

Dear Administrator,

On Friday, April 5, early childhood professionals in the District of Columbia are invited to attend the 2024 DC Early Educator Experience (DC Early EdX). This free professional development experience has been designed as an opportunity for early childhood professionals to learn, network, advocate, and celebrate in recognition of the Month of the Young Child. More than 1,300 professionals participated last year, and we are working behind the scenes to make this annual event a success.

By participating, attendees will be able to reflect on their roles in a group setting with their peers, while also learning skills and strategies to improve their practice.

We recognize that you are balancing many decisions right now. Here are additional details to help you determine if this experience is the right fit for you and the early childhood educators at your program:

**In-person event**: Friday, April 5, 2024, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Marriott Marquis in Washington, D.C.

**Audience:** DC Early EdX is by educators, for educators, designed for educators who teach ages 0 to 8. Breakout sessions will be grouped by Zones, which represent the ages educators teach or the settings they work in. The four Zones are: Zone 1: Birth to Age 3, Zone 2: Pre-K to Grade 3, Zone 3: Administrators, and Zone 4: Home-Based Early Learning.

**Professional development hours**: Participants will earn seven professional development hours from an OSSE-approved training organization. Core knowledge areas covered will include Curriculum and Social-Emotional Development and Mental Health.

**Participation verification:** Attendees will be given a participation certification after the event. They must attend the entire day to receive a certificate.

**Appreciation:** Participants who attend will hear inspiring messages, receive an event swag bag, be entered to win surprise giveaways, and have the space to celebrate through music, dancing, and food.

**Cost:** The cost of this event is free due to sponsorship from the Bainum Family Foundation and support from this year's hosts: District of Columbia Association for the Education of Young Children (DCAEYC); District of Columbia Head Start Association (DCHSA); D.C. Family Child Care Association (DCFCCA); and Multicultural Spanish Speaking Providers Association (MSSPA).

**Registration:** Each participant will need to register individually so we can track their registration and verify their participation. Space is limited and we expect registration to fill up quickly. If you



are planning to come as a group, we highly recommend registering in one sitting. Once registration is full, we will not be able to add additional attendees.

For subsidy providers wanting to close for a professional development day: Download the form from our website and follow the instructions to complete it. Submit your program's Appendix F form to your Education Service Monitors no later than **Friday, March 1**. For the form, visit https://dcearlyedx.org/resources/.

For additional details about DC Early EdX, please visit our website at dcearlyedx.org.