 at 11:00 a.m.** Enjoy taking something off your to-do list for the week – if you have questions about these program updates or would like to visit with a member of the KSDE Early Childhood Team, don't hesitate to reach out! We'd also love to hear about any bright spots, funding opportunities, or upcoming professional learning that you'd like us to share with your peers.

### Kansas State Department of Education Division of Learning Services Lunchtime Hot Topics

On the first Wednesday of each month the Kansas State Department of Education shares video Lunchtime Hot Topics updates. This month's updates will be posted on [the KSDE Livemedia Youtube channel](#) on Wednesday. You can visit [the Division of Learning Services webpage](#) for previous updates. Please submit any questions to [lunchtime@ksde.org](mailto:lunchtime@ksde.org).

### Don't miss this Wednesday's *All in for Kansas Kids* webinar – Nov. 4 at 12:00 p.m.

[All in for Kansas Kids webinars](#) (every other Wednesday at 12:00 p.m.) inform and connect Kansas early childhood stakeholders about our state's early childhood system. Tomorrow's webinar will feature [1-800-CHILDREN](#). This is a fantastic resource and you won't want to miss the webinar! 1-800-CHILDREN provides an outlet to discuss parenting questions without judgment 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Experienced, trained staff can connect families and caregivers with helpful resources and services and offer free, confidential support on a variety of parenting issues. Exciting new updates will make this resource even more useful for communities across the state. If you're not able to join the webinar live, you can visit the [webinar archive](#). The webinar will also highlight [Kansas Power of the Positive](#) resources available to help make the business case for supporting family-friendly workplace policies and early childhood investments.

### November 10: Joint Kansas State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) and Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) Meeting

The Kansas State Interagency Coordinating Council (SICC) and the Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) meet jointly once per year. The 2020 joint meeting is Nov. 10 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. For more information and to view meeting agendas, visit the [Kansas SICC website](#) and [the Special Education Advisory Council webpage](#). Please email Jordan Christian ([jchristian@ksde.org](mailto:jchristian@ksde.org)) for the Zoom link to join the meeting.



## Kansas Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot and Statewide ASQ

Thank you for your work to build strong relationships with families, even in the midst of this unique school year! Preparing schools, families and students to start kindergarten is critically important to our *Kansans Can* vision. As of November 1, schools have entered 21,546 Ages & Stages Questionnaires®, Third Edition (ASQ-3) screenings and 21,243 Ages & Stages Questionnaires®: Social-Emotional, Second Edition (ASQ:SE-2) screenings for this year's kindergarten-age students.

- Please do enter in any pending Family Access screenings or questionnaires completed for incoming kindergarteners using pen and paper, even if you missed the original deadline.
- These deadlines do not apply to Preschool-Aged At-Risk programs and Kansas Preschool Pilot grantees. You [click here to review the 2020-2021 preschool program requirements for developmental screenings](#).
- As of July 2020, districts can use a building ASQ Online account for any child they serve in that building, birth through kindergarten entry, at any point during the year.
- Connect with Jordan Christian ([jchristian@ksde.org](mailto:jchristian@ksde.org)) and Amanda Petersen ([apetersen@ksde.org](mailto:apetersen@ksde.org)) with questions.

This is a good time for kindergarten teachers and administrators to reflect on this year's transition into kindergarten activities. What went well? What could improve?

- View [resources for the upcoming Kindergarten Readiness Summit](#).
- Review the [new Kansans Can Star Recognition rubric for Kindergarten Readiness](#).

The Kansas State Department of Education is collaborating with other state agencies to expand access to the ASQ. Developmental screening and promotion are an important introduction for families into the Kansas early childhood system. Screening helps parents and providers know that children are on track and creates an access point to connect families with the supports, resources and services they need to thrive. Kansas early childhood programs have worked hard to make developmental screening and referral a regular part of their work. A new statewide contract will allow **all** Kansas community-based and school-based early childhood care and education providers to provide the ASQ:3 and ASQ:SE-2 to **all** Kansas children birth through kindergarten entry.

Benefits of a coordinated, statewide developmental screening approach include increased access for families through the Family Access portal, cost savings, time and capacity savings, increased understanding of screening practices and needs across the state, and infrastructure for programs to easily organize and manage screening through a convenient web-based tool (ASQ Online).

There will be 32 new Kansas ASQ Enterprise accounts, each administered by the local Part C network. Part C programs and community partners will have access to technical assistance and support with the setup and management of the Enterprise Account. State agencies are finalizing the details to begin setting these accounts up, and you may hear from your local Part C network about the initiative in the coming months. Please reach out to Erica Figueroa ([erica.l.figueroa34@ku.edu](mailto:erica.l.figueroa34@ku.edu)) if you have any questions about this initiative.



## Supports available for Kansas families and essential workers

We know there are many new programs available to support families and essential workers during the pandemic. Some supports you may want to review this month include:

