LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Early Childhood Provider Updates

April 6, 2023

Agenda

- Welcome
- Guest Speaker: Andrew Roszak - Institute of Childhood Preparedness
- ARPA Stabilization Grant Updates
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Updates
- Licensing Updates
- Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) Updates
- Teaching and Learning Updates
- Guest Speaker: Eric Robinson - KinderSystems
- Upcoming Events

Welcome!

Guest Speaker:
Andrew Roszak

Executive Director of Institute for Childhood Preparedness

Institute for Childhood Preparedness

childhoodpreparedness.org

facebook.com/CHILDPREPARED

DON'T BE SCARED.
BE PREPARED.

Instructor: Andy Roszak

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

Awards:

- Sesame Street
- FEMA
- Red Cross
- City of El Paso, Texas
- US Dept of Health
- Firefighter of the Year
- Author/Book of the Year

Preparing for the Unexpected Book Series

By Andrew Roszak

JD, MPA, EMT-P, Executive Director at the Institute for Childhood Preparedness

INSTITUTE FOR
CHILDHOOD PREPAREDNESS
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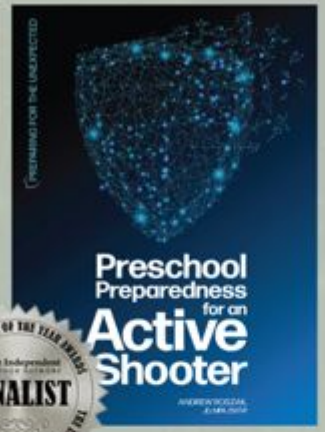
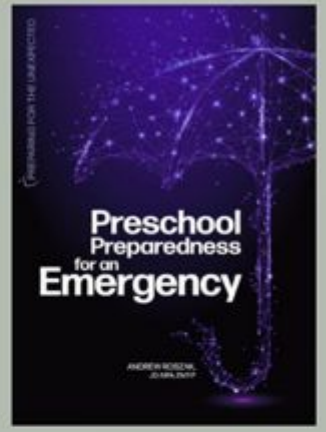
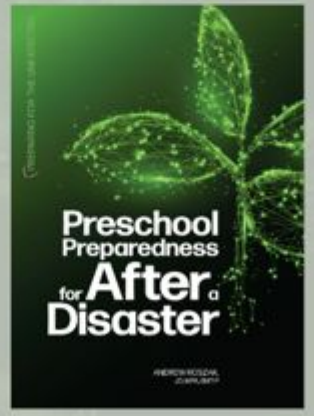
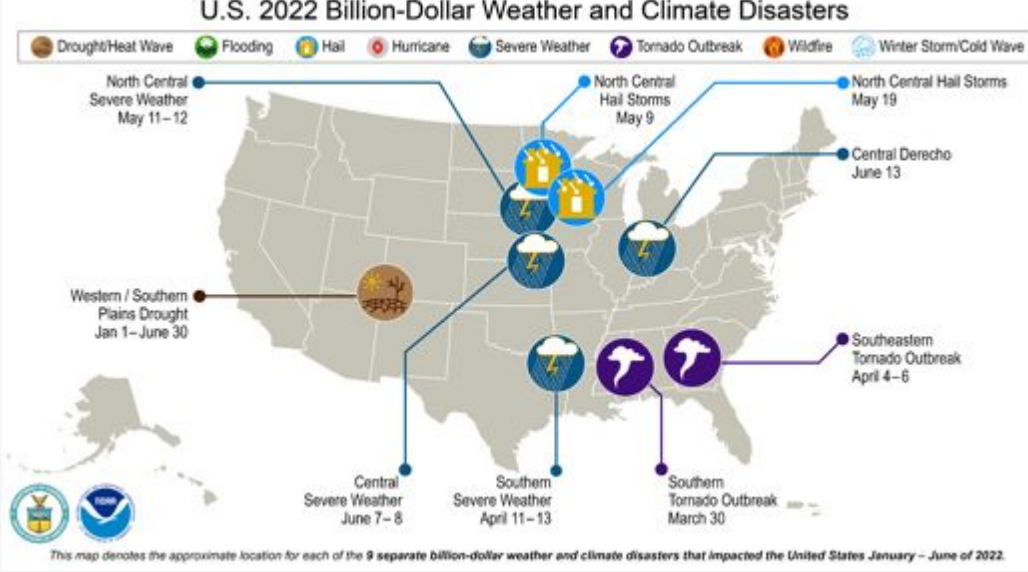
www.childhoodpreparedness.org/BOOKS







Billion-dollar weather disasters in the US in 2018
Western wildfires
Summer-fall
Southern plains drought
All year
Hail storm
June 18-19
Severe weather
May 1-4
Winter storm
January 3-5
Winter storm
March 1-3
Severe weather
May 13-15
Tornadoes
March 19-21
Tornadoes
April 13-16
Hail storm
June 6-10
Hurricane Florence
September 13-16
Hurricane Michael
October 7-16
Source: NOAA
Vox


U.S. 2022 Billion-Dollar Weather and Climate Disasters
Drought/Heat Wave
Flooding
Hail
Hurricane
Severe Weather
Tornado Outbreak
Wildfire
Winter Storm/Cold Wave
North Central Severe Weather May 11–12
North Central Hail Storms May 9
North Central Hail Storms May 19
Central Derecho June 13
Western / Southern Plains Drought Jan 1–June 30
Southeastern Tornado Outbreak April 4–6
Central Severe Weather June 7–8
Southern Severe Weather April 11–13
Southern Tornado Outbreak March 30
This map denotes the approximate location for each of the 9 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters that impacted the United States January – June of 2022.

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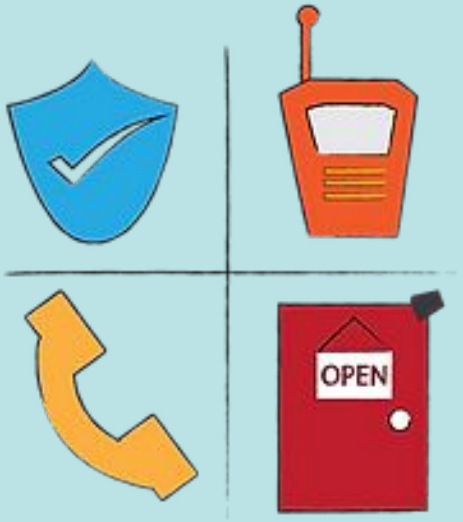
Preparedness is an Investment

Emphasis Needed

- Staffing - Back to Basics
- Include Substitute Teachers
- Buying stuff is not a substitute
- It is not a race



SAFETY SPOTLIGHT PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY

The Cohort will begin in April and will feature providers from Virgina, California, Colorado, Alaska, Louisiana, Arkansas, Maryland, New Jersey and Florida.

