

This is a message from the California Department of Education (CDE), Early Learning and Care Division (ELCD).

Update on Early Learning and Care 2018 Legislation

This email is to provide the CDE, ELCD contractors with a summary, and the implementation plans for the Statutes of 2018, which will impact the early learning and care field in the next few years.

Assembly Bill (AB) 2698

- Beginning January 1, 2019, California *Education Code (EC)* 8265.5 will provide an adjustment factor for reimbursement to specified contractors that provide mental health consultation services for children.
- A Management Bulletin (MB) will be released shortly with more clarification on what mental health consultation services are eligible and how to apply the adjustment factor.

AB 2626

- Effective July 1, 2019, various sections of *EC* will be amended to:
 - increase initial income eligibility threshold to 85 percent of State Median Income (*EC* 8263.1);
 - expand age eligibility and remove restrictions for children that can be served in California State Preschool Programs (*EC* 8208);
 - increase the opportunities for the voluntary transfer of funds (*EC* 8275.5); and
 - include two paid professional development days (*EC* 8272.1).
- These requirements will be described in more detail with the release of a MB in early 2019.

AB 2960

- The addition of *EC* 8209.6 requires the CDE to develop and post an online portal for California's early learning and care services by June 30, 2022. In order to accomplish this, the CDE is required to convene a stakeholder workgroup to evaluate and provide recommendations for the online portal prior to June 30, 2019.
- Prior to January 1, 2021, the workgroup will evaluate and provide their recommendations and submit a plan to the Legislature for implementing the recommendations of that workgroup.

AB 605

- Amendments to Section 1596.951 of the Health and Safety Code, require the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to adopt regulations to create a single child care center license to serve infant, toddler, preschool, and school age children, on or before January 2021.
- The CDSS will work in consultation with stakeholders to develop these regulations. The CDE will provide recommendations as part of the stakeholder workgroup.
- By January 1, 2024, all day care centers shall be licensed as a child care center with the new single license. The CDE will release more information as the CDSS progresses in the writing of the regulations and the development of the new license.

AB 2370

- Amendments to Section 1597.16 of the Health and Safety Code, require the CDSS to adopt regulations implementing the provisions of this statute no later than January 1, 2021. Amendments include the requirements for licensed centers to:
 - have their drinking water tested for lead contamination every five years and instate procedures in the event of lead contamination being discovered;
 - provide families with information on the risks of lead exposure, blood lead testing recommendations and requirements, and options for obtaining blood lead testing when enrolling or reenrolling a child; and
 - amend the preventative health practices course for licensed center directors and teachers to include training on prevention of lead exposure.
- As the CDSS releases information regarding the new regulations, the CDE will release a MB providing guidance and direction to the CDE contractors.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this email, please contact your assigned Early Learning and Care Field Services Consultant. A list of consultants can be found on the CDE Consultant Regional Assignments web page at <https://www.cde.ca.gov/sp/cd/ci/assignments.asp>.