

**Connecticut Office of Early Childhood  
Mission and Vision Statements**

The Connecticut Office of Early Childhood is a state agency that oversees a coordinated system of early childhood care, education and support.

**Our Vision:**

All young children in Connecticut are safe, healthy, learning and thriving. Each child is surrounded by a strong network of nurturing adults who deeply value the importance of the first years of a child's life and have the skills, knowledge, support and passion to meet the unique needs of every child.

**Our Mission:**

To support all young children in their development by ensuring that early childhood policy, funding and services strengthen the critical role families, providers, educators and communities play in a child's life.

**Our Guiding Principles:**

- Build family-centered and family-driven systems for *all* children in Connecticut
- Prioritize children facing barriers, risks, setbacks or challenges to their healthy development
- Foster a deep respect for cultural differences in child rearing practices
- Honor families' diverse languages, values, strengths and needs
- Consider the whole child, his or her family, and his or her community setting
- Value early childhood as a time of learning through play and building positive relationships
- Ensure equal access to and parent choice within all early childhood services
- Operate in an efficient, coordinated, caring, professional and effective manner
- Confront and eliminate institutional racism and disparities
- Engage in continuous and system quality improvement
- Utilize current best practices, available research and data
- Nurture and value collaborative partnerships, innovation and self-reflection

**Our Work**

The Office of Early Childhood:

- Provides funding, standards, regulations, training and oversight to ensure that early care and education programs for young children
  - are safe, healthy and nurturing\*;
  - effectively support children's physical, social, emotional and cognitive development; and,
  - are accessible to all children, particularly those facing barriers, risks or challenges to their healthy development and success.
- Provides home visiting services, funding and training to support families raising young children to ensure the children's health, well-being and positive growth and development and to prevent child abuse or neglect.

\*Licensing of child care and youth camps will transition to the Office of Early Childhood on July 1, 2014.

Website:

<http://www.ct.gov/oec>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/ctoec>

Twitter:

[https://twitter.com/ct\\_oec](https://twitter.com/ct_oec)

Organizational Chart for the  
Office of Early Childhood – November 2013

Shaded boxes are positions in place  
Clear boxes are positions to move or be filled in July 2014.  
Dashed borders indicate a position to be created  
\* The Birth-to-Three move is pending the results of a study.

