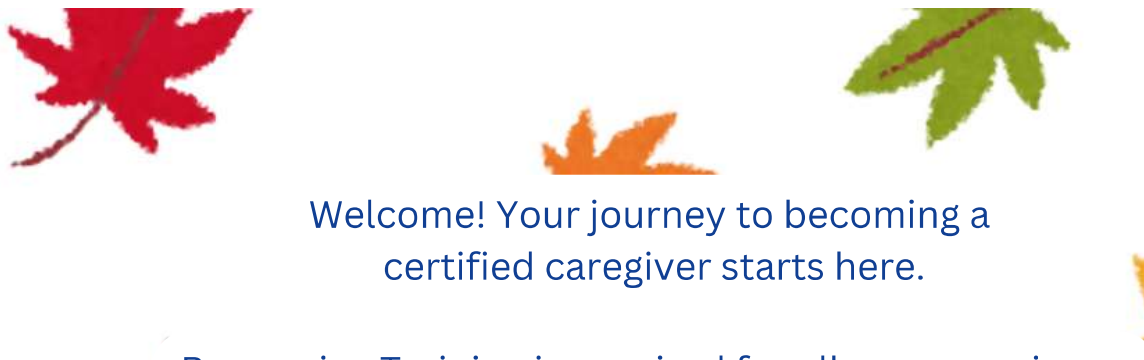


Fall 2026 Preservice Training Schedule



**Department of
Children & Youth**

North Central Ohio Regional Training Center



Welcome! Your journey to becoming a certified caregiver starts here.

Preservice Training is required for all new caregivers.

If you are getting certified through a county agency, these pages will give you the information you need to register and complete the Preservice Training Series.

Cuyahoga County caregivers must register for Preservice Training by contacting the Recruitment Department:

 216-881-5775 www.everychildneedsfamily.com

Or visit the Preservice Class Schedules website:

 www.cfs.cuyahogacounty.us

If you are getting certified through a private foster care or adoption agency, please contact the Cuyahoga County Division of Children and Family Services Recruitment Department for requirements.





Have you considered becoming a Foster Parent?

We are currently looking to increase our number of bilingual foster families. Having foster parents who can speak and understand multiple languages will open better lines of communication at home and allow for better advocacy on behalf of the youth. We now offer bilingual training for foster parents.



Cuyahoga County
Division of Children and Family Services
Foster and Adoption Recruitment
3955 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115
216-881-5775

**Call 216-881-5775
to register!**



Capacitación para padres de crianza

Actualmente estamos buscando aumentar nuestro número de familias de acogida bilingües. Tener padres de acogida que puedan hablar y entender varios idiomas abrirá mejores vías de comunicación en el hogar y permitirá una mejor defensa en nombre de los jóvenes. Ahora ofrecemos capacitación bilingüe para padres de acogida.



Cuyahoga County
Division of Children and Family Services
Foster and Adoption Recruitment
3955 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115
216-881-5775

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CAREGIVER COACH PROGRAM



We are excited to announce a new service for caregivers!

Caregiver Coaching is a short-term intervention that provides foster, adoptive, and kinship caregivers interested in becoming certified with hands-on, here and now tools for bringing about rapid and dramatic improvement in their skill set.

Through a variety of formats, including both in-person and virtual, the coach works with caregivers to provide a customized experience that includes teaching effective parenting methods and enhancing their knowledge of community based resources.

For more information please contact:
Tawanda.Mccoy2@jfs.ohio.gov
Office 216.698.2984
Cell 216.304.1402
or visit the [DCFS Intranet](#)



Cuyahoga County
Division of Children and Family Services

August 2026

Preservice Training Overview

The Basics Of Placement	August 4, 2026	6:00pm to 8:30pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25469 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand how children come into care and are matched with a family. Laws influencing matching decisions are discussed, including MEPA, ICWA, Title VI. Learners will understand the importance making an informed decision about the placement and how to create an environment in which the child feels safe. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Trauma Overview	August 6, 2026	6:00pm to 7:30pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25473 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, defines trauma and explores how trauma influences brain architecture, development, and the ability to attach. Learners will consider how trauma may impact not just the child, but others on the child protection team. Learners will think about how their trauma histories may impact how they will provide care. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
The Impact of Trauma on Children in Care	August 6, 2026	7:45pm to 9:15pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25476 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, focuses on how trauma impacts the children in care. Learners will consider what new skills and knowledge they will need to provide appropriate care to children who have been impacted by trauma. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families.				
Effects of Caregiving	August 8, 2026	9:00am to 11:00am	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25478 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explains the importance of permanency and reviews permanency options for children in care, including reunification and adoption. Adoption supports, including subsidies, are discussed. Learners will consider how they can help prepare children for permanency. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Permanency	August 8, 2026	11:15am to 12:15pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25479 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, provides caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing, first aid, and environmental emergencies. Learners will gain awareness in giving immediate care to an injured or ill person and to decide whether advanced medical care is needed for all ages, including adults, children, and infants. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Maintaining the Child's Connections	August 8, 2026	1:15pm to 2:45pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25481 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explores the importance of maintaining the child's connections to their primary family and other important adults and peers. Learners will be introduced to the C.A.R.E. Guide, Ohio's recommended best practice in co-parenting. Learners will consider strategies to support the child's important relationships. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				

