

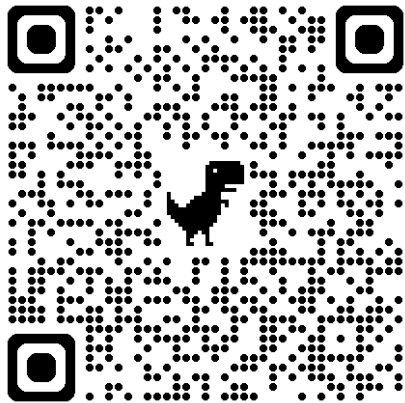
EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION FAMILY FRIENDLY CERTIFICATION PROCESS

**EARLY CHILDHOOD INSTITUTE
NOV. 7, 2024**



Family Partnerships Benefits:

- **Students are more likely to achieve third grade proficiency.**
- **Students are less likely to be enrolled in special education classes.**
- **They are less likely to repeat a grade.**
- **They are more likely to become good junior high students.**
- **Students have higher graduation rates.**
- **Students tend to have a 5.5% increase in attendance at a four-year college.**



Educators are supported to:

value, respect and support families.

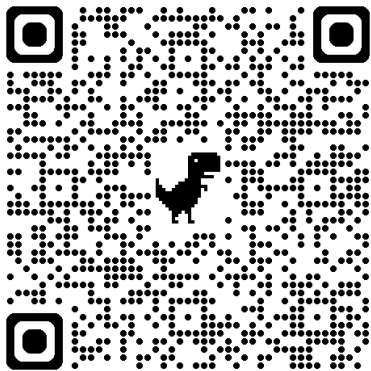
establish two-way communication with families and build mutual trust.

involve families in decision-making.


encourage active participation of families.

help build parents' skills, knowledge and confidence.

collaborate with community partners that support families.



This process supports shifts to partnership

From “to” or “for” families  to “with” families

Perks of the process

- **Supports child development**
- **Builds trust with families and increases good will**
- **Increases early educator/care provider job satisfaction**
- **Supports creation of a long-term plan for family engagement**
- **Creates closer ties between program and community**
- **Supports process for meeting family engagement requirements (Preschool, Headstart, KY ALL STARS, etc)**

Perks of the Certification

- **Digital Banner and Art for Physical Banner**
- **Selling point for families choosing between programs**
- **Statewide publicity about your program**
- **Alignment with KY ALL STARS 10 points for family and community engagement**
- **Recruitment and retention of high-quality staff**

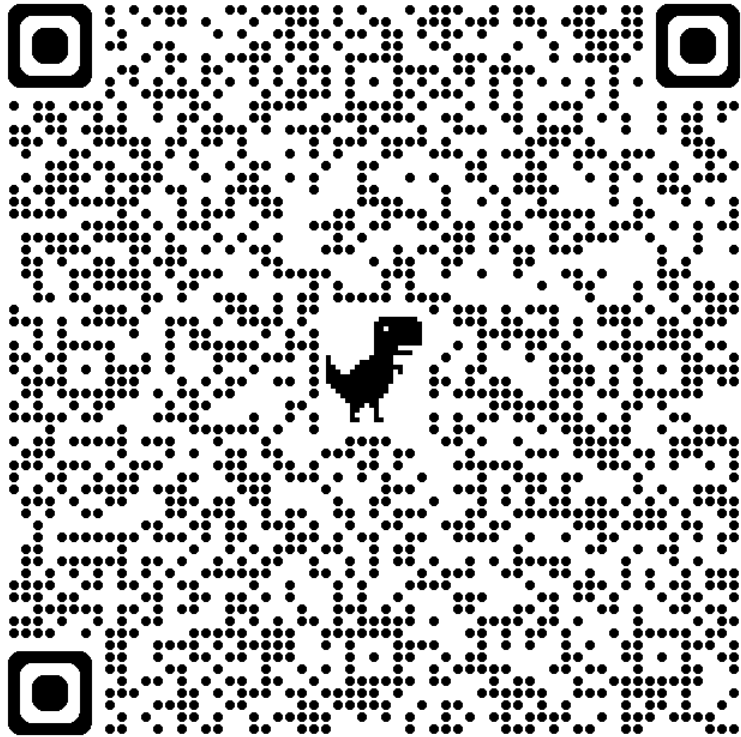
Components of the Certification

- **Family Engagement Action Team- minimum requirements are flexible for small programs/family child care homes**
- **Professional Development**
- **Early Care and Education self-assessment**
- **Actions based on self-assessment**
- **Family feedback**
- **Continuous improvement plan based on self assessment and family feedback**
- **OPEN OFFICE hours attendance- NEW this year**
- **Application with evidence**

Voices from the field

- What made you decide to pursue certification as a Family-Friendly Early Care and Education provider?
- How did the process strengthen your partnerships with families?
- What advice do you have for those considering engaging in this process?
- What are the lasting benefits of having engaged in this work?

