

Ohio's Early Childhood Higher Education Summit

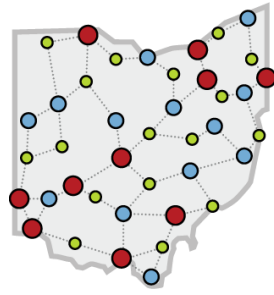
Higher Education Summit Vision

Our vision is to recruit and retain individuals to work with young children by creating clear educational pathways and seamless transitions between various entry points into the early childhood profession.

Location: OCCRRA Office, 2469 Stelzer Road, Columbus Ohio 43219 in Training Room 3

Agenda

Friday September 25, 2026 – 8:30 am – 3:00 pm		
Time:	Session Topics:	Speaker(s):
8:30 am	Registration & Networking (Coffee and Refreshments)	
9:00 am	Welcome and Summit Overview	Judith Santmire , Chief Operating Officer, Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association
9:30 am	National and NAEYC Higher Education Updates (Recorded with Live Q&A)	Mary Harrill , Senior Director, Higher Education, National Association for the Education of Young Children
10:00 am	Ohio Higher Education Accreditation Standards	Hilary Swinning , Director, Educator Preparation, Ohio Department of Higher Education Patricia Woods , Columbus State Community College (Invited)
10:30 am	ITAG Update	George Simon , Associate Director, The Ohio Articulation and Transfer Network, Ohio Department of Higher Education
	Break	
11:00 am	Early Childhood Education Career Technical Education Update and New Course Rollout	Dr. Joshua Coleman , Education Program Specialist/Educators Rising State Coordinator, Ohio Department of Education and Workforce
11:30 am	Table Discussions	
12:00 pm	Ohio's Workforce Development – TEACH Early Childhood Ohio and POWER Ohio	Judith Santmire , Chief Operating Officer, Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association
12:15 pm	Lunch (Lunch will be provided)	



Ohio's Early Childhood Higher Education Summit

12:45 pm	Ohio Department of Children and Youth Updates	Joel Potts , Chief Government and External Affairs Officer, Ohio Department of Children and Youth
1:15 pm	Beyond Enrollment: Innovative Strategies for Student Recruitment, Retention and Success	<u>Moderator:</u> Ross "Chad" Nunamaker, University of Cincinnati <u>Panelists:</u> Nehama Miller, Owens Community College Karen Goulandris, Cuyahoga Community College
2:00 pm	Regional Table Discussions / Report out	
2:45 pm	Next Steps, Closing	

Photography & Videography Notice

Photographs and video may be taken throughout the event to capture moments to learning and connection. By attending, you may appear in photos or video used for event highlights or future communications.

Questions about the Higher Education Summit?

Please contact Judith Santmire at jsantmire@occr.org with any questions.