

Provider Updates

- COVID Closures - If you have to close due to Covid, please be sure to let us know. Please send your license number, closure and anticipated reopening dates, and who is effected (whole school, certain classrooms, # of children).
- Reporting Absences - All providers are asked to report each time that a child has 5 consecutive absences. Please connect with parents and encourage regular attendance.
- 2022 Calendars - We are currently in the processes of collecting 2022 calendars from each provider. If you have any questions or haven't sent your closure calendar, please email ccsproviderservices@wfscapitalarea.com.
- Updated MOU and Provider Information Form - Starting next month we will be updating all provider agreements and sending you a Provider Information Form (PIF) based on your closure calendar, published rates, and facility information. Those will be sent via DocuSign for your review and signature.

2022

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL
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SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
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Updated Maximum Reimbursement Rates

Licenced Center		
	Current Rate	New Rate
Infant	37.66	51.20
Toddler	34.50	46.00
Preschool	31.68	41.60
School Age	29.70	39.40

Licensed Home		
	Current Rate	New Rate
Infant	32.55	45.20
Toddler	30.03	41.60
Preschool	28.45	38.60
School Age	25.96	34.60

4- Star Licenced Center		
	Current Rate	New Rate
Infant	50.69	60.80
Toddler	47.00	54.40
Preschool	43.70	49.20
School Age	41.38	46.60

Child Care for Service Industry Recovery

- TWC recently approved funding to provide 12 months of childcare for Service Industry Recovery in the following categories:
 - Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation (such as actors, amusement and recreation attendants, fitness trainers, musicians and singers, etc.)
 - Accommodation and Food Service (such as hotel, motel, and resort desk clerks, waiters and waitresses, food preparation, chefs, etc.)
 - Retail Trade (such as cashiers, customer service representative, retail sales workers, stock clerks, etc.)
- Families must live in Travis County, meet the income guidelines, and have at least one parent working in a category above. If families live outside of Travis, they may be eligible for services at WFS Rural Capital Area or another board.

Maximum Gross (Pre-Tax) Income to Participate	
Household Size	Yearly Income
2	\$43,549
3	\$53,796
4	\$64,043
5	\$74,290
6	\$84,537
7	\$86,458
8	\$88,380

Child Care for Essential Workers (City of Austin)

- Workforce Solutions recently received funding from the City of Austin and CDBG to provide child care for children of Essential Workers in the following categories:
 - Child care Industry (teachers, caregivers, etc.)
 - Education (teachers, support staff, bus drivers, etc.)
 - Pharmacy and Healthcare Workers
 - First Responders
 - Critical Infrastructure (Grocery, Utilities, Trucking, etc.)
 - Other Infrastructure Workers (State and Local Government, Mail/Deliver Services, Banking, Gas Stations, Military, Restaurant and other Food Delivery, etc.)
- Families must live in the City of Austin, meet the income guidelines, and have at least one parent working in a category above.
- Families must select a TRS quality rated center with this program.
- Providers are asked to provide true attendance for any child enrolled in this program.

Maximum Gross (Pre-Tax) Income to Participate	
Household Size	Yearly Income
2	\$63,300
3	\$71,200
4	\$79,100
5	\$85,450
6	\$91,800
7	\$98,100
8	\$104,450

Business Coaching Available

The Texas Workforce Commission has launched a FREE business coaching program in partnership with AVANCE, Curantis Group, and Civitas Strategies Early Start to support child care providers with strategies to stabilize and strengthen your business.

The Texas Child Care Coaching Team is providing free assistance to any child care provider in the state.

Providers can receive support with a variety of topics:

- Securing federal relief funding;
- Support with loan forgiveness and debt repayment applications;
- Budgeting;
- Marketing;
- Improving payment and collections;
- Reducing costs;
- Strengthening systems;
- Staffing strategies;
- and more!

If you have any questions or need help, don't hesitate to reach out to the Texas Child Care Coaching team at Texas@ECEBizCoach.org.



**Attention Center & Home-Based
Child Care Providers**

Get FREE Business Coaching

Child Care Providers can now receive free business coaching to help navigate the financial and operational impacts of the pandemic. Through this goal-based coaching experience you will receive strategies to help you strengthen revenue, decrease expenses, and address risks that your business may face.

Business coaching will be offered in partnership by
AVANCE, Curantis Group, and Civitas Strategies Early Start.