Family Partnerships Pulse-Check



Family - Early Care and Education (ECE) Provider Partnerships

- Partnership Provider
- Open-Door Provider
- Come-If-We-Call Provider
- Fortress Provider

Rate your center/ program

•Use the Family – ECE Provider Partnerships Pulse-Check as a self- assessment tool to reflect on your practices at your center or program

•Consider:

•What surprises you?

•What are you doing well?

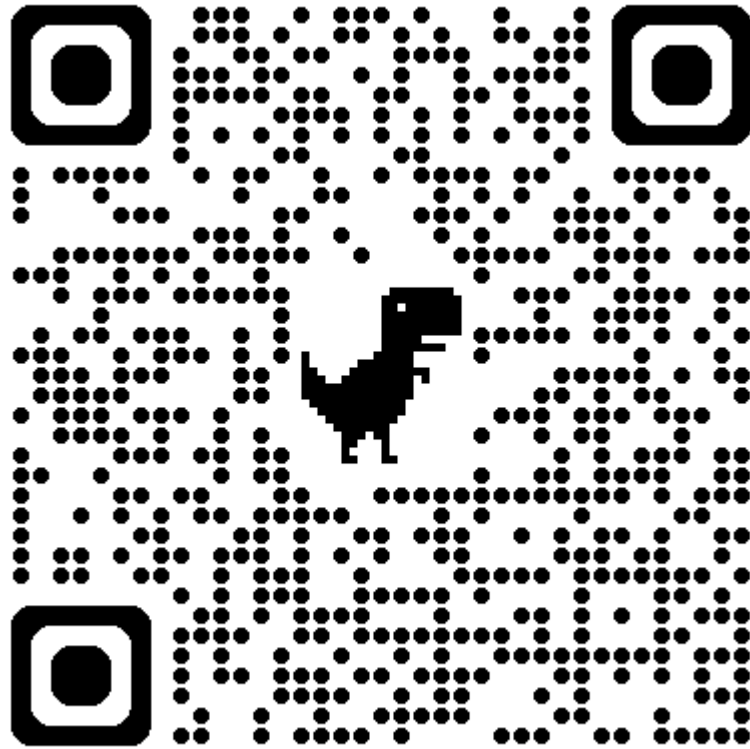
•Where could you see some small improvements making an impact?

Share a best practice

Turn to a neighbor and share about a best practice in family partnership at your program or center

Neighbors listen to understand! Ask questions for more details so could know what you might need to do to implement this at your program.

The tools for the process



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The Prichard Committee
Building a Groundswell for a Big Bold Future

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Family Friendly Early Care and Education

Before you begin exploring the application process, it's important to submit the form below providing your contact information. The five steps are often easier than they seem, and we want to make sure you receive all the tools and support we offer as you go through the process. Be sure to register for the 2024 fall webinars today.

The KY Collaborative for Families and Schools was developed under the Statewide Family Engagement Center grant from the U.S. Department of Education. However, activities do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

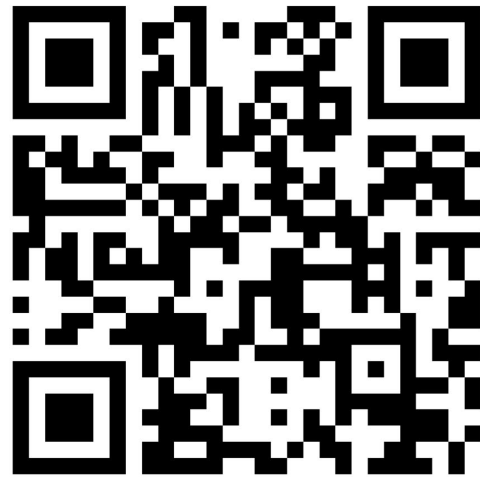
[Begin My Family Friendly Early Childhood Center Journey](#)

Use the digital playbook to find a resource



Share your information so we can connect!

Family Friendly Early Care and
Education Certification - INTEREST
FORM



Contact Information

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