

# CTE Spring 2026 Webinar Series: OCCHS Overview

April 22, 2026



# CTE Spring 2026 Webinar Series

In Spring 2026, VATFACS, in collaboration with the VDOE's Office of Early Childhood Quality, is offering a brief webinar series to support all CTE course leaders in learning more about the VDOE's Early Childhood Care and Education work to integrate, align, and support Early Childhood, Education, and Services courses.

- This webinar series will be held from March - May, as 30-minute overviews on the following topics:
  - **Wednesday, March 25, 3:30 – 4:00 pm**
    - Unified Virginia Quality Birth to Five System (VQB5) Overview
  - **Wednesday, April 22, 3:30 – 4:00 pm**
    - Licensing/Health & Safety
  - **Wednesday, May 20, 3:30 – 4:00 pm**
    - Early Learning/Early Learning Development Standards (ELDS)/Virginia Kindergarten Readiness Program (VKRP)



# Objectives and Agenda

## **Objectives - As a result of this presentation, CTE ECE teachers will:**

- Learn the mission and goals of the Division of Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) and the Office of Child Care Health and Safety (OCCHS)
- Gain an understanding of the broad range of OCCHS functions and activities
- Become familiar with the VDOE ECCE website and the wealth of information it provides
- Find resources for becoming a child care provider and pursuing child care as a profession

## **Agenda**

- Shared Vision of Virginia's Division of Early Childhood Care and Education
- Mission and goal of OCCHS
- Child care programs regulated by the OCCHS
- Core OCCHS responsibilities and functions
- VDOE ECCE website walk-through
- Questions and Discussion

# Our Shared Vision

We envision a Virginia where *all* children have the opportunity to enter school ready.



Families have a variety of affordable, high-quality early learning options.



Programs are measured, supported to improve, and rewarded for continuous improvement.



Parents can work or go to school and meet their family's needs.

# Division of Early Childhood Care and Education

OCCHS is an office within the Division of Early Childhood Care and Education. As part of this division, we share the focus of ensuring families can choose high-quality, accessible, and safe options, and every child is prepared for school and success.



When these three components come together, children and families benefit, which ultimately results in a benefit to the Commonwealth.

# Office of Child Care Health and Safety

**Mission and Goal:** Protect the health, safety, and well-being of children in day programs, partnering with providers to ensure all children in care are healthy and safe.

**Scope of Oversight:** OCCHS regulates child day programs and family day systems under the *Code of Virginia* through regulations and procedures. Approximately 6,500 programs fall under some form of OCCHS oversight.

## **Core responsibilities:**

- Providing technical assistance to current and future providers of children's programs
- Determining child care program compliance with statutes and regulations
- Initiating enforcement action when necessary

# Number of Programs and Capacity in Virginia's Regulated Child Day Programs (3/1/2026)

Program Type	Number of Active Programs	Approved Capacity of Children
Licensed Child Day Centers (including short term)	2,644	<b>481,042</b>
Religiously Exempt Child Day Centers	865	
Certified Preschools	21	
Filing Exempt Child Day Programs (unlicensed)	1,109	
Center Based Subsidy Vendor (unlicensed)	24	
Licensed Family Day Homes	1,340	
Voluntarily Registered Family Day Homes	186	
Home Based Subsidy Vendors (unlicensed)	408	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>6,597</b>	