- The **Kansas Hero Relief Program** provides financial support for qualifying workers in need of health care and child care. To see the list of qualifying workers, which includes education staff, visit: <http://ksheroirelief.com>.
- The Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, in collaboration with the Kansas Department for Children and Families, is making **visible personal protective equipment (PPE) available to deaf and hard of hearing individuals, their family members, and/or personal caretakers**. This visible PPE program offers each individual the option of obtaining face shields or clear/smiley masks (either adult or child size). All visible PPE's are made with see-through materials to allow for lip-reading and non-verbal facial expressions.
  - Each individual may request two items, and each household is limited to four face shields and/or total 10 PPE items. Consideration is on a first-come, first serve basis, while supplies last. This program is only available to Kansas residents.
  - Click here for the [online request form for visible PPE](#). The Kansas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing will use the email address listed on the request form (or phone if you do not have email) to contact you if there are further questions about eligibility or delivery information. Expect about two to four weeks for processing and/or distribution. If you have trouble using the form or have questions, please contact [Megan.Essary@ks.gov](mailto:Megan.Essary@ks.gov) or 785-368-8034; or VP 785-246-5077.
- **Renter and Landlord Supports**. The [Kansas Eviction Prevention Program \(KEPP\)](#) is designed to decrease evictions and increase housing stability by assisting landlords and tenants experiencing financial hardship due to the pandemic. Through the program:
  - Landlords and tenants apply for up to \$5000 per household to pay delinquent rental payments dating as far back as April 1, 2020.
  - Payments will be made directly to the landlord, who must agree not to evict the household for nonpayment of rent for the months of KEPP assistance received.
  - Landlords must also agree to waive any late fees accrued during the months for which assistance is received.
  - Follow the [step-by-step application guide](#) or visit the [Kansas Eviction Protection Program web page](#) for more information.
- **Healthcare.gov Open Enrollment through December 15**. Kansans can visit <https://www.healthcare.gov/> and click "Find Local Help" to search for local agents, brokers, and assisters.



## Other KSDE Updates, Upcoming Professional Learning and News You Can Use

**November is Kansas Reads to Preschoolers Month!** This annual event promotes reading to children under age 5. Visit the [Kansas State Library website](#) for free resources, including online access to this year's title.

**Workplace Wellness Academy for Early Childhood:** The Kansas Head Start Association has partnered with Generation Wellness to bring you the [Workplace Wellness Academy](#), a 2-hour self-paced online training for the early childhood community. With stress and anxiety on the rise, there is no better time than now to focus on wellness. This course equips you and your staff with 20+ tools for less stress and more success. Register now to learn new strategies and feel empowered. Participate in the online modules through December 15th at a special discounted rate of \$79/person (a \$20 discount). Visit the [Workplace Wellness Academy website](#) for details and registration.

[A recap of the webinar \*Ensuring Developmentally Appropriate Practice Amidst a Global Pandemic\*](#) is now available online.

**2020-21 Kansas MTSS and Alignment Early Childhood Training:** Join the Kansas MTSS and Alignment Training Team for professional development opportunities! These events are open to all early childhood professionals and you can [register on the Kansas Technical Assistance System Network \(TASN\) website](#). Webinars are on Fridays 1:00 – 2:30 p.m. via Zoom.

- Nov. 13: Universal Instructional Practices for Early Childhood
- Jan. 29: Embedded Learning Opportunities in Daily Practices
- Feb. 19: Tier 1 Early Numeracy Practices
- April 9: Teaching Phonological Awareness Skills at Tier 1

## Kansas Deaf-Blind Project Calendar of Events for Families and Professionals

- Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. CST: [Click here to register for Accessing Grade Level Education Curriculum](#). Discuss key components for providing access and progress in the grade-level general education curriculum, with specific applications for students who are deaf-blind. Also, information about planning and implementing effective academic instruction in the current environment of hybrid distance learning will be shared.
- Monday, Nov. 9, 11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. CST: [Click here to register for a 30-minute Conversation about DB Census and the Kansas Deaf-Blind Fund](#). Please bring your questions.
- Tuesday, Nov. 10, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.: [Click here to register for Tactile Sign Language and Diversity of Access](#). Tactile sign language, specifically, Pro-Tactile ASL (PTASL) and haptics, offers an immersive tactile experience and engages both communication partners in the interaction. This session will address various options that enhance positive touch access.
- Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. CST: [Click here to register for Early Literacy and Numeracy](#). Discuss the basic components of early literacy and numeracy and how they apply to students who are deaf-blind. Content will include research-based teaching strategies and how early literacy and numeracy instruction can be embedded in everyday routines and activities.



- Coming January 2021: Family Storytime! A group of state Deaf-Blind Projects has come together to create a family only online space to expand literacy, build confidence, meet other families, and have fun! Sessions will be 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. CST every Wednesday from January 6 until February 24, 2021. Each session will include a 45-minute adventure story, followed by a 15-minute craft session. The Kansas Deaf-Blind Project will send you a box containing a doll and all the supplies needed to participate in the Storytime craft. Families should [register for Marvin's American Adventure Storytime](#) by November 22.

**Save the Date: Kansas State Department of Education Virtual Annual Conference:** The Kansas State Department of Education is looking forward to hosting a virtual conference, Kansans Can: Celebrate! The conference will be offered as a live webinar on Friday, November 20, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Kansans Can: Celebrate! will highlight Dale Dennis' lifelong service to education in Kansas, recognize the conference art contest winners, include a presentation by Commissioner Watson, and showcase some of the best teachers in the state. There is no fee for participants. Additional details will be shared as they are finalized, including a registration link.

**The Kansas Children's Service League** has several free trainings scheduled this fall, including Child Abuse and Neglect Recognition and Reporting, Child Sexual Abuse Prevention, Adverse Childhood Experiences, and Resilience. [Click here for a current schedule and registration for Kansas Children's Service League trainings](#). These trainings are all KDHE approved for child care licensing hours, and all participants will receive certificates of attendance. Please email Rachelle Soden at [rsoden@kcsli.org](mailto:rsoden@kcsli.org) with any questions.

[Click here to register for the 2020 Governor's Conference for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect](#). Conference sessions are November 4-6 and November 17-19. This year's conference features keynote speakers Bruce D. Perry, MD, PhD; Linda Chamberlain, PhD, MPH; and Patricia Lewis, Esq.

Take care, and please reach out to us when we can be helpful,

**Amanda, Nis, Natalie, Jordan, Julie and Beccy**



For more information, contact:

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