SAFETY SPOTLIGHT Professional Learning Community

Sign up FREE!

https://bit.ly/safetyspotlightsignup

ARPA Stabilization Grant Updates

ARPA Stabilization Grant Updates
Timeline, Round 3

March 13, 2023	ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 3 Application closed
Week of April 10-14 , 2023	Funds released to Type III providers and CCAP-certified in-home and family child care providers in parishes beginning with the letters A-F
Week of April 17-21, 2023	Funds released to Type III providers and CCAP-certified in-home and family child care providers in parishes beginning with the letters G-L
Week of April 24-28, 2023	Funds released to Type III providers and CCAP-certified in-home and family child care providers in parishes beginning with the letters M-Z
Week of May 15-19, 2023	Funds released to Type I & II providers

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Updates

American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Round 1 Grant Audit

Postlethwaite & Netterville (P&N) is currently conducting an assessment of some ARPA Stabilization Grants.

- All providers participating in the ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 1 received an email with a request to respond to the P&N Survey. This survey should have been completed via the link provided in the email.
- A portion of providers will be chosen for an assessment of the ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 1 funds (this is different from the survey).
- Providers should respond to the assessment request from P&N upon receipt.
- Failure to comply with these requests will result in providers being ineligible for future grant awards, in a recoupment of previous grant awards, or in providers being ineligible for future CCAP payments.
- CCAP funds not recouped are referred to the Office of Debt Recovery (ODR) for collections.

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Updates

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Updates
KinderConnect Transition

The Department has transitioned to KinderConnect as its mandatory attendance tracking system. It is important that providers ***complete transition by April 14, 2023****, from the TOTS attendance tracking to the KinderConnect system.*

Once providers are set up in KinderConnect, please immediately begin tracking attendance there. Providers should not be using TOTS and KinderConnect at the same time.

All attendance will be tracked through KinderConnect only beginning April 17, 2023.

TOTS will no longer be used to verify attendance or enrollment of children. Failure to track attendance in KinderConnect will result in closure of household cases due to underutilization.

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Updates
Payment On Enrollment

Providers must utilize attendance tracking and report changes in their site rosters.

- While CCAP payments are based on enrollment, providers are still **required** to use the new KinderConnect attendance tracking system.
- Authorizations must be utilized by families at the time child care services are rendered. KinderConnect attendance records will be examined as part of the underutilization review of CCAP attendance.
- Children that are no longer enrolled or attending should be reported to the Provider Help Desk via the Provider Ticket System. **Please label your ticket "Child Not Needing Care."**

Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Updates

Non-Payment or Payment Discrepancy

It is critical that providers submit timely notice of payment discrepancies to the Department.

- The Department will only review payment discrepancies that occurred within 30 days of the Department's receipt of the notice of discrepancy.
- The Department will not review or pay on any discrepancy reported beyond the 30 day timeline.
- Providers should immediately notify CCAP of a payment discrepancy by submitting a request via the Provider Help Desk at CCAPPHD@la.gov. Please put "Payment Concern" in the subject line.

Licensing Updates

Licensing Updates
Tornado Drills

Early learning center staff shall conduct tornado drills to ensure the safety of children and staff.

Tornado drills shall be conducted at least once per month in each of the following months: **March, April, May, and June.**

These drills shall be:

- done at various times of the day
- include all children and
- documented by the site.

Licensing Updates
Releasing Children

Early learning center staff shall ensure children are released only to authorized individuals.

- Each center must have on file written authorization, signed and dated by the parent, noting the first and last names of individuals other than the parents or legal guardians, to whom enrolled children may be released.
- The parent may authorize additional individuals via text message, fax, or email for unplanned situations, and then follow-up with a written authorization.
- Any additions or deletions to the authorized list must be signed and dated by the parent.
- Staff must verify the identity of the authorized person prior to releasing the child.

Licensing Updates
Posting of License

Providers must display the current license in a prominent place at the center.

Each early learning center shall display its current license in a prominent place in the center. The license should be visible by families and visitors.

Examples of a prominent place include:

- Front drop-off area
- Front sign-in desk
- Front entrance doors

Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) Updates

Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) Updates
Renewals

Five-year eligibility renewals for the Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) program began in March 2023.

- As part of the renewal process, providers and other applicants are contacted via email to initiate a new fingerprinting process within 90 days prior to their CCCBC determination expiration date.
- Providers should be sure their roster(s) are updated with current staff. If current staff members are not added to the providers' CCCBC roster, providers will not receive a notification to renew the CCCBC application. This may result in the CCCBC determination expiring.
- Sites with staff working with expired CCCBC determinations will receive a Licensing deficiency.
- Fingerprint submission is required for the CCCBC renewal process.

Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) Updates

Fingerprint Vendor Change

Fingerprinting for the CCCBC system is expected to transition from fingerprint vendor Gemalto to IDEMIA by May 1, 2023.

- IDEMIA offers “No Charge Authorization Codes” (NCAC), also referred to as coupon codes.
- The benefit of a NCAC account is that providers are only charged once their applicants are fingerprinted.
- Providers will receive an email providing detailed instructions to create No Charge Authorization Code accounts. If you have not received that message by April 14, please email ldecccbcprocessing@la.gov.
- If providers are not interested in creating a NCAC account, other payment methods are also available. These payment methods include business check, money order, and credit card. Cash is not an accepted method of payment.

Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) Updates

Fingerprint Vendor Change

The new fingerprint vendor, IDEMIA, is projected to provide 50 fingerprinting locations statewide.

- After completing the LDOE CCCBC application, applicants are emailed a link from IDEMIA to pre-enroll. Providers should be sure applicants' emails are entered correctly.
- Applicants are required to pre-enroll and schedule a fingerprint appointment before fingerprinting.
- A list of IDEMIA's fingerprinting locations will be provided at a later date. Continue to monitor the CCCBC System and Fingerprint Locations for Child Care CBCs on Louisiana Believes for location updates.

Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) Updates

Fingerprint Vendor Change

The CCCBC team will host a webinar on April 25 at 1 p.m. to share the IDEMIA payment process.

Webinar Topic:	Child Care Criminal Background Check IDEMIA Payment
Webinar Date/Time:	April 25, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.
Webinar Link:	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/96981075874?pwd=TDlpNk9HTktpUlZiVHhLb0N1TEhrZz09
Meeting ID:	969 8107 5874
Passcode:	753980

For questions, please email LDECCCBCprocessing@la.gov.

Teaching and Learning Updates

Teaching and Learning Updates

Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year

The Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Finalists will be announced before the end of April 2023!

The Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year reviews are coming to a close. All applicants will receive a notification whether or not they have been selected as a finalist.

Finalists will receive invitations for final interviews during the month of May as well as receive information about upcoming special events.

Questions can be directed to earlychildhood@la.gov.

Teaching and Learning Updates
Business Supports for Provider Sites

Free and confidential business supports are available to Type I, II, and III centers and CCAP-certified Family Child Care providers until June 30, 2023.