August 2026

Preservice Training Overview

Partnering with Primary Families	August 8, 2026	3:00pm to 4:30pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25549 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand their need to partner with the primary family for the child's benefit. The importance of empathy is explored, and learners consider child protection from the perspective of the primary family. Learners will hear about the value of partnering from those with lived experience. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Adult, Child, Infant CPR/First Aid/AED	August 10, 2026	6:00pm to 9:15pm	Trainer: Kandice Chapman	Virtual - Session-#25207 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, provides caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing, first aid, and environmental emergencies. Learners will gain awareness in giving immediate care to an injured or ill person and to decide whether advanced medical care is needed for all ages, including adults, children, and infants. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Child Development	August 11, 2026	6:00pm to 8:00pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25480 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand how children come into care and are matched with a family. Laws influencing matching decisions are discussed, including MEPA, ICWA, Title VI. Learners will understand the importance making an informed decision about the placement and how to create an environment in which the child feels safe. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Adolescent Development	August 11, 2026	8:15pm to 9:15pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25905 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explores what happens during adolescence, including brain development, identity development, and life skills development. Learners will consider how they can support adolescents through this period of development. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Discipline Foundations	August 11, 2026	5:30pm to 7:30pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#25553 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, discusses the knowledge and skills needed to appropriately discipline children. Learners will consider the importance of re-framing behavior and taking an approach that focuses on relationship, managing their emotions, and being intentional. Learners will also discover how to determine if a discipline strategy is appropriate in CAPS. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Enhancing the Child's Sense of Belonging	August 11, 2026	7:45pm to 9:15pm	Trainer: Lamar King	Virtual - Session-#27129 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, prepares learners to create welcoming and supportive homes for children entering their care. Learners explore the lived experiences of children in foster care, the importance of belonging, and how assumptions can affect relationships. Through guided reflection and practical strategies, learners will understand what is needed to enhance the sense of belonging for every child in their home. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				

August 2026

Preservice Training Overview

Adult, Child, Infant CPR/First Aid/AED	August 26, 2026	6:00pm to 9:15pm	Trainer: Kandice Chapman	Virtual - Session-#25229 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, provides caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing, first aid, and environmental emergencies. Learners will gain awareness in giving immediate care to an injured or ill person and to decide whether advanced medical care is needed for all ages, including adults, children, and infants. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				

September 2026

Preservice Training Calendar

The Basics Of Placement	September 1, 2026	6:00pm to 8:30pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25702 Cuyahoga County Library - Parma Snow Branch - 2111 Snow Rd, Parma, OH. 44134
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand how children come into care and are matched with a family. Laws influencing matching decisions are discussed, including MEPA, ICWA, Title VI. Learners will understand the importance making an informed decision about the placement and how to create an environment in which the child feels safe. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Trauma Overview	September 3, 2026	5:30pm to 7:00pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25706 Cuyahoga County Library - Parma Snow Branch - 2111 Snow Rd, Parma, OH. 44134
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, defines trauma and explores how trauma influences brain architecture, development, and the ability to attach. Learners will consider how trauma may impact not just the child, but others on the child protection team. Learners will think about how their trauma histories may impact how they will provide care. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
The Impact of Trauma on Children in Care	September 3, 2026	7:15pm to 8:45pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25710 Cuyahoga County Library - Parma Snow Branch - 2111 Snow Rd, Parma, OH. 44134
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, focuses on how trauma impacts the children in care. Learners will consider what new skills and knowledge they will need to provide appropriate care to children who have been impacted by trauma. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families.				
Effects of Caregiving	September 5, 2026	9:00am to 11:00am	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25732 Harvard Training Center (Harvard Garage) - 2501 Harvard Ave. Newburgh Heights, OH. 44105
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explains the importance of permanency and reviews permanency options for children in care, including reunification and adoption. Adoption supports, including subsidies, are discussed. Learners will consider how they can help prepare children for permanency. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Permanency	September 5, 2026	11:15am to 12:15pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25736 Harvard Training Center (Harvard Garage) - 2501 Harvard Ave. Newburgh Heights, OH. 44105
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, provides caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing, first aid, and environmental emergencies. Learners will gain awareness in giving immediate care to an injured or ill person and to decide whether advanced medical care is needed for all ages, including adults, children, and infants. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				