WORKFORCE
SOLUTIONS Capital Area
Connecting People to Jobs

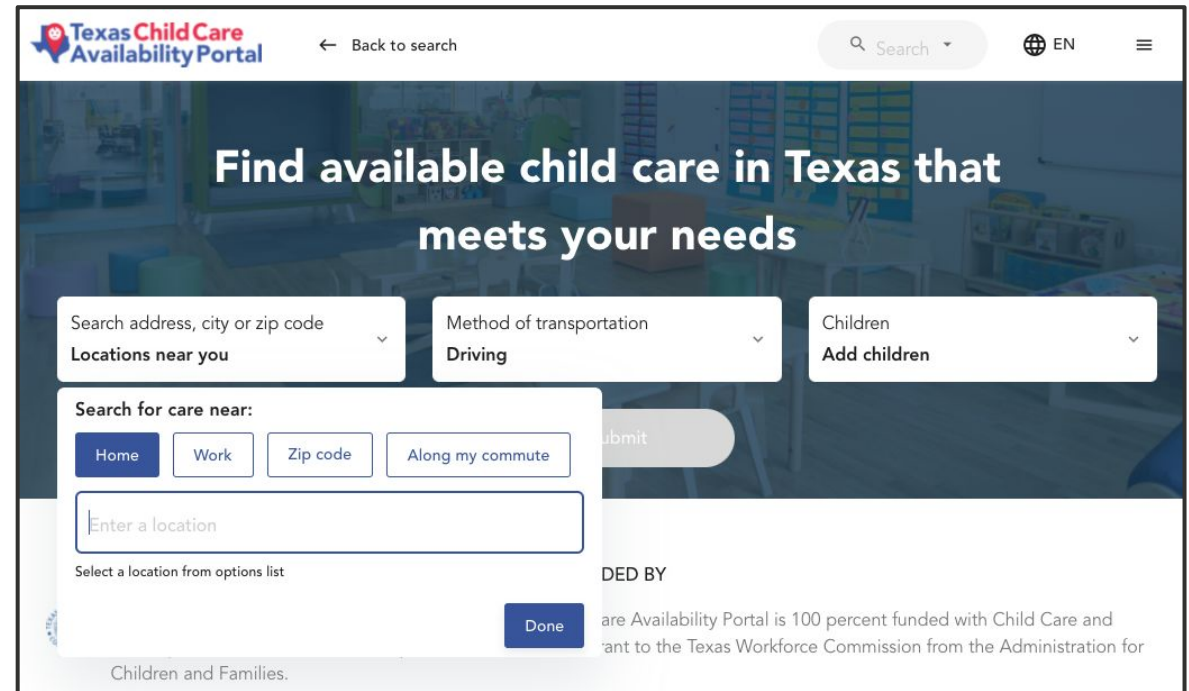
Early Childhood Career Fair

- We are hosting a Job Fair for all Early Childhood Programs
 - Thursday, October 21st
 - 10:00am - 3:00pm
- There is both an in-person and a virtual option happening simultaneously.
 - In-person will be held at Workforce Solutions Capital Area.
 - If you would like to do both, you can bring your laptop to chat with virtual participants.
- Our partners from the career team will be promoting the fair with active job seekers and are available to help you set up a virtual booth.



