

August 2026



PA KEI Update

www.kei-pa.org



Welcome to the 2026-2027 School Year!

Welcome back to a new school year. As kindergarten teachers and school administrators begin this academic journey together, we look forward to your continued dedication to fostering a supportive and engaging learning environment for the commonwealth's youngest learners. Our team remains committed to supporting you every step of the way throughout the year.

If you are the Point of Contact (POC) for your school, the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) staff will request your school's start date via email. After the system opens on August 17, 2026, at noon, please ensure the correct start date for your school is entered into either the upload template or directly into the PA KEI system. If the date is incorrect, please contact CSIU staff at: KEI@csiu.org.

Technical Support staff are available by phone from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, Monday – Friday:

- For Jeff Kay: 570-523-1155, x2137
- For Christy Veitch Kostyrka: 570-523-1155, x2293

Technical support questions during off-hours should be directed to KEI@csiu.org.



Student Data Upload Process

District or Building Administrators in the PA KEI System have the ability to create an electronic file that contains Student and/or Classroom data that can be sent to the PA KEI team for upload into the PA KEI Database. By taking advantage of this process, you will drastically reduce the time it takes your teachers to manually enter this data into the PA KEI system.

Directions for completing this process can be found at the [KEI website](#).

Communicating with your Implementing Teachers!

Effective communication among Points of Contact (POCs), administrative staff, and implementing teachers is essential for the successful implementation of PA KEI. School-specific PA KEI webpages serve as valuable tools for sharing information with implementing teachers. If your school maintains a PA KEI webpage, please ensure the content remains current, as the Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) frequently adds or updates guidance and resources.

For the MOST up-to-date information, please link directly to the PA KEI landing page at www.kei-pa.org whenever possible.

The [PA KEI User's Manual](#) is available for the 2026-2027 school year.



Want to get or stay involved in the Early Childhood Education Community and Networks?

National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)

NAEYC is the premier membership association for early learning educators. NAEYC is available to help all ECE educators on the journey to improve educational opportunities for all young children. NAEYC offers four membership categories—Entry (Digital) Level, Standard, Premium, and Family—each with a unique set of benefits. Visit the [NAEYC website](#) for more information on how to join.

PA Early Ed News

Stay up to date with the latest information from the OCDEL.

Sponsored by OCDEL, the PA Early Ed News is a monthly e-newsletter that informs early learning professionals, the early childhood community, school district staff, policymakers, community leaders, and the public about developments in early childhood education and care in Pennsylvania. The newsletter is free and open to anyone.

When you subscribe to PA Early Ed News, you may also receive special announcements throughout the month from OCDEL, keeping you up to date on current information. For more information and to subscribe, visit [the Pennsylvania Key website](#).

Early Childhood Education Summit

The ECE Summit is an opportunity to dialogue and learn while building a stronger early learning community. Discover Trends in Best Practices – learn from ECE experts and earn up to 12 professional development hours that meet Act 48 requirements. Network with Your Peers – network with colleagues and organizations that specialize in providing materials, services, and resources for the ECE community. Learn About State and National Policies and Priorities – learn how current state and national policies impact the ECE system and are critical to programs serving young children and families.

The ECE Summit is at the Penn Stater in State College, PA, October 18 - 21, 2026. For more information and to register, visit [the Early Childhood Summit website](#).



Need a Password Reset?

Resetting your password for PA KEI data system:

1. Go to the website: <http://kei-pa.org>
2. Select the *Data System Login* tab.
3. Click on the *I forgot my password* link located below the login boxes.
4. You will be asked to enter your Username, which should be your school email address.
5. A password reset email will be sent to you.

6. Follow the instructions in the email.
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Professional Development is REQUIRED for Implementing Teachers!

All kindergarten teachers who have not previously participated in PA KEI implementation must complete the required professional development course to ensure fidelity of implementation, obtain a certificate of completion, and gain access to the web-based system. Certificates are valid for five years. Teachers who completed the course and obtained a proficient user certificate in 2021 or later are complying. Any certificates received on or before 2020 must be renewed by completing the online professional development. These teachers have been contacted via email by CSIU staff.

All teachers, regardless of proficiency status, should review the PA KEI materials (with priority focus on the Inventory and User Manual) each year. All resources can be found at www.kei-pa.org.

The professional development protocol is live for the 2026-2027 school year and consists of self-paced, asynchronous, online learning lessons and a final knowledge check. After viewing each lesson, participants complete a 10-question final knowledge check and must score at least 80 percent to receive their proficient user certificate, which is valid for five years from the date of completion.

The professional development protocol can be found at www.kei-pa.org. Click the Professional Development button or tab to access it. Participants will need their PPID number and LEA AUN to receive login credentials.



PA KEI Teacher Software Trainings Announced for 2026

Teacher Training

For Teachers and Teacher Aides.

This online demonstration training will provide an overview of all facets of the KEI database, including a review of responsibilities for the teacher-level user.

Agenda (1 hour in length)

- How to Log In and Navigate the KEI Database
- How to Reset My Password
- How to Add a Student Record
- How to Create an Inventory by Student
- How to Create an Inventory by Single Indicator by Classroom
- What is the Difference Between Save and Finalize
- What Data Can I Get by Looking at My Classroom
- Who to Contact for Assistance Using the KEI Database

Please select one of the dates listed below to register.

Thursday, August 27 – 7 AM

Thursday, August 27 – 3:30 PM

Wednesday, September 2 – 7 AM

Wednesday, September 2 – 3:30 PM

Tuesday, September 8 – 7 AM

Tuesday, September 8 – 3:30 PM

To schedule a webinar specifically for you or your district, please contact KEI Support Staff at KEI@csiu.org.

Subscribing to the eNewsletter

If you have a co-worker who is participating in KEI, but does not receive the newsletter, email Christy at cveitch@csiu.org to request to be added to the listserv.

[Access archived editions.](#)