September 2026

Preservice Training Calendar

Maintaining the Child's Connections	September 5, 2026	1:15pm to 2:45pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25758 Harvard Training Center (Harvard Garage) - 2501 Harvard Ave. Newburgh Heights, OH. 44105
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explores the importance of maintaining the child's connections to their primary family and other important adults and peers. Learners will be introduced to the C.A.R.E. Guide, Ohio's recommended best practice in co-parenting. Learners will consider strategies to support the child's important relationships. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Partnering with Primary Families	September 5, 2026	3:00pm-4:30pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25763 Harvard Training Center (Harvard Garage) - 2501 Harvard Ave. Newburgh Heights, OH. 44105
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand their need to partner with the primary family for the child's benefit. The importance of empathy is explored, and learners consider child protection from the perspective of the primary family. Learners will hear about the value of partnering from those with lived experience. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Discipline Foundations	September 8, 2026	5:00pm to 7:00pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25769 Cuyahoga County Library - Fairview Park Branch - 21255 Lorain Rd. Fairview Park, OH. 44126
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, discusses the knowledge and skills needed to appropriately discipline children. Learners will consider the importance of re-framing behavior and taking an approach that focuses on relationship, managing their emotions, and being intentional. Learners will also discover how to determine if a discipline strategy is appropriate in CAPS. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Enhancing the Child's Sense of Belonging	September 8, 2026	7:15pm-8:45pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#27130 Cuyahoga County Library - Fairview Park Branch - 21255 Lorain Rd. Fairview Park, OH. 44126
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, prepares learners to create welcoming and supportive homes for children entering their care. Learners explore the lived experiences of children in foster care, the importance of belonging, and how assumptions can affect relationships. Through guided reflection and practical strategies, learners will understand what is needed to enhance the sense of belonging for every child in their home. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Child Development	September 10, 2026	5:30pm to 7:30pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25791 Cuyahoga County Library - Fairview Park Branch - 21255 Lorain Rd. Fairview Park, OH. 44126
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand how children come into care and are matched with a family. Laws influencing matching decisions are discussed, including MEPA, ICWA, Title VI. Learners will understand the importance making an informed decision about the placement and how to create an environment in which the child feels safe. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				

September 2026

Preservice Training Calendar

Adolescent Development	September 10, 2026	7:45pm to 8:45pm	Trainer: Susan Darden-Kautz	In-person-Session-#25799 Cuyahoga County Library - Fairview Park Branch - 21255 Lorain Rd. Fairview Park, OH. 44126
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explores what happens during adolescence, including brain development, identity development, and life skills development. Learners will consider how they can support adolescents through this period of development. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Adult, Child, Infant CPR/First Aid/AED	September 14, 2026	6:00pm to 9:15pm	Trainer: Kandice Chapman	Virtual-Session-#25208 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, provides caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing, first aid, and environmental emergencies. Learners will gain awareness in giving immediate care to an injured or ill person and to decide whether advanced medical care is needed for all ages, including adults, children, and infants. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH: The Basics Of Placement	September 15, 2026	6:00pm to 8:30pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25704 Cuyahoga County Library - Fairview Park Branch - 21255 Lorain Rd. Fairview Park, OH. 44126
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand how children come into care and are matched with a family. Laws influencing matching decisions are discussed, including MEPA, ICWA, Title VI. Learners will understand the importance making an informed decision about the placement and how to create an environment in which the child feels safe. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH: Adult, Child, Infant CPR/First Aid/AED	September 16, 2026	6:00pm to 9:15pm	Trainer: Loren Flores	Virtual-Session-#25233 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, provides caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing, first aid, and environmental emergencies. Learners will gain awareness in giving immediate care to an injured or ill person and to decide whether advanced medical care is needed for all ages, including adults, children, and infants. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH Effects of Caregiving	September 17, 2026	5:30pm to 7:30pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25829 Cuyahoga County Library - Berea Branch - 7 Berea Commons - Berea, OH. 44017
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explains the importance of permanency and reviews permanency options for children in care, including reunification and adoption. Adoption supports, including subsidies, are discussed. Learners will consider how they can help prepare children for permanency. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				

