



## LEVEL 2: MOVING INTO HIGHER QUALITY TRAINING

### Description and Purpose

The Learn & Grow **Level 2: Moving Into Higher Quality Training** series is required for lead teachers and program leadership team members. The trainings are designed to support early childhood educators and program leadership to gain the knowledge and skills to help improve the quality of their program. Several of the trainings have been recognized as evidence-based trainings and serve as foundational to establishing a quality early childhood education program. Consult with your **thread** PDS to determine if any previous training you have completed may apply.

Level 2 Trainings for Lead Teachers in Centers, and Family and Group Home Administrators	Level 2 Trainings for Center Administrators
Introduction to AK-Early Childhood Core Knowledge and Competencies (AK-ECCKC)	Introduction to AK-Early Childhood Core Knowledge and Competencies (AK-ECCKC)
Introduction to the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines	Introduction to the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines
Introduction to the Environment Rating Scale (ERS)	Introduction to the Environment Rating Scale (ERS)
Strengthening Families	Strengthening Families
Pyramid Model	Pyramid Model
	Fiscal Management (or staff positions dedicated to Fiscal)
	Human Resources (of staff position dedicated to HR)

### Methods of Completion

There are several ways early educators may complete the trainings:

- **thread** community training
- Online
- University courses
- Courses offered at local early childhood conferences
- Request onsite training as a fee for service from **thread**

### Funding Options

- Professional Development Reimbursement (PDR) – Qualified early educators may receive up to \$1,500.00 per fiscal year (July 1 – June 30) through the Alaska System for Education and Early Development (SEED) to support attendance in education and training opportunities related to early childhood. For more information about Alaska SEED and PDR go to [www.seedalaska.org](http://www.seedalaska.org).
- Scholarship opportunities may be available for early childhood courses taken through the University of Alaska. For more information, contact Veronica Plumb at 907-455-2038 or [vmplumb@alaska.edu](mailto:vmplumb@alaska.edu).



## Level 2: MOVING INTO HIGHER QUALITY TRAINING DESCRIPTIONS

### Introduction to the Alaska Early Childhood Core Knowledge & Competencies

The Alaska’s Early Childhood Core Knowledge and Competencies (AK- ECCKC) assist early childhood. educators in developing the skills needed to provide quality programs for children. This session will provide an introduction to AK-ECCKC, how they are organized, and how they connect to and support the professional development of early childhood educators.

Class Title	Training Organization	Class Length	Cost	Course Type	Where to Register	Notes
Introduction to the Alaska Early Childhood Core Knowledge & Competencies	<b>thread</b>	2 hours	Free for educators working in a participating Learn & Grow program	Face-to-face	<a href="http://www.threadalaska.org/training">www.threadalaska.org/training</a>	Alaska SEED approved

### Introduction to the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines

The Alaska Early Learning Guidelines (ELG) reflects the expectations for the knowledge and skills of young children from birth to kindergarten entry. This training will review the domains and how to use this valuable resource for planning curriculum and communicating with families about their child’s development.

Class Title	Training Organization	Class Length	Cost	Course Type	Where to Register	Notes
Introduction to the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines	<b>thread</b>	2 hours	Free for educators working in a participating Learn & Grow program	Face-to-face	<a href="http://www.threadalaska.org/training">www.threadalaska.org/training</a>	Alaska SEED approved



## Classroom Assessment Tools

Center-based preschool classrooms can choose either the Environment Rating Scales (ERS), or the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) for assessment. CLASS is not available for infant toddler classrooms or family or group home settings.

### Introduction to the Environment Rating Scales (ERS)

The ERS is designed to assess the quality of an early childhood or school age care group. The ERS assessment considers the physical environment, basic care, curriculum, interactions, and program structure. The ERS training explains how the scale is organized, terms frequently used in the scale, and the scoring system.

Please select the ERS training specific to the program type and/or age group:

- Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale – 3 (ECERS-3) is for center based staff working with preschool children (3 – 5 years old)
- Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale – 3 (ITERS-3) is for center based staff working with infants and toddlers (birth to 35 months old)
- Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale – 3 (FCCERS-3) is for mixed age care in a home setting
- School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale- Updated (SACERS-U) is for center based staff working with school age children (5-12 years old)