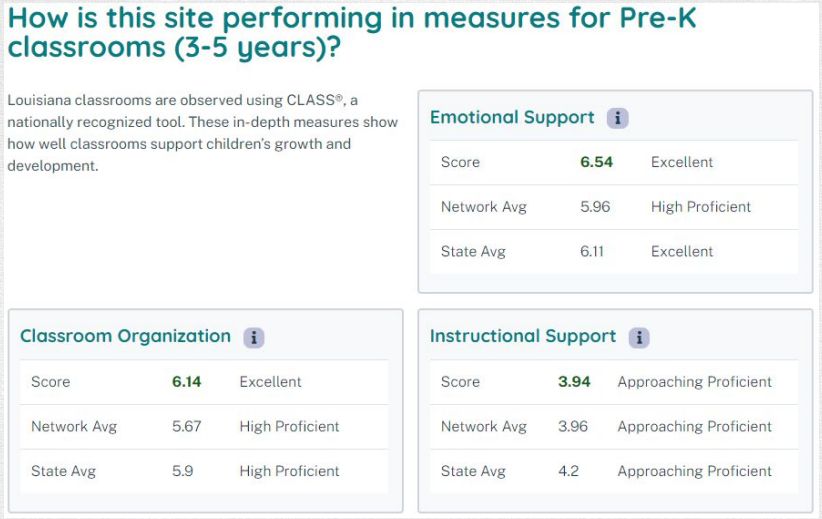
The Department is currently providing a series of free business supports inclusive of the following:

- **Child Care Management Software** supports focused on automating child care business operations and including topics such as family billing. Providers that are interested in learning more about these supports can visit the CCMS guidebook on the Louisiana Believes website.
- **Tax Consultation Services** supports focused on improving financial recordkeeping. Providers that are interested in learning more about these sessions can visit the Tax Consultation information sheet on the Louisiana Believes website.
- **Business Training** supports focused on strategies to increase business revenue. Providers that are interested in learning more about these sessions can visit the First Children's Finance information sheet.

Questions about these supports can be directed to Shallan.Jones@la.gov

Teaching and Learning Updates
Louisiana School and Center Finder

The newly-updated Louisiana School and Center Finder will now provide performance data for each observation tool in addition to an overall Performance Score.



How is this site performing in measures for Pre-K classrooms (3-5 years)?

Louisiana classrooms are observed using CLASS®, a nationally recognized tool. These in-depth measures show how well classrooms support children's growth and development.

Emotional Support

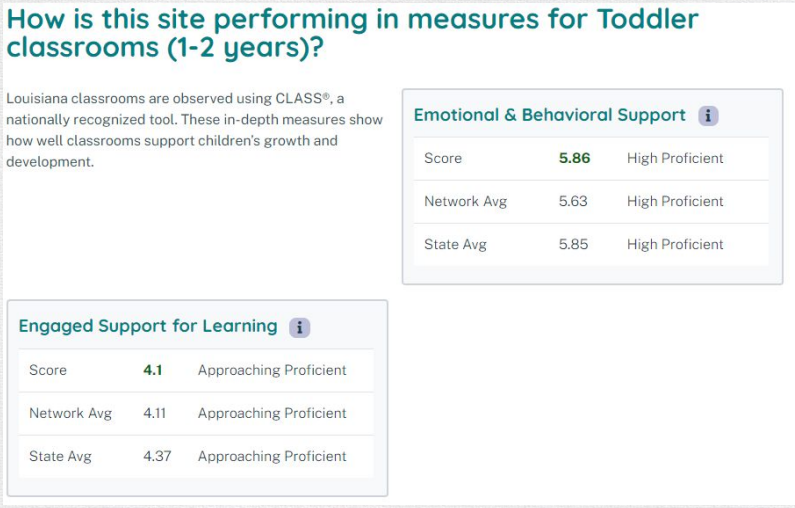
Score	6.54	Excellent
Network Avg	5.96	High Proficient
State Avg	6.11	Excellent

Classroom Organization

Score	6.14	Excellent
Network Avg	5.67	High Proficient
State Avg	5.9	High Proficient

Instructional Support

Score	3.94	Approaching Proficient
Network Avg	3.96	Approaching Proficient
State Avg	4.2	Approaching Proficient



How is this site performing in measures for Toddler classrooms (1-2 years)?

Louisiana classrooms are observed using CLASS®, a nationally recognized tool. These in-depth measures show how well classrooms support children's growth and development.

Emotional & Behavioral Support

Score	5.86	High Proficient
Network Avg	5.63	High Proficient
State Avg	5.85	High Proficient

Engaged Support for Learning

Score	4.1	Approaching Proficient
Network Avg	4.11	Approaching Proficient
State Avg	4.37	Approaching Proficient

For questions, please email earlychildhood@la.gov.

Guest Speaker:
Eric Robinson
KinderConnect & KinderSystems

KinderSystems

Time and Attendance System Review

Presenter: Eric

KinderSign
KinderSmart
KinderConnect

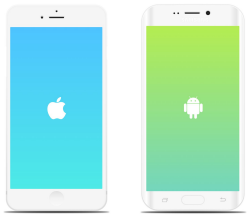
KinderSystems

KinderSign

- Tablet application
- Able to record attendance without a active internet connection
- Ability to review child case information

KinderSmart

- Installed on Sponsors personal smartphone.
- Can be used across multiple child care locations
- Same features as KinderSign



KinderConnect

- Accessed through EdLink
- Displays attendance recorded by apps
- Subsidized records are added automatically
- Will use to review current and submitted attendance
- Can be used to add non-subsidized (private pay) families.

KinderSystems

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Three Points of Electronic Attendance!

1. Sponsors record attendance in KinderSign and KinderSmart at the location.
2. Attendance is reviewed in KinderConnect by the childcare provider.
3. Attendance is automatically submitted through KinderConnect to the state after 1 week.

