

Child Care Connection

MSDH Child Care Licensure Bureau

September 2023

“Bridging the gap between Child Care Providers and MSDH Child Care Licensure Bureau in order to provide a safe and healthy environment for Mississippian children and families.”

Child Care Regulations Reminders

Fall is making its way on the scene, and creeping behind it is the illness and sickness that we normally encounter during the month of September with the season change. Therefore, we wanted to take this opportunity to remind you that **“small children who are cared for in out-of-home group settings are at a greater risk of acquiring and spreading a contagious disease”** (Office of Health Protection-Office of Licensure, 2022, p.254). September is a great time to thoroughly clean your facilities and stay abreast of the common contagious diseases so that you will be able to recognize the signs and symptoms which you can find in the **Appendix I: Communicable Diseases/Conditions and Return to Child Care Guidelines** of the Regulation Book. Also, please take a moment to become familiar and knowledgeable of **Appendix H: Cleaning and Disinfection Procedures** as well as **Appendix F: Handwashing Procedure**. Taking a moment to review and implement this information can decrease the likelihood of an outbreak and reduce germs.

Nutrition & Menu Writing Information

If you need to know, where you can find nutrition ideas and information from MSDH, you can visit our website at www.healthyms.com if you are looking for something in particular please see the list below and click on the link.

- ✓ For some great MSDH approved snack ideas click this link: [19254.pdf \(ms.gov\)](#)
- ✓ MSDH Approved 6-Week Child Care Menus [MENU- PLANNING WORKSHEET \(ms.gov\)](#)
 - ✓ Menu Planning Worksheet [MENU- PLANNING WORKSHEET \(ms.gov\)](#)
 - ✓ Menu Planning Checklist [Menu Planning Checklist \(ms.gov\)](#)
 - ✓ Open Letter to Parents Regarding Nutrition [5452.pdf \(ms.gov\)](#)
 - ✓ Vitamin A Sources [VitaminASources \(ms.gov\)](#)
 - ✓ Vitamin C Sources [VitaminCSources \(ms.gov\)](#)



Upcoming Training Opportunities

Mississippi Department of Education (MDE)

Early Childhood: A Day in MS Beginnings: Pre-K

These trainings are available to all early learning public, private, and Head Start **administrators, principals, district leaders, directors, teachers and assistant teachers** of Pre-K and kindergarten classrooms. Participants will receive three contact hours for attending the entire session.

Registration will be on a first-come-first-serve basis

at <https://gsmu.mdek12.org/public/course/browse>

Registrants will need to verify registration for the correct location and time, as multiple offerings will appear in the GoSignMeUp course listing page.

September 12, 2023 – Oxford, MS (40 Participants each session)

8:30am-11:30am or 12:30pm-3:30pm
Oxford School District Board Room
1637 Highway 30 East, Oxford, MS 38655

September 13, 2023 – Indianola, MS (40 Participants each session)

8:30am-11:30am or 12:30pm-3:30pm
Delta Health Alliance IPC Training Room
114 Second Street, Indianola, MS 38751

September 20, 2023 – Brandon, MS (40 Participants each session)

8:30am-11:30am or 12:30pm-3:30pm
Rankin County School District Board Room
1220 Apple Park Place, Brandon, MS 39042

September 26, 2023 – Hattiesburg, MS (40 Participants each session)

8:30am-11:30am or 12:30pm-3:30pm
Oak Grove Elementary Performing Art Center
1762 Old Highway 24, Hattiesburg, MS 39402

Contact Marisa Prewitt
at mprewitt@mdek12.org if there are
questions regarding registration.



2023 MsECA 70th Imagine Conference

with Special Guests



October 12th - 13th, Meridian MS



Dr. Chris Smith



Dr. Barbara Logan Smith



Dr. Kimberly Johnson



Lisa Maddox

For additional information about this professional learning opportunity, please contact Dr. Connie Clay at cbclay@bellsouth.net.

