

May Provider Advisory Council Meeting





Welcome Special Guests:

Stephanie Bonnet-Kramer (Pre-K Partnership State Coordinator)

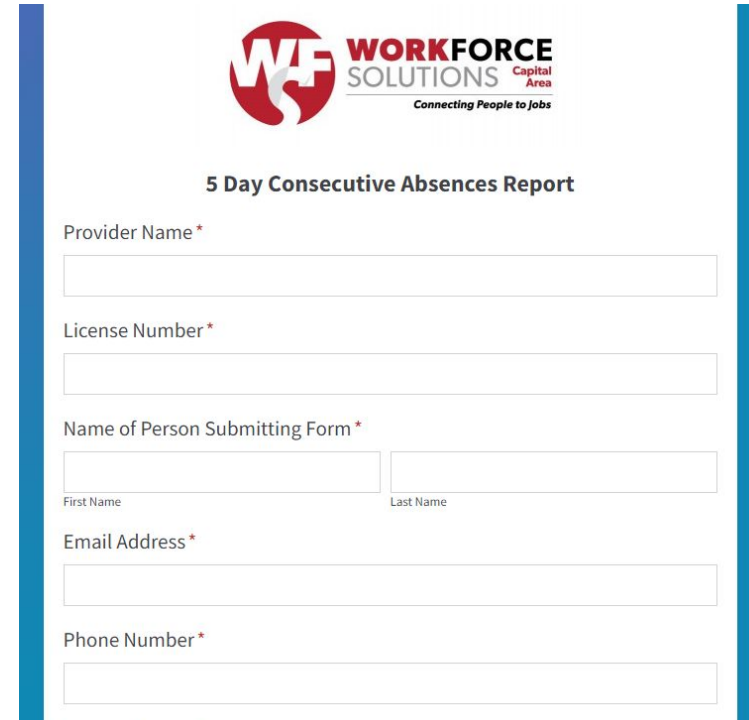
Mary Jamsek (Pre- K Partnership Regional Supervisor)

Olivia Gibson (Pre-K Partnership Specialist)



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.
- Child Care Availability Portal Unavailable - Now through the end of May, the Child Care Availability Portal will rely on information gathered through the Child Care Relief Fund to remain updated. Programs can update the Portal again starting in June.



The screenshot shows a web form titled "5 Day Consecutive Absences Report" from Workforce Solutions Capital Area. The form includes the following fields:

- Provider Name *
- License Number *
- Name of Person Submitting Form *
 - First Name
 - Last Name
- Email Address *
- Phone Number *

NEW: Provider Services Q&A Training every 3rd Thursday of the month!

Child Care for Essential Workers (City of Austin)

- Workforce Solutions 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.)
- ***NEW*** Families must live in Travis County (includes residents living outside of the COA full purpose boundary), 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

Child Care Relief Fund 2022- Applications Sent!

The Texas Workforce Commission is **now accepting applications** for the 2022 [Child Care Relief Fund](#)! A total of \$3.45 billion is available for eligible child care providers across the state. **Applications will be accepted until May 31, 2022.**

Eligible providers received an email invitation directing them to the online application portal. Invitations were sent to the email address listed with Child Care Regulation. If you believe you are eligible but cannot find your invitation, check your spam or junk folder or reach out to the technical assistance team for help.

Agents are ready to answer questions and provide support free of charge in several languages between **7:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m. Monday through Friday** and **8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on Saturday**. Providers can contact the technical assistance team by:

1. Emailing CCReliefFunds@Trelliscompany.org
2. Calling 1-833-613-3192
3. Chatting live with an agent at childcare.texas.gov



You can also sign up for their free, [interactive Q&A sessions](#) on understanding eligible expenses, offered by experienced business coaches.

Early Childhood Texas: Resources for Raising Kids



Health & Development

Child development (including resources for children with special needs), nutrition, health tips, and healthcare.



Parenting

Child safety, parenting tips and supports, and at-home learning activities.



Child Care & Education

Child care and after school care, prekindergarten, Head Start, and Early Childhood Special Education.



Eligibility Programs

State sponsored programs and assistance opportunities available to families of young children in Texas.

For more information visit earlychildhood.texas.gov



T.E.A.C.H. Scholarships Available!

New City of Austin Incentives

Are you or your staff looking to earn your credential or degree? It's more possible than ever!

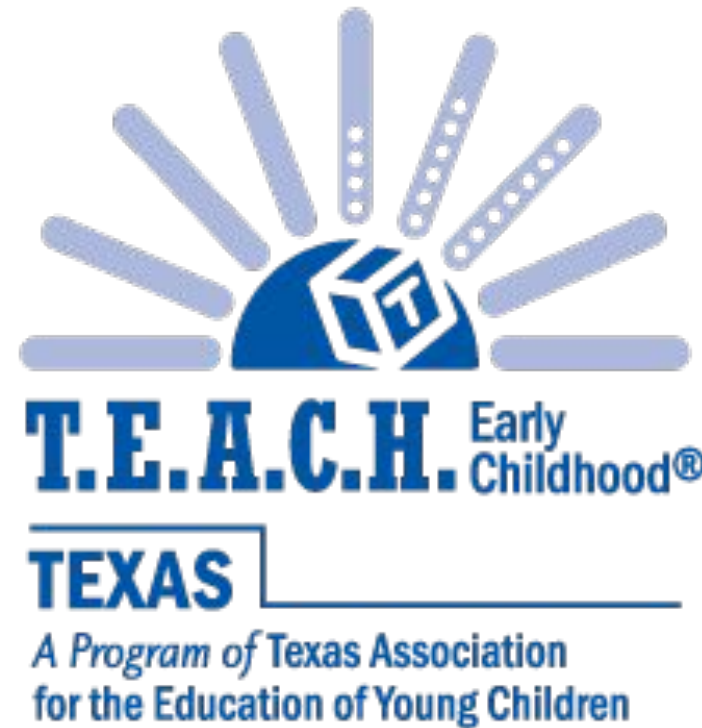
We are excited to share that T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Texas has partnered with the City of Austin to provide additional wrap-around incentives for T.E.A.C.H. recipients and their sponsoring employers located within the City of Austin and Travis County.

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Texas is a comprehensive scholarship model designed to retain early childhood professionals through increasing their education and compensation.

Eligibility Criteria:

- High School Diploma or GED
- Earn less than \$20 per hour
- Employed at least 30 hours/week at a licensed child care center OR licensed or registered family child care home **located within the City of Austin and Travis County.**

To learn more about the program, please visit their website or email victoria@texasaeyc.org and please indicate you are a City of Austin-Travis County provider in your email.



<https://www.texasaeyc.org/programs/teach>



Quality Initiatives

- Training Opportunities Posted
 - **In-Person Training is back!**
 - 2021-22 Training Calendar posted on our Website (www.wfscapitalarea.com)
 - Upcoming Trainings posted through June for registration including:
 - TRS Category Trainings (offered quarterly in English and Spanish)
 - Honoring Diversity: A Framework for Understanding Differences (June 11th, Zoom)
 - Blast Off Science (June 18th, In-person)
- 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 June 2nd.
 - TRS assessments have resumed.



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