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Accessing KinderConnect

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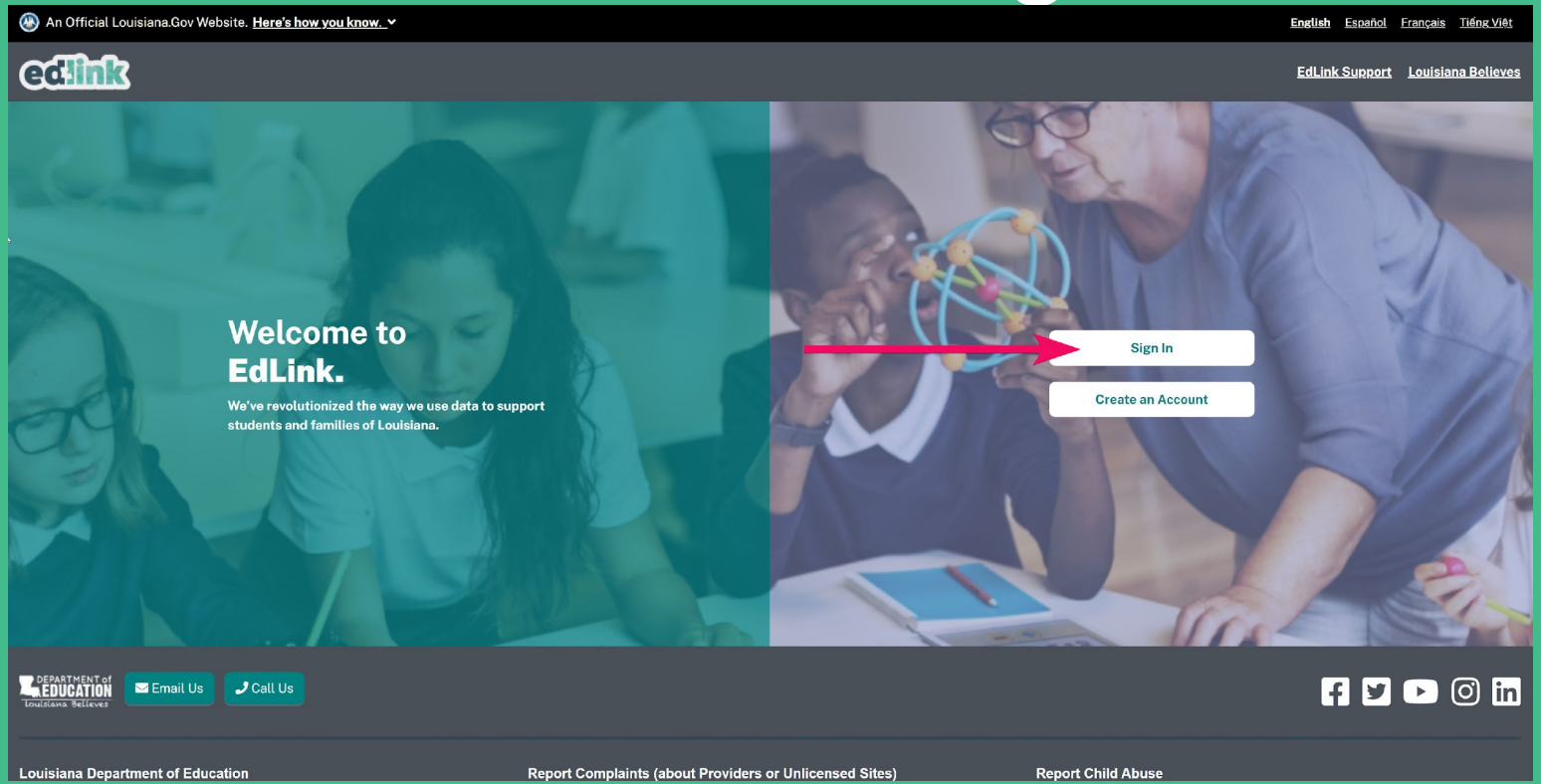
ldoe.edlink.la.gov



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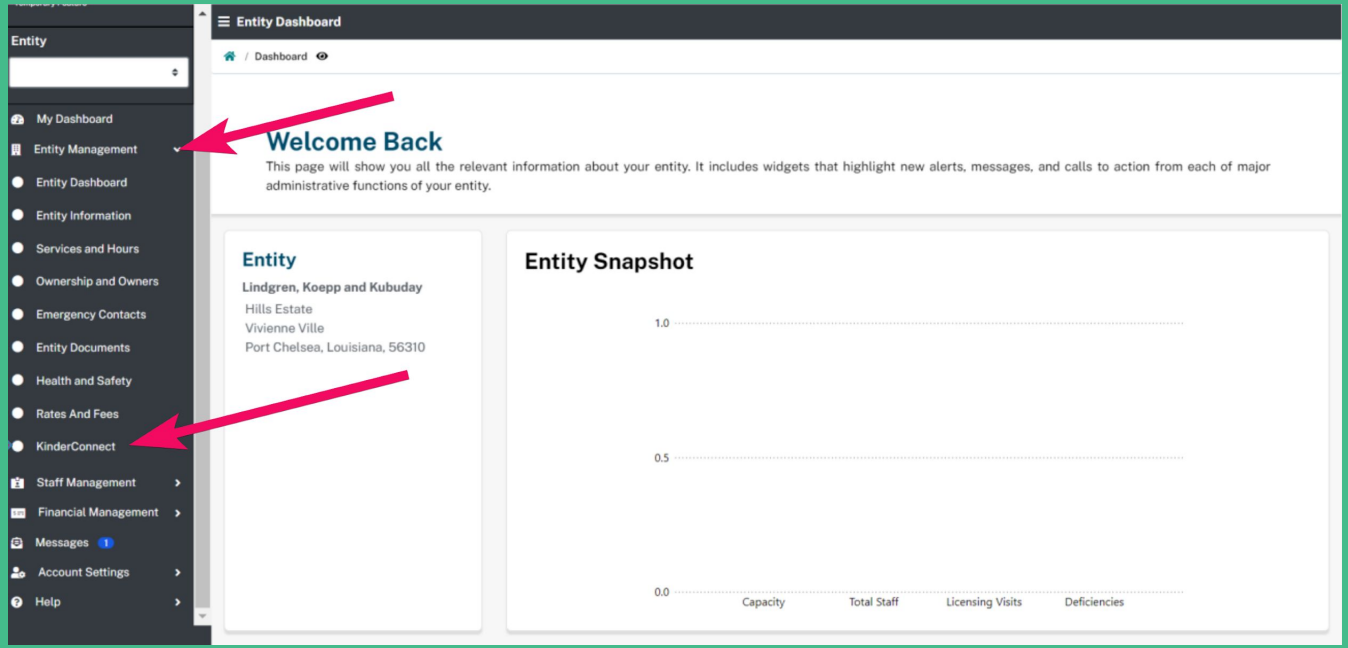
Access KinderConnect by Selecting:

1. Entity Management
2. KinderConnect

If you do not have access to KinderConnect please apply for access at:



