

IHSA Advisor
January, 2018



Where did 2017 go? Wasn't it just summer and then school started and now the holidays are behind us! Wow! Life moves fast!

Here are a few items of interest as you start out 2018!

ECBG Grants: Yes, these are due very soon. The PFA and PFAE grants are due January 12. The PI grants are due February 9. All grants are due by 4:00 PM that day and are NOT electronic. They are hard copy, so plan accordingly. You may wish to hand carry the grants to the ISBE location specified in the RFP or send them certified mail with a signature so you know the proposal(s) arrive on time. Also the grants require you to include a USB flash drive with an electronic copy of your proposal on it. Don't forget that!

Check out the RFP webinars on the ISBE RFP site here:

<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/RFPs.aspx>

Also there are helpful resources here:

<https://education.illinoisstate.edu/csep/b3/Community-Program-Planning-Workshops.php>

Immigration Webinar and Resources: This was such a good webinar with lots of great information on the current landscape of immigration policy and how early childhood providers can best support children and families. If you missed the webinar or would like to share the materials with others, see the link below.

<https://www.theounce.org/action-alert/materials-immigration-early-childhood-webinar/>

Cold Weather Safety: Here is some excellent safety tips now that the cold weather is upon us!

<http://hsicc.createsend1.com/t/ViewEmail/i/B93F96F05A44C8BB2540EF23F30FEDEB849704881BB7B532A1BF84ACBDD178B>

Also here's a link to the Child Care Weather Watch that many of us use for when it is safe for children to play outside. Check it out!!

<https://idph.iowa.gov/Portals/1/Files/HCCI/weatherwatch.pdf>

New CDC Milestone Tracker: The Center for Disease Control has put out a new mobile application for both IOS and Android phones. The website states "Track your child's milestones from age 2 months to 5 years with CDC's easy-to-use illustrated checklists; get tips from CDC for encouraging your child's development; and find out what to do if you are ever concerned about how your child is developing.

From birth to age 5, your child should reach milestones in how he or she plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves. Photos and videos in this app illustrate each milestone and make tracking them for your child easy and fun!"

This might be something you would want to share with parents in your program.
NOTE: I had to search for CDC Milestone Tracker.

Preschool Suspension and Expulsions: There is a lot of work going on in Illinois on this topic. Governor Rauner signed Public Act 100-0105, <http://www.ilga.gov/legislation/publicacts/fulltext.asp?Name=100-0105>, effective in January, 2018, which amends the School Code to prohibit the expulsion of preschool children in programs funded by ISBE and in DCFS licensed centers which would include Head Start and child care. Here is an excellent video from the 2017 Leadership conference featuring Dr. Walter Gilliam on "What Early Childhood Leaders Should Know about the Role of Implicit Bias."

<https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/video/preschool-expulsions-suspensions-what-early-childhood-leaders-need-know-about-role-implicit>

Mark Your Calendars for These Upcoming Conferences:

- Opening Minds Conference, Chicago, Feb. 7-10,
<http://openingmindsusa.org/purchase-tickets-2018/>
- IHSA Annual Conference and Parent Institute, East Peoria, Feb. 20 – 23,
<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=ij4cltcab&oeidk=a07eeuu1ibg33d9e48b>