

Health and Development Participation Grant Program 2024 Recommended Professional Learning

Under Category 3 of the Health and Development Participation (HDP) Grant program guidelines, Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) services may use funding to engage in professional development and build capacity within the service to support children’s health and development.

The list below provides recommendations of courses ECEC services may wish to engage with using the HDP Grant funding. This list is not exhaustive and ECEC services may use funding for other professional learning and development courses, conferences or workshops, provided they are relevant to supporting children’s health and development and the Health and Development Checks in ECEC program.

Health and Development Checks in ECEC specific training will be made available later in 2024. Services in receipt of HDP Grant funding are encouraged to use part of their funding to participate in this training once it is made available.

Course link	Course content
Understanding and Supporting Children’s Behaviour	<p>This webinar series and accompanying workbook from Pheonix Support teaches educators about understanding and supporting children’s behaviour in early childhood education and care services.</p> <p>Webinar topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • children's emotional development • children's brain development • connections with children • supporting children's behaviour • working together with families and communities. <p>This course is available to all early childhood educators working in preschools, family day care and long day care services.</p>
Early Childhood Inclusive Education Webinar Series	<p>This series of 7 interactive webinars from Special Teaching and Research (STaR) outlines the delivery of quality educational programs for children with disability and developmental delays.</p> <p>Webinar topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inclusion in early childhood services • observations and planning for inclusion • strategies to support inclusion • developing and implementing individual learning plans • transition to school for children with disabilities and additional needs. <p>These resources are relevant to all early childhood educators working in preschools, family day care and long day care services.</p>

Course link	Course content
<u>Culturally responsive practice for Aboriginal children and families</u>	<p>This course assist learners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • unpack what cultural competence looks like in relation to Aboriginal families and children in an early childhood setting • develop knowledge of proactively strategies that can be implemented to support Aboriginal children and families in the early childhood setting • develop an understanding of the relationship between cultural competence and early year curriculum. <p>This course is available to all early childhood educators working in preschools, family day care and long day care services</p>
<u>Small Bites for Big Steps</u>	<p>The Small Bites for Big Steps on-demand video series and 3 NESA accredited Professional Development courses developed by Northern Sydney Local Health District cover a range of topics including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • breastfeeding • healthy eating • physical activity • sleeping • oral health • school readiness • leadership. <p>These Professional Development courses and on-demand videos are freely available to all early childhood educators working in preschools, family day care and long day care. The Small Bites for Big Steps on demand videos are also available for families and carers to support the healthy development of their children in their First 2000 days.</p>
<u>Individualised planning for young children with disability</u>	<p>This professional learning will support educators to use family-centered and strengths-based practice to provide individual education plans (IEP) for young children with a disability and their families while working face to face and/or working remotely.</p> <p>Learners will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore step by step process for the development of individual education plans for young children with disability • apply this process to support ongoing learning for young children with a disability including when children are learning from home. <p>This course is available to all early childhood educators working in preschools, family day care and long day care services.</p>

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Supporting young students with disability	<p>This professional learning will support educators to use family-centered and strengths-based practice to provide individual education plans (IEP) for young children with a disability and their families while working face to face and/or working remotely.</p> <p>Learners will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore step by step process for the development of individual education plans for young children with disability • apply this process to support ongoing learning for young children with a disability including when children are learning from home. <p>This course is available to all early childhood educators working in preschools, family day care and long day care services.</p>
2024 ECA National Conference	<p>‘Realising the Vision: an integrated future for the early years’ is the theme for the 36th ECA National Conference, to be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Queensland, from Tuesday 17 September to Friday 20 September 2024.</p> <p>The early years are at the forefront of policy debate and reform across Australia and globally. This is an extraordinary ‘moment in time’ to shape the future – to build a universal platform for early childhood education and care, to stabilise and recognise the early childhood workforce, and to better integrate supports for both children and families across allied health, social services and major service systems such as the NDIS. It is critical that reform is driven by a clear vision that puts children at the centre of policy and service design. It is also important that the early childhood profession is actively engaged in both decision-making and implementation.</p> <p>This conference is available to all early childhood educators working in preschools, family day care and long day care services.</p> <p>HDP Grants funding may be used to cover registration fees, travel and accommodation</p>