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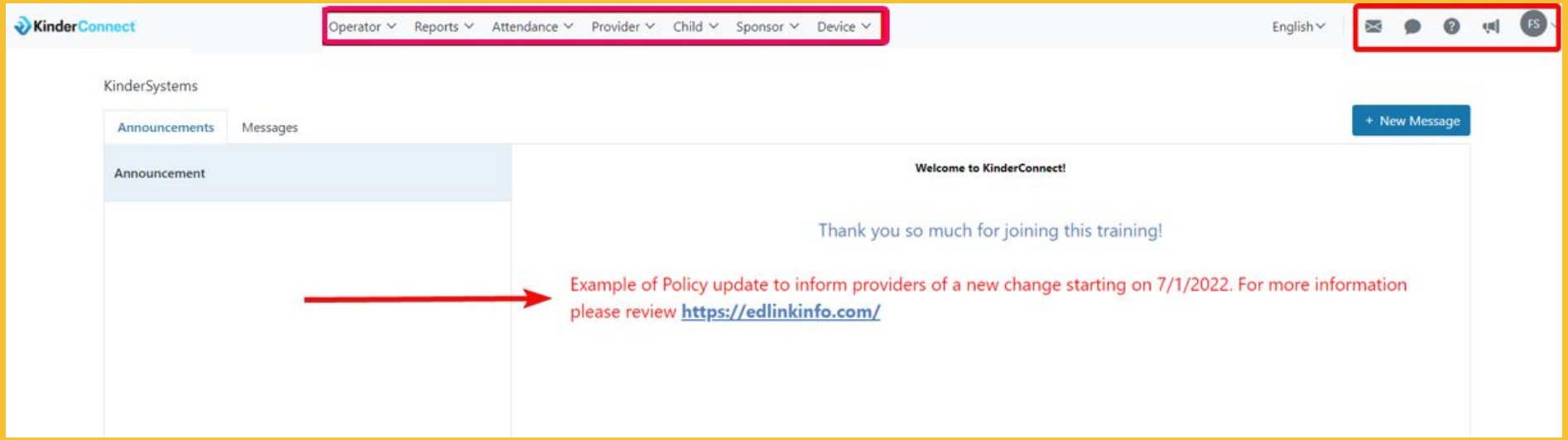
KinderConnect



- Activity pages at the top of KinderConnect
- State announcements on the Home Screen
- Access Support chat and documentation

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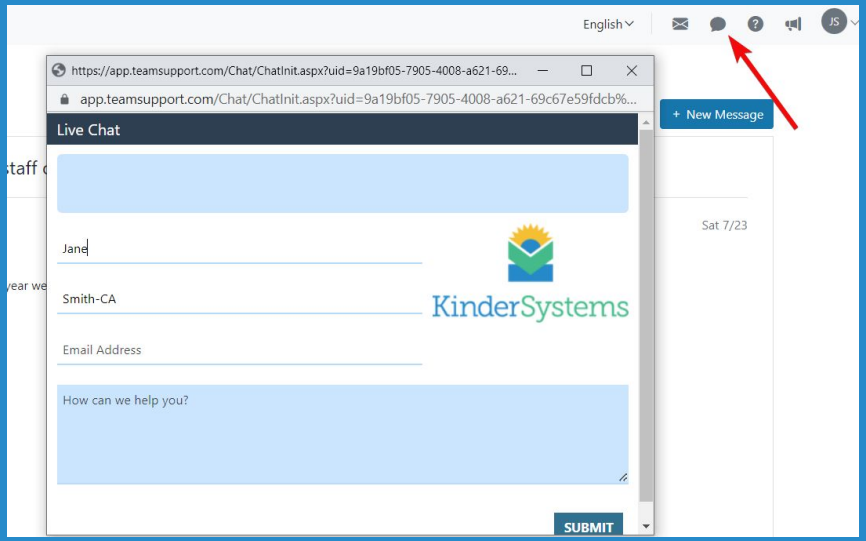
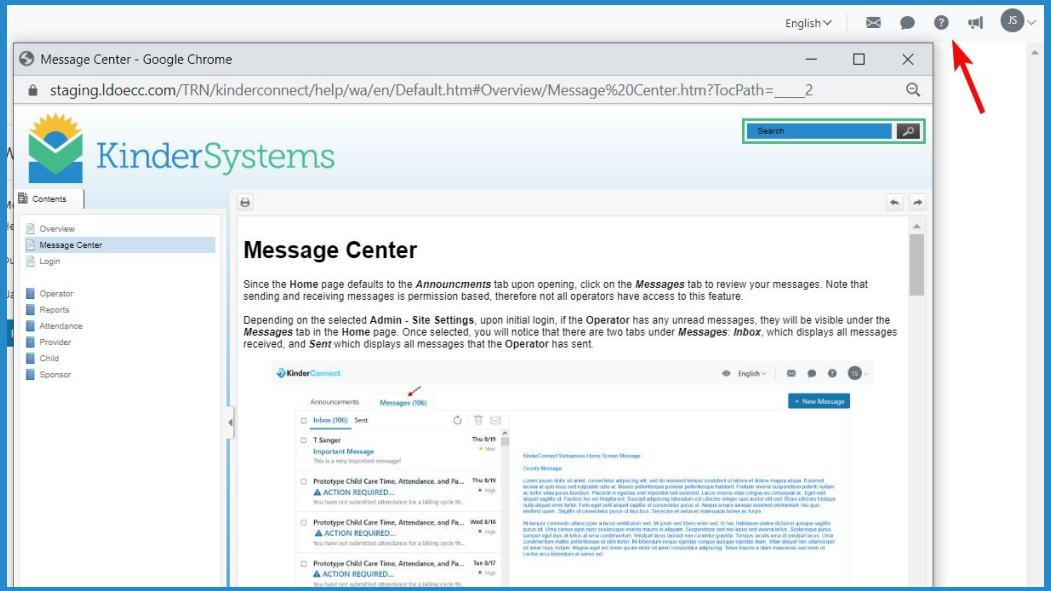
Help and Live Chat Access





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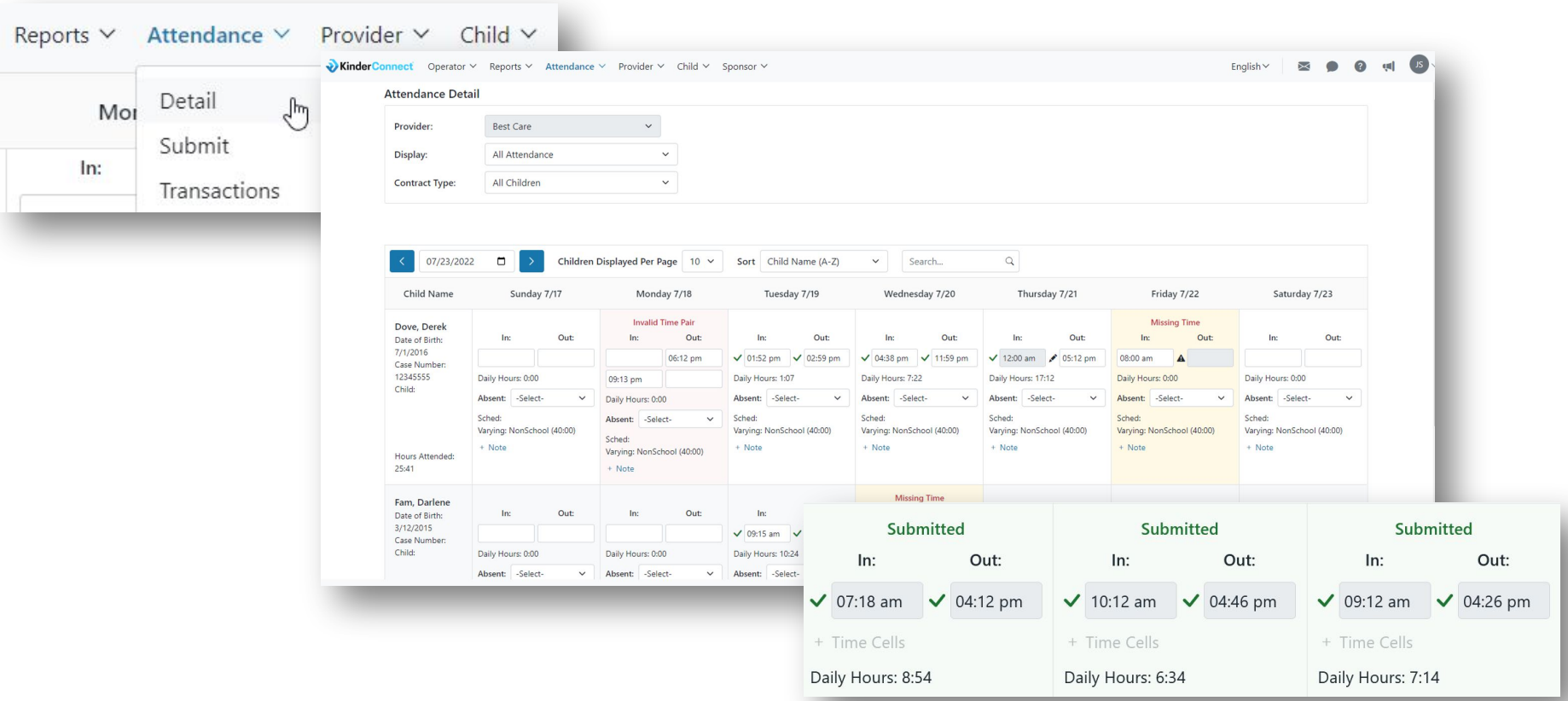
Checking Attendance in KinderConnect