September 2026

Preservice Training Calendar

SPANISH Permanency	September 17, 2026	7:45pm to 8:45pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25833 Cuyahoga County Library - Berea Branch - 7 Berea Commons - Berea, OH. 44017
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, provides caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing, first aid, and environmental emergencies. Learners will gain awareness in giving immediate care to an injured or ill person and to decide whether advanced medical care is needed for all ages, including adults, children, and infants. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH The Impact of Trauma on Children in Care	September 22, 2026	5:30pm to 7:00pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25813 Cuyahoga County Library - Parma Snow Branch - 2111 Snow Rd, Parma, OH. 44134
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, focuses on how trauma impacts the children in care. Learners will consider what new skills and knowledge they will need to provide appropriate care to children who have been impacted by trauma. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families.				
SPANISH Trauma Overview	September 22, 2026	7:15pm to 8:45pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25826 Cuyahoga County Library - Parma Snow Branch - 2111 Snow Rd, Parma, OH. 44134
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, defines trauma and explores how trauma influences brain architecture, development, and the ability to attach. Learners will consider how trauma may impact not just the child, but others on the child protection team. Learners will think about how their trauma histories may impact how they will provide care. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
Adult, Child, Infant CPR/First Aid/AED	September 23, 2026	6:00pm to 9:15pm	Trainer: Kandice Chapman	Virtual-Session-#25235 CAPSLMS/ZOOM
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, provides caregivers with the knowledge and skills needed to recognize and respond appropriately to cardiac, breathing, first aid, and environmental emergencies. Learners will gain awareness in giving immediate care to an injured or ill person and to decide whether advanced medical care is needed for all ages, including adults, children, and infants. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH Discipline Foundations	September 24, 2026	5:00pm to 7:00pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25836 Cuyahoga County Library - Fairview Park Branch - 21255 Lorain Rd. Fairview Park, OH. 44126
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, discusses the knowledge and skills needed to appropriately discipline children. Learners will consider the importance of re-framing behavior and taking an approach that focuses on relationship, managing their emotions, and being intentional. Learners will also discover how to determine if a discipline strategy is appropriate in CAPS. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				

September 2026

Preservice Training Calendar

SPANISH Enhancing the Child's Sense of Belonging	September 24, 2026	7:15pm to 8:45pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#27131 Cuyahoga County Library - Fairview Park Branch - 21255 Lorain Rd. Fairview Park, OH. 44126
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, prepares learners to create welcoming and supportive homes for children entering their care. Learners explore the lived experiences of children in foster care, the importance of belonging, and how assumptions can affect relationships. Through guided reflection and practical strategies, learners will understand what is needed to enhance the sense of belonging for every child in their home. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH Child Development	September 26, 2026	9:00am to 11:00am	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25853 Old Brooklyn DJFS - 4261 Fulton Parkway, Cleveland, OH. 44144
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand how children come into care and are matched with a family. Laws influencing matching decisions are discussed, including MEPA, ICWA, Title VI. Learners will understand the importance making an informed decision about the placement and how to create an environment in which the child feels safe. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH Adolescent Development	September 26, 2026	11:15am to 12:15pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25877 Old Brooklyn DJFS - 4261 Fulton Parkway, Cleveland, OH. 44144
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explores what happens during adolescence, including brain development, identity development, and life skills development. Learners will consider how they can support adolescents through this period of development. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH Maintaining the Child's Connections	September 26, 2026	1:15pm to 2:45pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25887 Old Brooklyn DJFS - 4261 Fulton Parkway, Cleveland, OH. 44144
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, explores the importance of maintaining the child's connections to their primary family and other important adults and peers. Learners will be introduced to the C.A.R.E. Guide, Ohio's recommended best practice in co-parenting. Learners will consider strategies to support the child's important relationships. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				
SPANISH Partnering with Primary Families	September 26, 2026	3:00pm-4:30pm	Trainer: Carmen Toro-Wooten	In-person-Session-#25894 Old Brooklyn DJFS - 4261 Fulton Parkway, Cleveland, OH. 44144
CONTENT: This course, part of the Preservice training series, helps learners understand their need to partner with the primary family for the child's benefit. The importance of empathy is explored, and learners consider child protection from the perspective of the primary family. Learners will hear about the value of partnering from those with lived experience. TARGET AUDIENCE: Preservice Requirement, Resource Readiness Families				

Fall 2026 Preservice Training Schedule



**Department of
Children & Youth**

North Central Ohio Regional Training Center