Class Title	Training Organization	Class Length	Cost	Course Type	Where to Register	Notes
Introduction to the Environment Rating Scale (ECERS-3, ITERS-3, FCCERS-3, and SACERS-U)	thread	8 hours	Free for educators working in a participating Learn & Grow program	Face to face	<a href="http://www.threadalaska.org/training">www.threadalaska.org/training</a>	Alaska SEED approved  This training includes 3 hours of self-reflection
ECERS-3 101	Environment Rating Scale Institute (ERSI)	5 hours	\$149	Online	<a href="https://www.ersi.info/training_online_staff.html">https://www.ersi.info/training_online_staff.html</a>	Alaska SEED approved
ITERS-3 101	Environment Rating Scale Institute (ERSI)	5 hours	\$149	Online	<a href="https://www.ersi.info/training_online_staff.html">https://www.ersi.info/training_online_staff.html</a>	Alaska SEED approved
SACERS Updated 101	Environment Rating Scale Institute (ERSI)	5 hours	\$149	Online	<a href="https://www.ersi.info/training_online_staff.html">https://www.ersi.info/training_online_staff.html</a>	Alaska SEED approved



### Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS)

CLASS is designed to help early childhood educators nurture children's early learning while responding to their needs. CLASS training helps participants understand the important link between effective teacher-child interactions and children's progress. Participants gain an understanding of Pre-K development and classroom implications. This training provides information about the CLASS framework, CLASS dimensions and research that informs the CLASS tool.

Class Title	Training Organization	Class Length	Cost	Course Type	Where to Register	Notes
Introduction to CLASS	thread	6 hours	FREE	Face to Face	Contact Cassie Hulse to schedule training <a href="mailto:chulse@threadalaska.org">chulse@threadalaska.org</a>	Alaska SEED approved

### Strengthening Families

Strengthening Families Protective Factors are a framework for child abuse and neglect prevention that promotes optimal child development. The protective factors shift the focus of child abuse and neglect prevention efforts from family risks and deficits to family strengths and resiliency. By recognizing and building on existing strengths within communities and families, we can support all families in providing a healthy, safe, and loving environment for children.

Class Title	Training Organization	Class Length	Cost	Course Type	Where to Register	Notes
Strengthening Families	thread	8 hours	Free for educators working in a participating Learn & Grow program	Face to face	<a href="http://www.threadalaska.org/training">www.threadalaska.org/training</a>	Alaska SEED approved This training includes 2 hours of self-reflection
Supporting Family Relationships through Mentoring (ECE F410)	University of Alaska, Fairbanks	3 credits	\$840	Distance delivery	<a href="http://www.uaf.edu">www.uaf.edu</a>	Alaska SEED approved
Bringing the Protective Factors Framework to Life in Your Work: A Resource for Action	National Alliance of Children's Trust & Prevention Funds	14 hours or 1.4 CEUs	Free with no CEUs or \$105 with 1.4 CEUs	Online	<a href="https://ctfalliance.org/protective-factors/#OnlineTraining">https://ctfalliance.org/protective-factors/#OnlineTraining</a>	Must complete all 7 courses



## Pyramid Model

The Pyramid Model focuses on preventing and reducing challenging behavior in young children by supporting social and emotional competence.

Class Title	Training Organization	Class Length	Cost	Course Type	Where to Register	Notes
Pyramid Model Foundations	<b>thread</b>	8 hours	Free for educators working in a participating Learn & Grow program	Face to face	<a href="http://www.threadalaska.org/training">www.threadalaska.org/training</a>	Alaska SEED approved  This training includes 2 hours of self-reflection
Pyramid Model: Social & Emotional Competence in Young Children	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	30 hours/3.0 CEUs	\$150	Online	<a href="https://uwm.edu/sce/program_area/center-for-early-childhood-professional-development-leadership/pyramid-model-social-emotional-competence-in-young-children/">https://uwm.edu/sce/program_area/center-for-early-childhood-professional-development-leadership/pyramid-model-social-emotional-competence-in-young-children/</a>	
Birth – Five ePyramid Model Packages	The Pyramid Model Consortium	18 hours	\$49	Online	<a href="http://www.pyramidmodel.org/services/online-training">www.pyramidmodel.org/services/online-training</a>	For mixed age care in home and group home settings
Infant Toddler ePyramid Module Package	The Pyramid Model Consortium	18 hours	\$49	Online	<a href="http://www.pyramidmodel.org/services/online-training">www.pyramidmodel.org/services/online-training</a>	For center based staff caring for infants and toddlers
Preschool ePyramid Module Package	The Pyramid Model Consortium	18 hours	\$49	Online	<a href="http://www.pyramidmodel.org/services/online-training">www.pyramidmodel.org/services/online-training</a>	For center based staff caring for preschoolers



## Fiscal Management (Center Administrator Only)

The following training is available on fiscal management. At a minimum, this course covers the following core knowledge and competency areas:

- Knowledge of bookkeeping methods and accounting terminology.
- Skill in budgeting, cash flow management, grant writing, and fundraising.