KinderSystems

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Tablet Shipment

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Tablet Shipment

- State is providing 1 tablet per location
  - Providers can provide their own tablets
  - Tablets must be iOS or Android
- Tablets were shipped to all Type III Providers.
- In home providers started to receive devices March 2nd.
- Tablets are shipped to the sites physical location
- Tablets are being delivered by U.S. Postal Service and a signature is required at delivery.
- If providers have not received a please open a support ticket at provider.supportsystem.com
  - Please put ”I have not received a KC tablet” in the subject line

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Additional Training and Support

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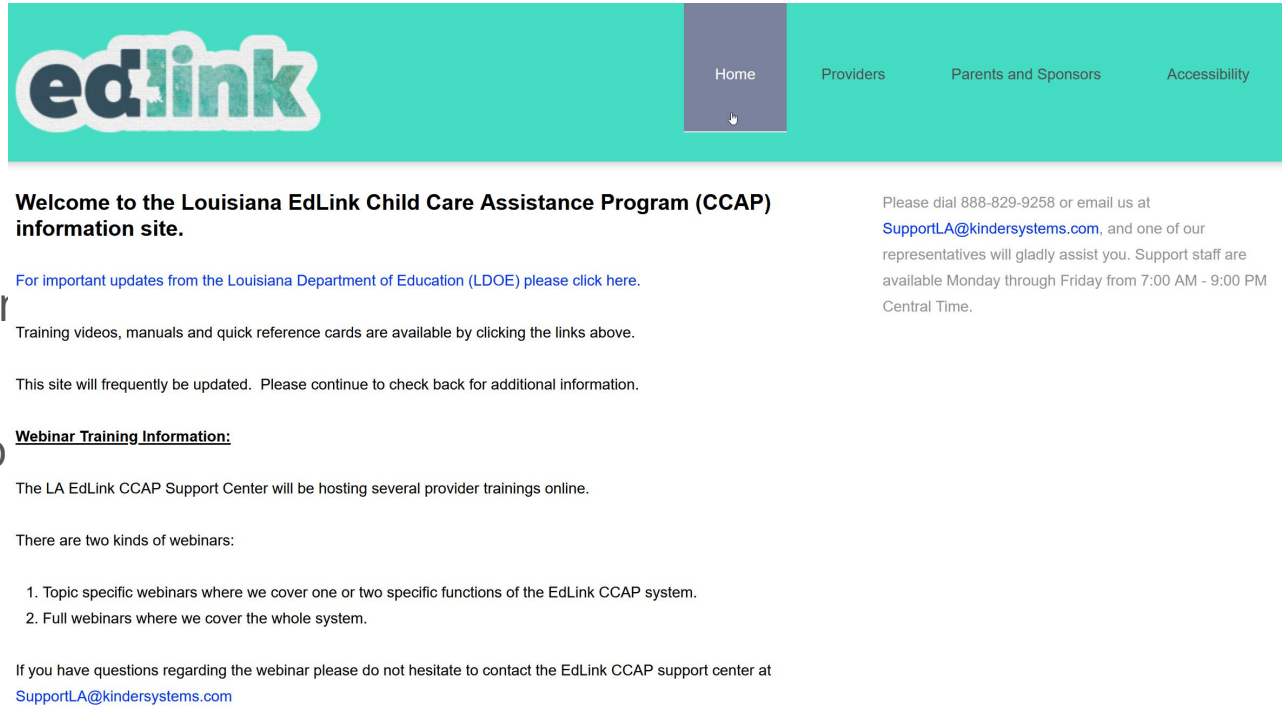
Information Site

edlinkinfo.com

- Additional Documentation
- Webinars and Videos
- Information for parents o how to use the system
- Quick Reference Cards



KinderSystems

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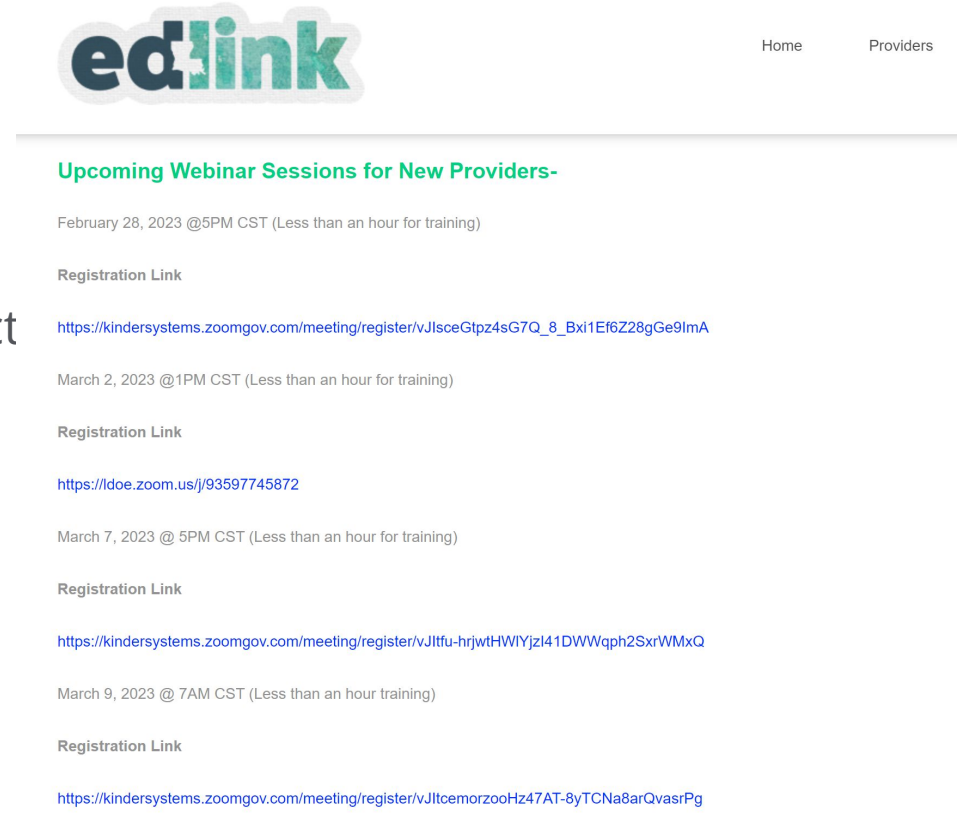
Upcoming Webinars

