



Montana Early Childhood Project

2010/2011 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE AWARD APPLICATION

The Professional Development Incentive Award (formerly Merit Pay I) has been developed with the goal of improving the quality of early care and education for young children and families through high quality intentional, informal education (not for college credit).

The 2010/2011 application requires applicants to identify their training needs and interests by Montana Knowledge Base content area. The January 2008 neon green Knowledge Base booklet is available online at www.mtecp.org under Publications, at your district Child Care Resource & Referral office or by contacting The Montana Early Childhood Project at 1-800-213-6310 or ecp@montana.edu.

Professional Development Incentive Awards (PDIA) will be available based on the following criteria:

1. An individual must have a current Practitioner Registry Certificate at the time of application. The ECP will check your registry status online upon receipt of your application.
2. An individual must work a minimum of 15 hours a week in an early childhood/child care facility that is either registered or licensed by the Department of Public Health and Human Services Quality Assurance Division. Applicants who are in the process of becoming licensed or registered, but have not yet been granted a certificate, are eligible to apply. Applicants will need to prove that a license or registration has been granted before award funds will be released. Each staff person in a facility is eligible to receive an award. **Early care and education practitioners may apply for only one of the two PDIA's (PDIA or PDIA—Higher Ed).**
3. An individual must complete the two page PDIA application which requires making a choice between the 25 or 50 hour track of approved early childhood training and receive either \$200 or \$400 award (training may include the 8-hours of annual training needed for state child care licensing/registration).
4. Training must be completed between August 1, 2010 & August 31, 2011 to be eligible.
5. The following Training and/or Education **will not be accepted:** (a) Program Instruction required to participate in the Child & Adult Care Food Program—CACFP, (b) hours associated with CPR & First Aid, (c) college credit classes, and (d) 60 hour Infant/Toddler Caregivers Education Training.
5. **The applicant must choose either Track I (25 hours of training) or Track II (50 hours of training).** Participants may not switch tracks or receive a reduced award if an approved plan of study is not completed.
Example: An individual is approved for Track II (50 hours of training) yet only 27 hours of training is completed. They cannot receive the payment for Track I, even though the number of hours required for the \$250 award was exceeded.
6. PDIA's are granted on a priority basis outlined at www.mtecp.org, click on Publications and Reports, Professional Development Incentive Award Policy.
7. Child Care Resource & Referral (CCR&R) agencies will receive notification of practitioners in their districts and their Individualized Professional Development/ Training Plans who receive a PDIA.

To learn about professional development/training go to: www.mtecp.org and click on Training Calendar, your district CCR&R agency and view the training available in your area.

The attached application must be completed and received at The Montana Early Childhood Project office, no later than 4:00 p.m., August 20, 2010. Notification of award will be mailed by Friday, August 27th.

FAXED AND EMAILED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Send to:
Early Childhood Project—MSU
P.O. Box 173540
Bozeman, MT 59717

If you have any questions, please contact the ECP, at 1-800-213-6310 or visit our web site at www.mtecp.org. Click on *What's New?* on the homepage.



PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INCENTIVE AWARD APPLICATION

FOR TRAINING RECEIVED AUGUST 1, 2010 - AUGUST 31, 2011

For office USE ONLY
CONTRACT #
PRIORITY #



Montana Early Childhood Project

NOTE: This award was previously called Merit Pay I. Please type or print using blue or black ink. You may apply for this award OR the Higher Ed award each year.

Name: _____ PS# _____

Date of Birth: _____ SSN: _____

Mailing Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Work Phone: _____ Home Phone: _____

Place of Employment: _____ PV#: _____

1. You MUST have a current Practitioner Registry certificate to continue with this application. We will verify your current status online.

2. Applicants must work a minimum of 15 hours/week in an early childhood facility that is state licensed/registered.

Type of program you work in (please check one):

Family Child Care Home Group Child Care Home Child Care Center/Licensed Head Start/Early Head Start

Tribal child care or tribal Head Start whose tribe has an MOU specified by the state

3. Have you received a Merit Pay (PDIA) before? Yes No Year: _____ Type: _____

4. Indicate which of the following you are currently working toward (if applicable)?

Child Development Associate (CDA) credential National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC Accreditation)

***If you are taking early childhood college coursework, please apply for the PDIA—Higher Education, also available at www.mtecp.org

5. State how additional training will help you achieve your early childhood professional development goals (60 words or less):

You must check the box for which track you are applying.

Track I

25 hr track of **non-college** training related to Early Childhood Education/Development, which cannot include the 60 hour MT Infant/Toddler Caregivers Education training.

Payment of \$200 will be awarded upon successful completion of training plan.

Track II

50 hr track of **non-college** training related to Early Childhood Education/Development, which cannot include the 60 hour MT Infant/Toddler Caregivers Education training.

Payment of \$400 will be awarded upon successful completion of training plan.

PDIA Application (Page 2)

Individualized Professional Development/Training Plan

All training must be approved through the Early Childhood Project and is based upon the MT Early Care and Education Knowledge Base.

Refer to the Montana Knowledge Base booklet as you identify your training needs and interests. Checking the boxes that indicate the content areas you need. List specific learning goals.

Knowledge Base Content Areas (Check Boxes)	My Needs	My Interests	<p align="center">Briefly State Learning Goals (Required)</p> <p>Example: You have identified Child Guidance in the Knowledge Base (KB) as an area of need. On page 21 of the KB you scored yourself on the 1-7 scale as a 2 for the criteria <i>Encourages feelings of empathy and respect for others</i>. A learning goal could be: Learn strategies to help 3 year olds develop empathy for others.</p> <p align="right">(If you need more space please attach another page.)</p>
Personal Dispositions			
Health, Safety, & Nutrition			
Child Growth & Development			
Environmental Design			
Child Guidance			
Family & Community Partnerships			
Program Management			
Curriculum			
Observation & Assessment			
Professionalism			
Cultural & Developmental Diversity			

You **must** sign the **Signature of Director/Owner & Applicant Signature** if you are the owner/director and applying for this award.

Employer Certification:

I certify that _____ is currently working 15 or more hours per week with children in a licensed/registered child care facility or in an eligible tribal facility.

Signature of Director/Owner: _____ **PV#:** _____

I certify to the best of my knowledge that all information given is true and correct.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

FAXED OR EMAILED APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED

Send to:
Early Childhood Project—MSU
P.O. Box 173540
Bozeman, MT 59717

FOR ECP OFFICE USE ONLY	Approved by: _____	Date: _____
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