Child Care Availability Portal

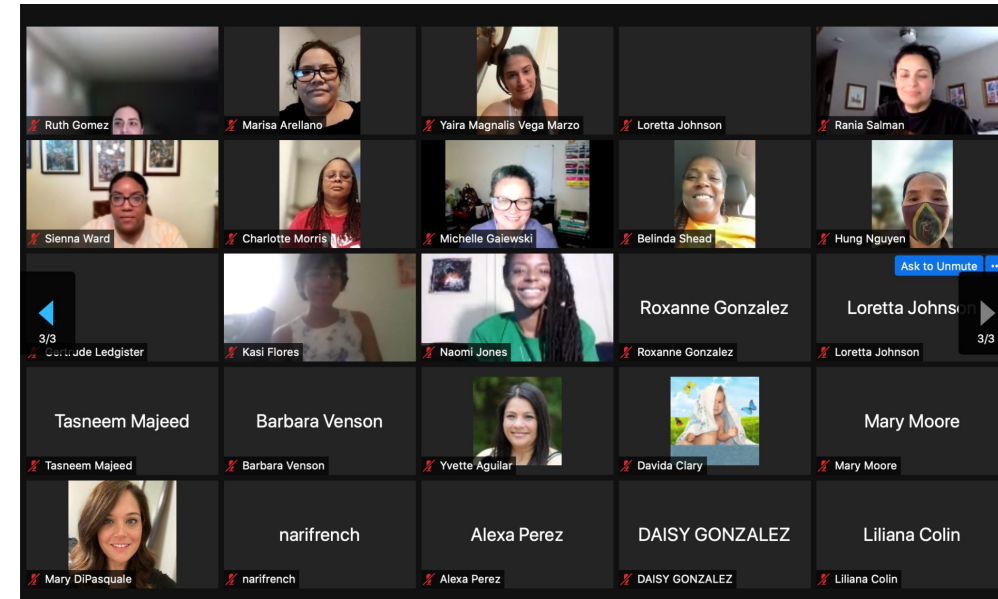
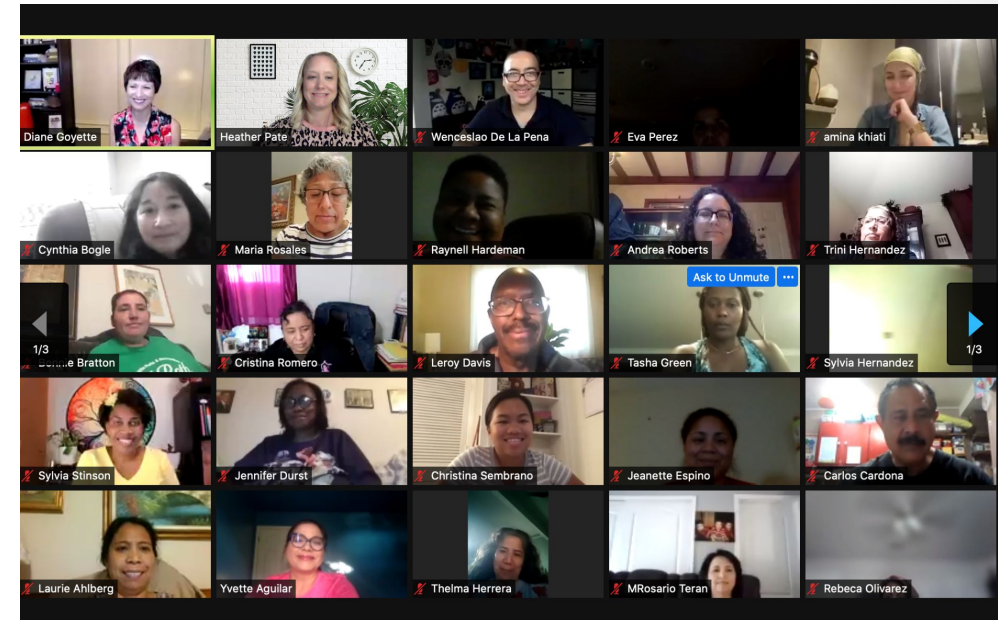
- This tool was developed by TWC to help connect families to available child care in their communities.
- Very user friendly for families - can search for availability near home or along your commute to work each day.
- Shows the providers quality rating and if there are openings at the center.
- If you are enrolling, please be sure to login consistently and update which age groups you are able to serve.
- There are desk aids that show step-by-step the process for updating availability in both English and Spanish.



The screenshot shows the Texas Child Care Availability Portal interface. At the top, there's a header with the logo, a 'Back to search' link, a search bar, and language options (EN). The main heading reads 'Find available child care in Texas that meets your needs'. Below this are three dropdown menus: 'Search address, city or zip code' (with 'Locations near you' selected), 'Method of transportation' (with 'Driving' selected), and 'Children' (with 'Add children' selected). A 'Submit' button is to the right. A modal window titled 'Search for care near:' is open, showing buttons for 'Home', 'Work', 'Zip code', and 'Along my commute'. Below these is a text input field 'Enter a location' and a 'Done' button. At the bottom of the modal, it says 'Select a location from options list'. In the background, partially visible, is a section titled 'DED BY' with text about the portal's funding.

Quality Initiatives

- Training Opportunities Posted
 - 2020-21 Training Calendar posted on our Website (www.wfscapitalarea.com)
 - Upcoming Trainings include
 - TRS Category Trainings (offered quarterly)
 - SIDS, Shaken Baby, and Brain Development (offered in both English and Spanish)
 - TRS Overview (November 9th)
- Texas Rising Star Providers
 - Please join us at our monthly TRS Director Meetings on the first Thursday of the month from 12-2pm or 6-8pm.
 - Our next TRS Director Meetings will be on October 7th
 - Site Data forms were sent last week, please return those no later than October 1st.
 - We are starting assessment next month. You will hear from your assessor prior to your visit to collect required paperwork.



BakerRipley Child Care Services Team and Contacts

Topics/Questions	Contact Information
<u>Parent Inquires</u> - parents are interested in services, want to sign up for waitlist, need changes, etc.	austinccs@wfscapitalarea.com
<u>Finance Team</u> - questions about payments, missing dates, full time/blended amounts, etc.	ccsfinance@wfscapitalarea.com
<u>Provider Services</u> - updated your DOSS, attendance, holidays, etc.	ccsproviderservices@wfscapitalarea.com
<u>Quality Initiatives</u> - want to become a TRS provider, have questions about the process, PPR distribution, training, etc.	ccsquality@wfscapitalarea.com
<u>Local Referral Partners</u> – send in referral, become a referral partner, etc.	ccslocalreferral@wfscapitalarea.com
<u>Service Industry Recovery</u> - questions or inquiries about this program	sir@wfscapitalarea.com