- KinderSign/KinderSmart review
- Review how to use KinderConnect
  - Search for Sponsor/child records
  - Review attendance



KinderSystems

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Re-cap Of Time and Attendance System

- **KinderConnect:** Website used to review attendance
  - Accessed via EdLink
- **KinderSign:** Tablet application installed on state provided tablet
  - Used by families/sponsors
- **KinderSmart:** Application installed on sponsors iPhone/Android phone
  - Installed on sponsors personal smartphone
- If providers do not have access to KinderConnect request access at registration.edlink.la.gov
- Tablets were shipped for Type III providers
  - In home providers were shipped tablets starting March 2nd
- If providers have not received the tablet please send a support ticket to provider.supportsystem.com , subject line "I have not received a KC tablet"
- More information, updates and access to future webinars: edlinkinfo.com

KinderSystems

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KinderSystems Support

- KinderSystems Support Center is open from 7am to 9pm Monday through Friday.
  - phone number: 888-829-9258
  - Please call for any tablet related issues
  - E-mail us at SupportLA@kindersystems.com
- EdLink registration or KinderConnect access issues please call or email 1-877-453-2721 or email at EdLinkSupport@la.gov
- Additional information at EdLinkInfo.com
- System should be used immediately, deadline is **April 14th**

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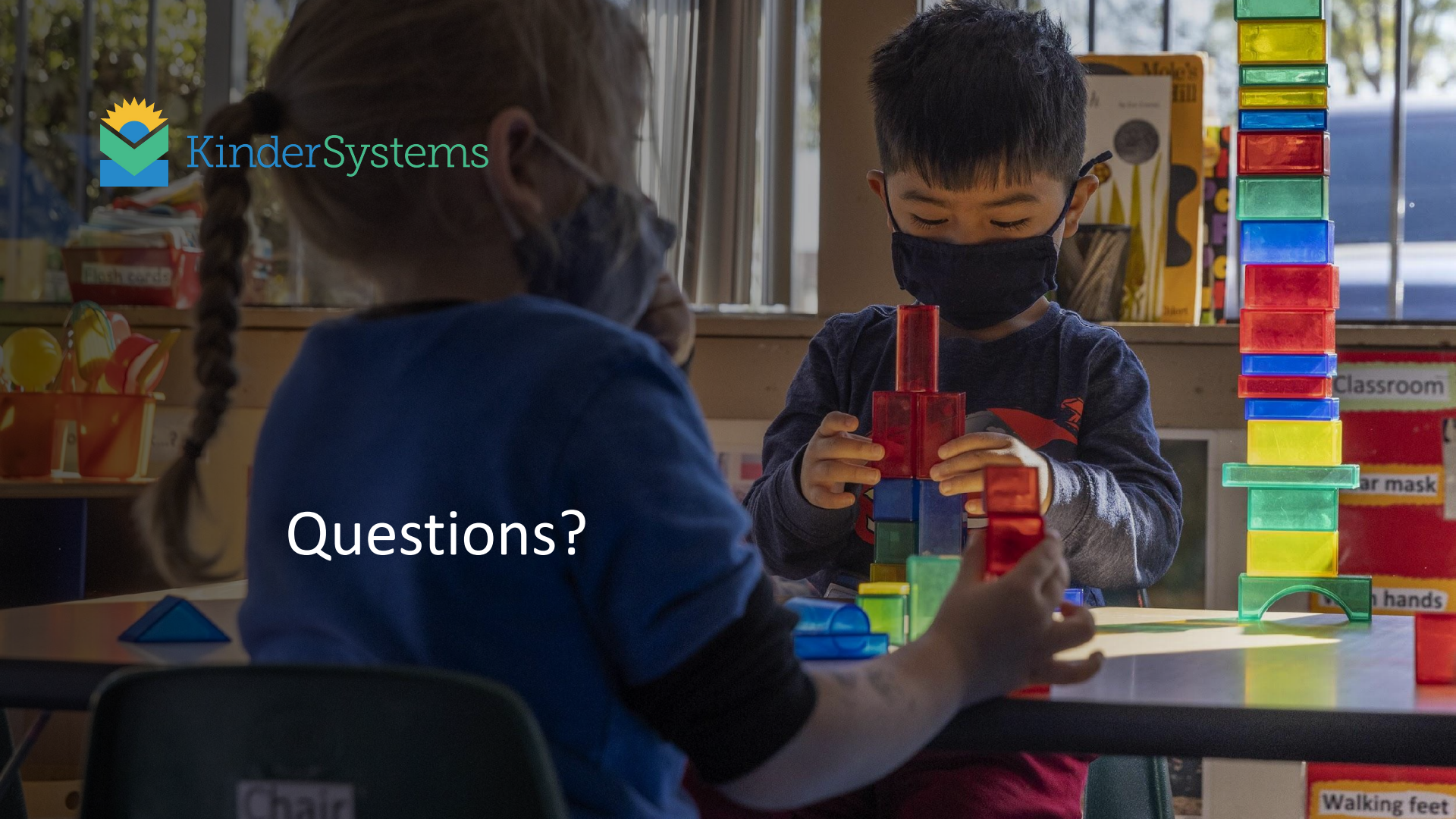
KinderSystems
Questions?
Classroom
Walking feet

Upcoming Events

Early Childhood Conference

Important Dates

Regular Registration:
March 10 - April 21, 2023 (*or a sell out*)

Additional information can be found on the LDOE website and social media.

Questions? Email
events@emergentmethod.com

Which Conference Should I Attend?

