

DSS

Serving Children and Families

KATHLEEN M. HAYES, PH.D.
STATE DIRECTOR

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR

November 23, 2009

Dear ABC Provider:

The ABC Child Care Program has been working hard to support Level B, BB, A, and AA providers with bonuses and grants since 2007. While the economy has recently suffered, it has had a particular effect on child care programs within our state. In an effort to assist your program, the ABC Child Care Program is offering providers an opportunity to apply for a conference scholarship bonus. These bonuses could assist a team of staff from your program in gaining high quality training from a state level conference.

We are pleased to offer your program a choice of training opportunities for 2010 to assist in meeting your required DSS training hours (15 hours for caregivers and 20 hours for directors). This expanded bonus award opportunity will be available to centers who successfully completed their 2008-2009 ABC Level B review. You have a choice of 1 of 4 statewide conferences to apply for as follows:

SC Early Childhood Association Conference January 28-30, 2010
SC Child Care Association Conference February 6, 2010
SC After-School Alliance Conference September 2010
SC Association for the Education of Young Children Conference October 2010

See the enclosed sheet for a brief description of the state conference opportunities. Please complete the enclosed application form to send a team of your staff to one of these statewide conferences. Applicants will be notified of their approval and receive a bonus award in advance of the conference which must be spent for this training opportunity. All participants must attend the required hours of training, turn in their Conference Attendance Forms at the conference for proof of attendance, and submit a transcript to us after the Conference.

Limited funding is available for this state conference bonus award opportunity. Funding approvals and conference assignments will be made on a first-come, first-serve basis to program teams with successfully completed ABC Level B reviews. All team members must attend the same conference. If you have questions, please contact our ABC office at 1-800-763-ABCD.

Also enclosed is a flyer for a low-cost distance learning opportunity available to you and your staff through the South Carolina Program for Infant Toddler Care (PITC) Network.

Additional local/regional training opportunities for you will be announced in the coming months. We are committed to assisting you with state training requirements during these difficult economic times.

Thank you for your continued service to children and families in your community!

Sincerely,

Leigh W. Bolick
Director
Child Care Services

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Enclosures