Resources & Referral Community Events

September

Resource & Referral at MSU Extension Community Events

Date	Location	Time
12	East Central Community College	9:00 AM - 12:00 PM
12	ICC - Tupelo	9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
12	Midtown Partners	2:00 PM - 5:00 PM
13	Meridian Community College	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM
19	Pearl River Community College	10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
19	Co-Lin Community College	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
19	Hattiesburg	9:30 AM - 11:30 AM
26	NE Mississippi Community College	2:00 PM - 4:00 PM



MS Director's Credential Renewal

Registration



MS DIRECTOR'S CREDENTIAL RENEWAL

Dates & Locations

- Sept 6 Virtual*
- Sept 8 Jackson
- Sept 13 Tupelo
- Sept 19 Greenwood
- Sept 26 Natchez
- Sept 28 Gulfport

*Virtual class requires a computer or laptop with camera and microphone capabilities. Class size is limited.

All other sessions are in-person.



Click link to register:

<https://forms.gle/zy7kMarRxrzRDXqz9>

Registration closes 2 weeks prior to class.

6 CONTACT HOURS

Confirmation of enrollment will be sent via email. Monitor your email for additional information regarding training details.

Renewal Eligibility:

- Previously completed the MS Director's Credential (9-Modules) course
- Credential has expired or will expire in 2023
- Have a copy of your original credential certificate or most recent renewal certificate

 Email questions to Director@mdhs.ms.gov

School Readiness Calendar



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Today starts a new month! The theme this month is community helpers. Let's talk about librarians! Draw your library.	2 Do you have a library card? What does it say on the library card? How do you know it belongs to your family?
3 Have you ever had a favorite book that fell apart? Set up a book hospital with tape to repair well read books.	4 The letter of the month is H! What sound does the letter H make?	5 How do librarians sort books? Title, author, subject? Try sorting your books at home by size!	6 What is your favorite activity to do at the library? Check out books, see friends, listen to stories?	7 Go the library and check out books about community helpers! Don't forget to thank your librarian!	8 We are talking about waste and recycling collectors this week! Make a sculpture out of clean items you might have thrown away.	9 Our community helpers that collect recycling and garbage from homes and business are also called sanitation workers.
10 Why do some items go in the garbage and some in the recycle bin?	11 Does the letter H have straight lines or curvy? Remember to think about upper and lowercase!	12 Look at the bottom of plastic containers. Do you see the triangle of arrows with a number? What does that number mean?	13 Sanitation workers are real community heroes! Write a quick thank you letter to your local worker.	14 Have you watched sanitation workers lift large containers into their truck? They sure are strong! What do they do to stay so strong?	15 This week we are talking about utility helpers. What would it be like without electricity? Draw a picture with your eyes closed.	16 Do you ever wonder why the lights turn on when you flip a switch? Has it ever not worked? Why didn't it work?
17 Sometimes a thunderstorm can cause the power to go out. Thankfully, our community helpers, utility workers, are always ready to get our electricity on!	18 Go on a letter H hunt in your house! Look at food labels, books, everything with words!	19 Look around your house to see how many things require electricity. Start counting!	20 Next time you see a utility worker, notice all the safety gear they wear to keep safe. What do they wear on their head, eyes, & hands?	22 Return the books to the library and check out more!	22 This week we are talking about community helpers all over our community! I wonder how many we will find?	23 Where did you go today? I went to the grocery store! My grocer is a community helper!
24 What community helper did you see today? I took my dog to the veterinarian. I sure am lucky to have a doctor for my dog!	25 With two more friends, lay on the ground to form the uppercase letter H. Can you form other letters?	26 Did you see a community helper today? Our car tire was flat, we were so lucky that a community helper picked us up in a tow truck!	27 I saw a community helper early this morning! Firefighters visited school today!	28 Go for a walk today to see what community helpers you see. Don't forget to thank them for being a helper!	29 We talked about a lot of community helpers. See if you can create a story about your community including all the helpers!	30 Today is the last day of September. What month starts tomorrow?