Teacher Leader Summit	Early Childhood Conference
● Community Network Lead Agency staff ● Ready Start Network Lead Agency staff ● School-based teachers (pre-K - 12) ● School-based coaches (pre-K - 12) ● Early Childhood Special Education teachers and staff ● Other school system staff ● Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency staff	● Center Directors ● Family Child Care educators ● Child care and Early/Head Start teachers (Infant, Toddler, Preschool) ● Child care coaches (B-3) ● Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency staff ● ECAC Program staff ● Other child care site professionals

Teaching & Learning Updates

2023 Early Childhood Conference: *Foundations for Success*

Here's your checklist to make sure you're ready for the Early Childhood Conference!

- ❑ Learn all about the second annual Early Childhood Conference - *Foundations for Success*
- ❑ Register for the 2023 Early Childhood Conference - by April 21st
- ❑ Get ready! This year's conference will be packed with inspiration and information to help you and your little ones grow.

ECC Keynote Speaker

The Department is excited to share that the conference's keynote speaker will be Dr. Stuart Brown, founder of NIFP (National Institute for Play), who has dedicated much of his career to the study of human play. His early scholarly research, thirty-five years of clinical practice, and rich relations with play scholars have convinced him that we are *"**built to play and built by play**."*

EdLink and KinderConnect Trainings

Edlink Training Resources

Louisiana Believes:
https://louisianabelieves.com/early-childhood/edlink-training

Edlink Training opportunities:
https://louisianabelieves.com/docs/default-source/policy/edlink-training-webinar-calendar.pdf?sfvrsn=651f6318_6

EdLink Training Resources

GENERAL EDLINK TRAINING

- Accessing Edlink User Guide
- Edlink Provider Training for Staff Entry Video
- Edlink Provider Training for Staff Entry Audio Only
- Edlink Provider Training Part I Video
- Edlink Provider Training Part II Video
- Entity Roles User Guide
- EdLink Frequently Asked Questions

LICENSING

- Edlink Access Video User Guide
- Accessing Edlink User Guide
- Accessing Edlink Video
- Entity Change Application Instructions Video
- Type I Application Video
- Type II Application Video
- Type III Application Video
- Extended Day Care Application Instructions for Providers User Guide
- Accessing KinderConnect User Guide
- EdLink Frequently Asked Questions

PROVIDER CERTIFICATION

- PC Instructions for Renewal Application for In Home, Finding Previous Applications, and Withdrawing Applications Video
- Family Home Renewal Application Instructions for Providers Video
- New In Home/Family Home Application Instructions Video
- Accessing Edlink Video
- Accessing Edlink User Guide
- Edlink Provider Training Part I Video
- Edlink Provider Training Part II Video
- EdLink Frequently Asked Questions

Some Upcoming EdLink Trainings

Accessing Edlink	
Dates	**Times**
April Mondays	12:00-1:00 p.m.
April Wednesdays	12:00-1:00 p.m.
In this session, you'll be instructed on how to create an Edlink account, personal profile, New User Dashboard and request access to your Entity and Entity Dashboard. Requests and Q&A will be available during that final 10 minutes of the hour, time permitted.	
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZIsceCgrj8qGt09XvC78a_7q0WVonOaO5ED	

Some Upcoming EdLink Trainings

Completing Type I, II, and III New and Renewal Applications	
April Tuesdays	12:00-2:00 p.m.
In this session, you'll be provided with instructions for completing Types I, II, and III applications. We'll go through the application, page by page, with emphasis on entering Staff and uploading documents.	
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0uf-- vrjIsGNwzigFcPnuwm61SpQYDHsQM	
Completing In Home and Family Home Renewal Applications	
April Fridays	10:00-11:30 a.m.
Completing In Home and Family Home Renewal Applications: In this session, you'll be provided with instructions for completing In Home and Family Home applications. We'll go through the application, page by page, with emphasis on entering Household Members and uploading documents. Access for IH/FH Providers may be addresses, time permitted.	
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZctf-2rqT0iH9LIcWFqmTAp6DWOcfSy_tOO	

Some Upcoming EdLink Trainings

Basic Computer Functions and Tools for Using Edlink and Zoom– Scanning and Uploading Documents into Edlink	
April Wednesdays	8:00-9:00 a.m.
In this session, I'll explain how to use your basic computer equipment, scanning and scanning profiles, organization and creating folders. Basic tools and functions of Edlink will also be demonstrated. There will be a Q&A during the final 10 minutes, time permitted.	
https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEpf-iqpzsjE9ZrHNNTeawWVITzFsf4HTB4	
Staff Entry within the Edlink Initial and Renewal Applications	
April Fridays	12:00-12:45 p.m.
Staff Entry within the Edlink Initial and Renewal Applications: In this brief training session, all focus will be on entering staff within the Renewal or New application. How to scan, save and upload your documents will be addresses. Edlink Entity Management, Staff Management and Financial Management: In this session you'll be instructed on the what, when, how, why to use utilize the Left-Side Navigation Panel to add, delete and edit.	
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84765880715?pwd=RWhnMGQ2OXdyMTBacmVWcllxR2tpZz09	

KinderConnect Training Resources

Upcoming Webinars	
Dates	**Times & Webinar Links**
Thursday, April 6, 2023	7:00 a.m. https://kindersystems.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJIsdeiqqD8rH2qynTla88B46RmVMIEa8oc
Tuesday, April 11, 2023	5:00 p.m. https://kindersystems.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItd-ioqzwoG4_68gYjXfQE0V1TroGWF8Y
Thursday, April 13, 2023	7:00 a.m. https://kindersystems.zoomgov.com/meeting/register/vJItcuGhpzMuGNRNi7IsC4TeQMdVrSzkn8o
More information on April KinderConnect webinars and training can be accessed here.	

Other LDOE Webinars

Upcoming Events
Monthly Provider Webinar

The Department will be hosting monthly webinars for early childhood providers. These webinars will include important updates and reminders for all provider types.

Providers can access the next provider webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** Thursday, May 4 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872
- **Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 935 9774 5872

Upcoming Events
New Director Webinar

Every month, the LDOE team conducts a webinar that focuses on a topic related to early childhood quality while also helping to expand directors' network of peers.

The April New Director webinar topic is "*Licensing Updates*."

- **Webinar Date/Time:** April 28, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/92700204655?
- **Phone Number:** 1-407-381-2552
- **Meeting ID:** 927 0020 4655

Contact tella.henderson@la.gov with any questions.

Contact Info

Child Care Licensing

- Call 225-342-9905
- Email ldelicensing@la.gov or email licensing consultants directly

Child Care Assistance Program

- Call 225-250-7635 or 225-252-9543
- Email ldeccap@la.gov or enter a ticket at the Provider Help Desk
- TOTS Assistance: Jackie.Droddy2@la.gov

Child Care Provider Certification

- Email providercertification@la.gov

Child Care Criminal Background Checks

- Call 225-342-2716 or 225-342-5311 or email LDEchildcareCBC@la.gov

COVID-19 Supports

- LDOE COVID-19 landing page and library
- COVID-19 FAQ for early childhood
- Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care
- Questions regarding COVID-19, contact LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov

General Early Childhood Support

- Email earlychildhood@la.gov