

WFS Capital Area Highlights

WFS Capital Area and Austin Public Health team up to provide PPE and Cleaning Supplies to Early Learning Programs throughout Travis County.

- Over 120 Early Learning Programs received needed supplies
- 24 pallets of PPE and Cleaning supplies were given out including gloves, masks, disinfectant wipes, and hand soap
- The distribution directly impacted over 6,000 children across Travis County



Early Learning Program 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 programs are asked to report each time that a child has 5 consecutive absences. Please connect with parents and encourage regular attendance.
https://wfscapitalareacom-xzivj.formstack.com/forms/providers_submit_excessive_absences
- Program Rate Changes - The Provider Services Team needs two weeks in order to process updates to a program's rates. Therefor, in order for new rates to become effective at the beginning of the month, programs must submit new rates on company letterhead by the 15th of the month.



5 Day Consecutive Absences Report

Provider Name *

License Number *

Name of Person Submitting Form *

First Name

Last Name

Email Address *

Phone Number *



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

Child Care Relief Fund 2022

To help Texas child care businesses recover from the pandemic, the Texas Workforce Commission is making more Child Care Relief Funds (CCRF) available—about three times more than what was available in 2021.

Applications will begin to be accepted in early 2022. There will be a technical assistance team to assist with the next round of funding and will be able to answer questions and provide specific guidance in early 2022.

In the meantime, TWC recommends programs please make sure that their licensing information is up to date with Child Care Regulation to prevent delays in application processing and receiving funding.

To update your information, go to the following website:

https://www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Care/Search_Texas_Child_Care/ppFacilityLogin.asp



Preparing for the Child Care Relief Fund 2022

Learn how to prepare for the 2022 round of funding
November 2021

<https://www.childcare.texas.gov/preparing-for-the-child-care-relief-fund?hsLang=en>

Quality Initiatives



- Training Opportunities Posted
 - 2021-22 Training Calendar posted on our Website (www.wfscapitalarea.com)
 - Upcoming Trainings posted through February for registration including:
 - TRS Category Trainings (offered quarterly)
 - Emergency Preparedness (Feb. 15th)
- Jeanette Watson Wage Supplement Project
 - Review Jeanette Watson Letter and Application carefully
 - Additional funding available!
 - Paperwork due 2/25/22
- Texas Rising Star Programs
 - 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 February 3rd.
 - TRS assessments will be resuming in the next few weeks. We are continuing to plan to ensure staff and programs remain safe. You will hear from your assessor prior to your visit to ensure all required paperwork is complete.



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, rates, 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