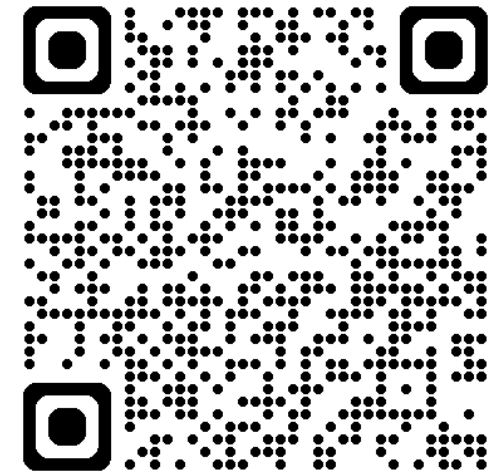
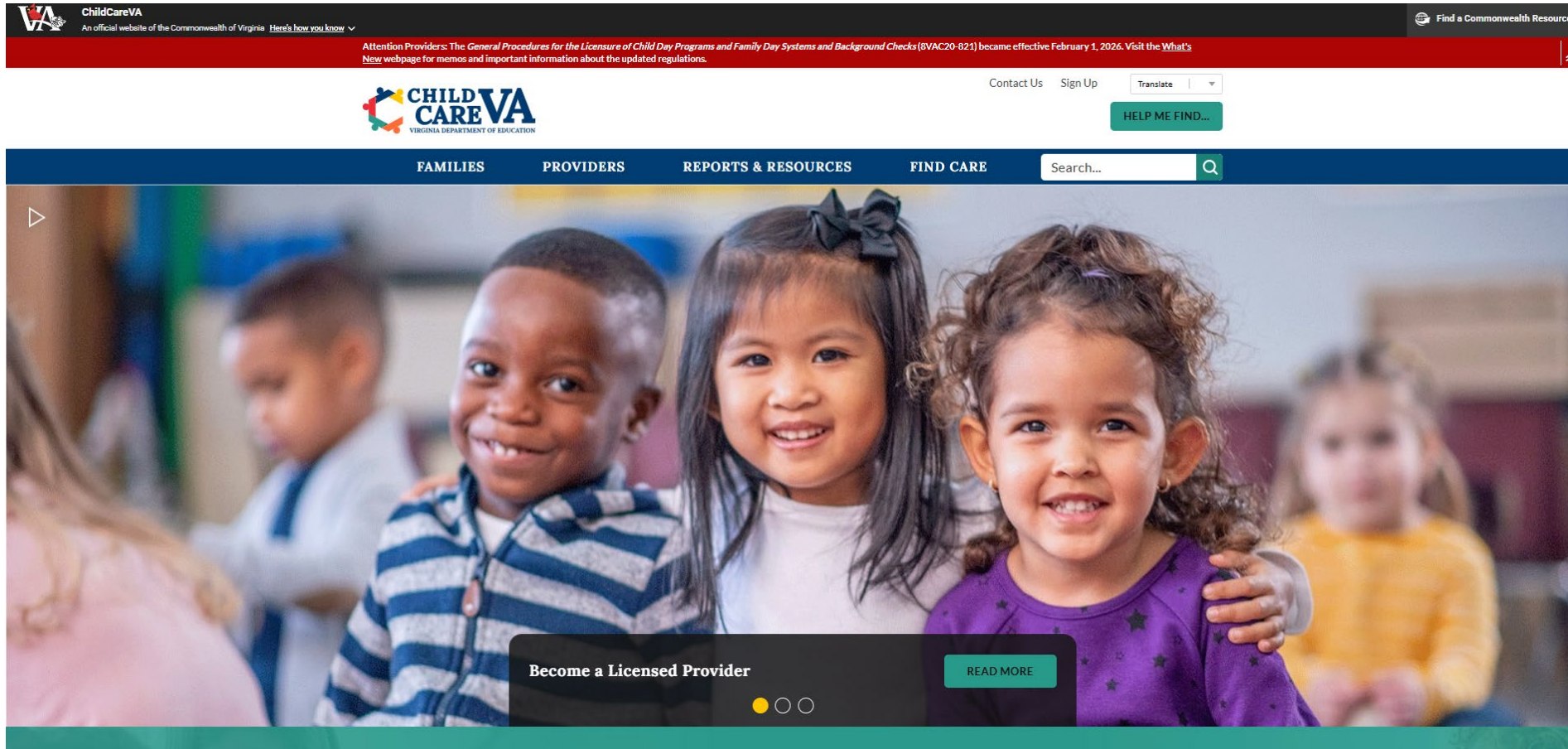
# Core OCCHS Responsibilities and Functions – 1 of 2

- **Provider Support and Licensing**
  - Training and consultation for new and existing child care providers
  - Processing applications for program licenses and filings for exemptions
  - Hosting and updating the VDOE Child Care website for providers and families
- **Inspections and Monitoring**
  - Initial and renewal inspections associated with a provider's application for a child care license
  - Inspections for new unlicensed subsidy applicants prior to receiving subsidy funds.
  - Monitoring inspections on a planned basis as well as in response to complaints and allegations of illegal operations

# Core OCCHS Responsibilities and Functions – 2 of 2

- **Compliance and Enforcement**
  - Facilitating problem-solving conferences and establishing corrective action plans with providers when violations are identified during inspections
  - Investigating complaints, self-reported incidents, and illegal operations
  - Coordinating with outside agencies as needed (e.g., Child Protective Services)
- **Regulation and Policy**
  - Developing and revising regulations
  - Alerting leadership to high-risk situations

# ChildCare VA



# Connecting CTE Competencies with OCCHS

A few examples of competencies that align with OCCHS, from Introduction to Early Childhood Education Course (18 weeks):

Task Number	Competency
30	Examine health, safety, and environmental issues related to an industry/organization.
45	Research federal, state, and other regulatory agencies governing the early childhood education industry.
48	Investigate the education and training requirements for careers in early childhood education.
58	Describe a healthy learning environment for children at various ages.
61	Identify safety hazards and ways to protect children from them.

# Questions/Discussion

# Thank You!

Sign up for the weekly [VDOE Readiness Connections Updates](#) e-newsletter to receive regular ECCE updates.

Any questions or feedback:  
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