

# myth vs fact

Myth 01



**There is an enrollment or registration process in order to begin participating in the CPL program.**

**Truth is, there is no registration process to begin participating in CPL.** You can access the online Expectations for Practice Module 2016 and CPL Portfolio components on the College website, [college-ece.ca/CPL](http://college-ece.ca/CPL) to begin participating.

**Participating in the CPL program will cost me money.**

Myth 02

**Not necessarily.** While there are costs associated with some learning opportunities, such as conferences, courses and workshops, there are a number of options you might want to consider that have very little or no cost at all.

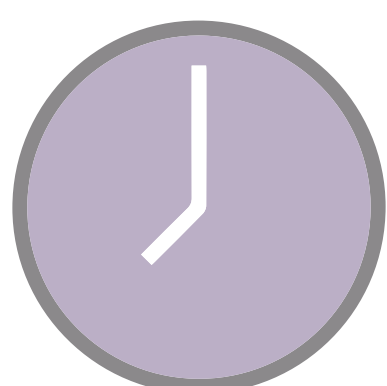
The introductory Expectations for Practice Module 2016 and CPL Portfolio components are free to all members, and a number of professional resources produced by the College are available for free on our [website](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

Here are a few examples:

- Case study analysis, alone or as a group of RECEs
- Online video or audio resources
- Job shadowing another role in your practice setting
- Reading and reflecting on sector-related books or articles
- Mentorship



Myth 03



**There is a minimum number of learning hours required to complete my CPL requirements.**

**The CPL program does not require members to complete a specific number of learning hours.** The program has been designed as a self-directed, flexible, ongoing learning framework to help you continually grow as a professional. It is up to you to decide on learning goals related to your ethical and professional responsibilities, and how much time you require in order to achieve your goals.

**Participating in the CPL program means I will need to take courses or workshops every year.**

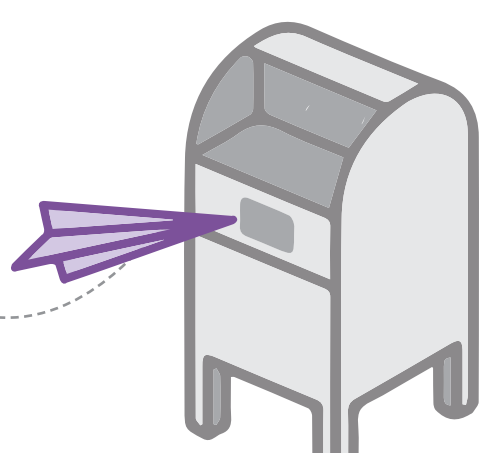
Myth 04

**The CPL program does not require members to complete a specific number of workshops or courses. In fact, you may choose not to participate in any workshops at all.**

The CPL program is a self-directed, flexible framework. It is up to you to decide the types of learning activities to engage in, based on your individual learning goals.



Myth 05



**I will need to send my CPL portfolio to the College every year when I renew.**

When renewing your membership every year, you will be required to declare that you have participated in the CPL program and have met the requirements for that year. **You will not send your portfolio to the College, but you are required to keep copies of your CPL documents for four years.**

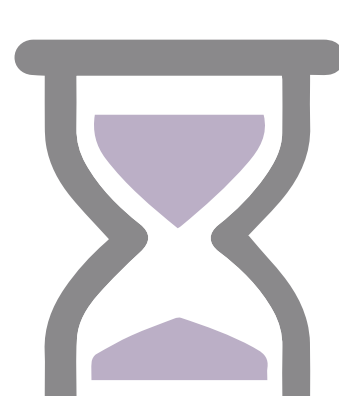
The College may conduct audits and ask you to send your CPL documents to us for review. You may also want to refer back to your documents at a later date.

**Participating in the CPL program will take a significant amount of time outside of working hours.**

Myth 06

Each member will determine the amount of time they need to spend in order to meet their unique learning goals.

For example: Many RECEs are engaged in workplace professional learning activities or education. This learning could be integrated into your CPL plan.



Myth 07



**The College doesn't trust that RECEs are already participating in ongoing learning.**

**The College believes that RECEs are committed to ongoing professional learning. The CPL program was developed to complement and formalize the ongoing professional learning many RECEs do every day.**

The CPL program is a framework designed to facilitate self-reflection and make direct connections to the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice*.

Participating in CPL demonstrates to employers, families and the public that RECEs are current in their knowledge, skills and practice.

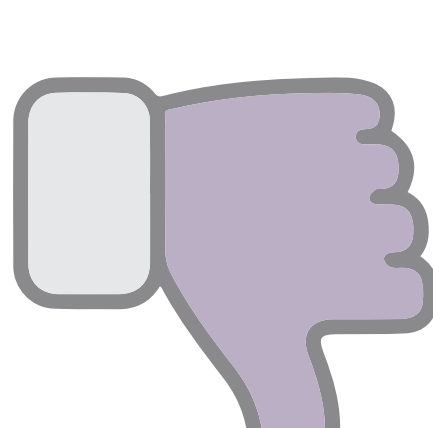
**Participating in the CPL program will not benefit me.**

Myth 08

**Your participation is necessary for you to continue to practise as an early childhood educator in Ontario.** Equally important, ongoing learning will empower you and increase your confidence, as you gain skills and knowledge about the latest research, practices and policies affecting your work.

RECEs value lifelong learning and by continually growing as a professional, you will be able to provide a higher standard of care and education to the children and families you serve.

In addition to professional growth, you will also find that reflective learning enables you to articulate the skills, knowledge and values that make your profession distinct and worthy of public trust and respect.



Myth 09



**The CPL program does not apply to me because I don't work directly with children or I don't work full-time.**

**The CPL program is a mandatory program for all RECEs, regardless of the setting in which they practise, or the role they play.** All members are required to uphold the *Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice* and need to remain current in their field.

**The College should be focusing on advocating for RECEs, not on a mandatory CPL program.**

Myth 10

**The College's purpose and mandate is to regulate and govern Ontario's early childhood educators in the public interest.** The College helps to serve and protect children and families by setting registration requirements and ethical and professional standards for RECEs, and governing member conduct through a complaints and discipline process. Setting a framework and requirements for the ongoing education of members through a Continuous Professional Learning program is another role of the College.

Advocating on behalf of the profession is not within the College's mandate. RECEs themselves, along with professional associations, unions and other local networks can advocate on behalf of RECEs and the profession.

