

Procedure Letter 15

TO: Early Care and Education Stakeholders

FROM: Kara B. Wente, Director

DATE: May 2, 2025

SUBJECT: Early Childhood Education Grant List of County Exceptions

Background

On March 26, 2025, the Department of Children and Youth (DCY) issued Procedure Letter 13, establishing eligibility requirements for the State Fiscal Year 2026 (SFY26) Early Childhood Education (ECE) Grant. The letter outlined two specific exceptions in which a family may use both Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) and ECE for their preschool-aged child, provided the service hours do not overlap:

1. The child has an Individualized Education Program (IEP) **or**
2. A highly rated PFCC program is not available in the area.

Purpose

This letter identifies counties that meet the exception due to limited or no access to highly rated PFCC programs. Families residing in these counties may choose both PFCC and ECE for their preschool-aged child(ren).

DCY will publish this list annually each April, in preparation for the upcoming school year.

Methodology

To determine eligibility, DCY analyzed January 2025 authorization data using the following steps by county:

- Identified all child care centers and family child care homes.
- Filtered to include only programs with active PFCC agreements.
- Filtered to include only silver and gold-rated programs.
- Adjusted program capacity to 80% of licensed capacity.
- Compared this adjusted capacity to the number of children authorized for PFCC.

A county was determined eligible for the exception if the number of authorized PFCC children exceeded 40% of adjusted program capacity **or** the county had two or fewer highly rated PFCC programs.

County Exceptions

1 - ADAMS	12 - FAYETTE	23 - MEDINA	34 - PUTNAM
2 - ASHLAND	13 - GALLIA	24 - MEIGS	35 - STARK
3 - AUGLAIZE	14 - GEAUGA	25 - MERCER	36 - TUSCARAWAS
4 - BROWN	15 - HARDIN	26 - MIAMI	37 - UNION
5 - CARROLL	16 - HARRISON	27 - MONROE	38 - VAN WERT
6 - CHAMPAIGN	17 - HENRY	28 - MORGAN	39 - VINTON
7 - CLERMONT	18 - HOCKING	29 - MORROW	40 - WARREN
8 - CLINTON	19 - HOLMES	30 - NOBLE	41 - WASHINGTON
9 - CRAWFORD	20 - JACKSON	31 - PAULDING	42 - WAYNE
10 - DELAWARE	21 - KNOX	32 - PERRY	43 - WILLIAMS
11 - ERIE	22 - LOGAN	33 - PICKAWAY	44 - WYANDOT

Training

County job and family services agencies will be trained at the Ohio Job and Family Services Directors' Association (OJFSDA) Annual Training Conference on May 8 & 9 and again during the monthly call on May 28.

Contact

Please contact your local job and family services agency with any questions.