

# Continuing Education Overview

for Early Educator Certification (EEC) Renewal

November 2010

# Overview

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- What are the EEC renewal requirements?
- Why require continuing education?
- What is the difference between a CEU and a workshop?
- What resources are available?

# Defining Certification (EEC)

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- EEC is acknowledgement of an individual's verified level of educational achievement, based on a standardized scale.
- EEC is field wide.
- EEC is required by law for those teaching in or administering licensed child care programs.

# Continuing to Learn

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## EEC Continuing Education Framework

- Reflects intent of DCD training requirement
- Mirrors other professions
  - EEC expires
  - Continuing education required for all
    - Credit, non-credit, both, teach
  - Encourages intentional planning
  - Recognizes & rewards upper degrees
- Incentivizes college with scholarship
- Guides for adult educators AND content

# National Landscape

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- Most professions offer CEUs
- 23 states have trainer/training qualification systems
- 7 states use CEUs as part of ecpd system
  - AL, DE, ID, MN, NC, OH, WI

# Building the Framework

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The Continuing Education Framework in support of EEC renewal has been under development since May 2009

- Large task group representative of field
  - Reviewed work of 20+ states & approaches by other professions
  - Focused on aligning con ed with existing systems/processes
  - Considered quality
    - Content - CEU approving bodies
    - Instructors - Adult Educator Endorsement, training, web site
- Provided access through T.E.A.C.H. scholarship
- Developed guidelines for Adult Educators

# Access Woven into Framework

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- Augmented access to college credits - scholarship
- Expanded options – adding CEUs to college options & allowed at all levels
- Increased time - validity period increased
- Reduced amount - decreased hours required & aligned more closely with DCD requirements
- Developed resources - trainings & tools
- Increased information – web site, webinars, pubs, presentations & more
- Working with partners – increase supply, options, modes

# EEC Renewal Requirements

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- To maintain EEC, certified individuals must continue their professional development by completing four semester hours or six Continuing Education Units (CEUs) or a combination of the two within their certification validity period.
- Visit <http://ncicdp.org/certification-licensure/renewal/> to review the renewal requirements.

# Key Points about CEU Design

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- CEU sessions must be worth at least .5 CEUs (5 contact hours) to count toward renewal.
- CEUs must be approved by one of the following:
  - College
  - University
  - LEA or school system entity
  - International Association of Continuing Education and Training (IACET) approved body
- Continuing education units (CEUs) submitted for EEC renewal must fall into one of the NC Division of Child Development training topic areas

# Required Topics

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1. Planning a safe, healthy learning environment
2. Children's physical & intellectual development
3. Children's social & emotional development
4. Productive relationships with families
5. Program management
6. Professionalism
7. Observing & recording children's behavior
8. Child growth development
9. Inclusion of children with special needs

[http://ncchildcare.dhhs.state.nc.us/providers/pv\\_sn2\\_ti.asp](http://ncchildcare.dhhs.state.nc.us/providers/pv_sn2_ti.asp)

# DCD Approval of CEUs

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- DCD's approval system for CEUs & training for the early care and education and school age workforce is the same. For CEUs to count as in-service hours, delivering body must be a DCD-exempt agency OR the trainer must submit their CEU session to DCD for approval. If applicants are unsure if their CEUs will meet DCD requirements for in-service training, they should contact DCD directly.
- Adult Educators interested in supplying training that counts for DCD training hours to meet facility licensure requirements AND CEUs or just training hours must be approved. Go to this web site to download materials: [http://ncchildcare.dhhs.state.nc.us/pdf\\_forms/nonexempt\\_trainers.pdf](http://ncchildcare.dhhs.state.nc.us/pdf_forms/nonexempt_trainers.pdf)

# Workshops compared to CEUs

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Workshop	CEU
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Content-centered</li><li>- 1 to 2.5 hours, avg</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Learner-centered</li><li>1 CEU = 10 hours</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Single meeting</li><li>- Evaluation of session</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Multiple meetings</li><li>- Learning objectives</li><li>- Practice</li><li>- Reflection</li><li>- Adjustments</li><li>- Assignments</li><li>- Assessment of learning</li></ul>

# Learner-centered Education

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- *The key to adult education is audience participation.*

Malcolm Knowles, 1992

- *The purpose of adult education is to teach the learner how to solve their own problems.*

Eduard Lindeman, 1961

# Continuing Education Costs

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## ■ Workshops

- Free
- \$2.50/hr & up  
CCR&Rs/Smart Starts
- \$20 - \$30 (5 hrs BSAC)
- Ranges – national vendors

## ■ Courses

- Comm College =  
\$50/sch or \$3 -  
\$3.50/hr
- Universities =  
\$15 - \$20/hr

## ■ T.E.A.C.H. scholarships

- College courses
- EEC renewal

## ■ CEUs

- Free
- \$3+/- per hour -  
community  
colleges
- \$5 - \$10/hour  
Project  
Enlightenment
- \$8-\$10 per hour  
- universities
- Ranges –  
national vendors

# Guidelines for Adult Educators

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- No system for qualifying trainers; case by case
- Institute may endorse Adult Educators
  - Education/Certification (Level 9 or 10 with degree)
  - Experience
  - Adult learning knowledge
  - Letters of recommendation
  - Application & fee
  - Renewal & assessment

# Tools for Adult Educators

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- Developed tools to support EEC renewal
  - Guidelines for Adult Educators
  - Continuing Education Library (CEL)
  - CEU Development & Review Guide
  - Training on continuing education
  - Training on Adult Learning
  - Con Ed Publications – *under development*

# Contact Information

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NC Institute for  
Child Development Professionals

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