



Department of

Human Services

Kentucky-Early Childhood Taskforce Presentation

November 3, 2022

State Structure

- Tennessee Department of Human Services- CCDF Lead Agency
 - Child & Adult Care Licensing
 - Child Care Certificate Program (Subsidy)
 - Quality Initiatives
 - Network of Quality Partners through Contract
 - Child Care Resource and Referral
 - Tennessee State University
 - » (Tennessee Early ChildCare Training Alliance, TECTA)
 - » Family Child Care Network
 - AIMHiTN-Infant Toddler Mental Health
 - Various others to support our ECE ecosystem
 - Quality Rating & Improvement System



Supports for Educator Retention

Transforming the Child Care Industry!



Transforming



- Childcare Workforce
 - Babysitters to Professionals
- DHS Staff
 - Enforcers to Partners
- Report Card Process
 - Quality Rating to Quality Improvement
- Administrative Tasks
 - Cumbersome to Empowering
- Capacity
 - Child Care Obstructer to Child Care Creator
- Payment Assistance
 - Access to Care becomes Access to Quality
 - Isolated Interaction becomes Continuity of Care

How We Support Providers through CCDF

WAGE\$

**CPR & First Aid
Certification**

**Enhancement/
Sustainability
Grants**

Rate Increases

**Professional
Development/Tuition
Assistance**

**Training, Technical
Assistance, Targeted
Technical Assistance**

**Business
Academies**

**TNPAL (workforce
registry)**

**Infant –
Toddler
Specialization**

**Family Child Care
Network**

**Reimbursement based
on enrollment**

Tennessee's WAGE\$[®] Program

- Signal Centers in Chattanooga holds license and Administers Child Care Resource & Referral Network (CCR&R)
- Structured Supplement Scale in alignment with our Career Lattice offered through TECTA
- Launched Statewide in October 2019 through contract with CCR&R funded with CCDF dollars
- Educators apply directly to CCR&R for Eligibility based on established criteria
- Supplement issued directly to eligible educators

Eligibility Requirements

- To be eligible for at least one six-month payment during the fiscal year, applicants must
 - Work in a TN Department of Human Services licensed child care program.
 - Earn \$20 or less per hour.
 - Have one of the education levels listed. Credits are from a regionally accredited school.
 - Have worked at least six months in the same child care program with children ages birth to five at least 10 hours per week.
 - Be employed at this same child care program when funding is available, and a final confirmation has been completed.

WAGE\$[®] Supplement Scale

- 9 Level Scale tied to Education Requirements
- TN Increased Award Amounts and Wage Per hour in 2021
- Level 1 starts at \$600 with minimum qualifications
 - 6 credit hours in early childhood education
CDA (college course credit hours earned)
- Level 9 issues an annual award of \$7,800
 - Bachelor's Degree plus or including at least 30 credit hours in early childhood education
Master's Degree plus or including at least 24 credit hours in early childhood education

Federal Fiscal Year 2022 Impact

Total Payments Since Inception	\$ 8,278,030.93
Average Payment	\$ 1,285.01
Total Number of Payments Sent	6,442
Total Unduplicated Recipients	2,484
Total Per Unduplicated Recipient	\$ 3,332.54
Total Paid WAGE\$ Fiscal Year October 2021 - September 2022	\$ 4,957,772.41
Paid Current Month	\$ 433,772.06
Current Month Average Payment	\$ 1,721.32

Video Placeholder

Questions!