Class Title	Training Organization	Class Length	Cost	Course Type	Where to Register	Notes
ECE 340: Financial Management of Early Childhood Programs	University of Alaska, Fairbanks	3 credits	\$840	Distance delivery	<a href="http://www.uaf.edu">www.uaf.edu</a>	Alaska SEED approved
AC #3: Financial Management & Planning in Early Childhood Programs	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	3 credits	\$1,286	Distance delivery	<a href="https://uwm.edu/sce/courses/ac-3-financial-management-planning-in-early-childhood-programs/">https://uwm.edu/sce/courses/ac-3-financial-management-planning-in-early-childhood-programs/</a>	Alaska SEED approved
National Administrator Credential (NAC) Certificate	ChildCare Education Institute	62 hours/6.2 CEUs	\$1,050	Online	<a href="https://www.cceionline.com/necpa-national-administrator-credential-nac-certificate/">https://www.cceionline.com/necpa-national-administrator-credential-nac-certificate/</a>	Alaska SEED approved Must complete entire credential
Aim4Excellence National Director Credential – Module 5: Building a Sound Business Strategy	McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership	16 hours	\$175	Online	<a href="https://mccormickcenterlearning.nl.edu/ets/store/?cat=7ac79c25-5553-4739-b8ef-1b6a34c5e93d">https://mccormickcenterlearning.nl.edu/ets/store/?cat=7ac79c25-5553-4739-b8ef-1b6a34c5e93d</a>	Alaska SEED approved
Budgeting for Success & Reaching Your Financial Goals <sup>1</sup>	SafeGard Classes Online	4 hours	\$40	Online	<a href="http://www.sgclassesonline.com">www.sgclassesonline.com</a>	Alaska SEED approved Must complete both classes
Child Care Administration	The Care Courses School Inc.	20 hours/2.0 CEUs	\$57	Online	<a href="http://www.carecourses.com">www.carecourses.com</a>	Alaska SEED approved

<sup>1</sup> Modules available in Spanish from SafeGard to meet this requirement are: Análisis Del Estado Financiero, Financiero: Lo Básico, and Promoviendo Su Escuela. Must take all three modules.



## Human Resources (Center Administrator Only)

The following training is available on Human Resource. At a minimum, this course covers the following core knowledge and competency areas:

- Ability to hire, supervise, and motivate staff to high levels of performance.
- Knowledge of organizational theory and leadership styles as they related to early childhood work environments.
- Provide a supportive work environment that encompasses program policies and procedures that support staff well-being, empowerment, and overall quality of work life.

Class Title	Training Organization	Class Length	Cost	Course Type	Where to Register	Notes
ECE F341: Personnel Management in Early Childhood	University of Alaska, Fairbanks	3 credits	\$840	Distance delivery	<a href="http://www.uaf.edu">www.uaf.edu</a>	Alaska SEED approved
AC # 2: Operations Management in Early Childhood Programs	University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	3 credits	\$1,286	Distance delivery	<a href="https://uwm.edu/sce/courses/ac-2-operations-management-in-early-childhood-programs/">https://uwm.edu/sce/courses/ac-2-operations-management-in-early-childhood-programs/</a>	Alaska SEED approved
National Administrator Credential (NAC) Certificate	ChildCare Education Institute	62 hours/6.2 CEUs	\$1,050	Online	<a href="https://www.cceionline.com/necpa-national-administrator-credential-nac-certificate/">https://www.cceionline.com/necpa-national-administrator-credential-nac-certificate/</a>	Alaska SEED approved Must complete entire credential
Aim4Excellence National Director Credential – Modules 1-4	McCormick Center for Early Childhood Leadership	64 hours	\$700	Online	<a href="https://mccormickcenterlearning.nl.edu/ets/store/?cat=7ac79c25-5553-4739-b8ef-1b6a34c5e93d">https://mccormickcenterlearning.nl.edu/ets/store/?cat=7ac79c25-5553-4739-b8ef-1b6a34c5e93d</a>	Must complete all four modules
Hiring Techniques, Marketing Your School, Personnel Policy, Program Management, & The Director 1-4	SafeGard Classes Online	10 hours	\$100	Online	<a href="http://www.sgclassesonline.com">www.sgclassesonline.com</a>	Alaska SEED approved Must take all 8 classes
The Work Place Environment & Child Care Administration	The Care Courses School Inc.	34 hours/3.4 CEUs	\$109	Online	<a href="http://www.carecourses.com">www.carecourses.com</a>	Alaska SEED approved Must take both classes

**NOTE:** Early childhood program administrators who have dedicated fiscal and human resource/ personnel positions or departments are exempt from completing any fiscal or human resource trainings. Program administrators are still required to complete the five Level 2: Moving Into Higher Quality Trainings (Pyramid, Strengthening Families, Intro to CKC, Alaska ELG, and Introduction to ERS or CLASS).