

Child Care Workforce Bonus



On Monday, September 13, 2021, the Governor announced a Child Care Workforce Bonus program to recognize the efforts of child care staff who served and continue to serve children and families in person during the pandemic. This bonus is funded by federal pandemic relief funds and will be administered through the Illinois Department of Human Services and Illinois Network of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies (INCCRRA). The Child Care Workforce bonus will provide bonuses of up to \$1,000 for eligible child care providers.

Child Care Workforce Bonuses will be available to all staff in:

- **license-exempt relative home providers** who were caring for children on the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) in March 2021 and continue to care for children today,
- **license-exempt non-relative home providers** who were caring for children on CCAP in March 2021, continue to care for children today, and have completed all health and safety orientation requirements (including Mandated Reporter and First Aid/CPR) and reported them in the Gateways Registry,
- **license exempt centers** who were caring for children on CCAP in March 2021, continue to care for children today, and have 50% of staff who have completed all health and safety orientation requirements (including Mandated Reporter and First Aid/CPR) and reported them in the Gateways Registry, and
- **licensed centers and licensed home providers** who were caring for children in March 2021 and continue to care for children today.

License-exemptive relative home providers *do not need to apply* to receive a bonus. IDHS will issue bonus payments directly to eligible license-exempt relative providers. Providers do NOT need to contact their local CCR&R to determine if they qualify for the bonus. Please send all questions/comments/concerns to DHS.CCAP.Policy@Illinois.gov.

License-exempt non-relative homes *do not need to apply* to receive bonuses. IDHS will verify Gateways Registry and completion of trainings, prior to sending the bonus payment, between October 2021 through March of 2022. IDHS will issue bonus payments directly to eligible license-exempt non-relative providers. Providers do NOT need to contact their local CCR&R to determine if they qualify for the bonus. Please send all questions/comments/concerns to DHS.CCAP.Policy@Illinois.gov.

License-exempt centers *will need to apply through INCCRRA* to receive bonuses for their staff. Total payment will be based on the number of children enrolled in CCAP at the center. Providers have discretion to distribute bonuses to staff in the way that works best for their center. IDHS will verify Gateways Registry and completion of trainings, prior to distribution of funds, between October 2021 through March of 2022. IDHS will issue bonus payments directly to eligible license-exempt centers. Please send all questions/comments/concerns to bonuses@inccrra.org.

Licensed centers and licensed homes *will need to apply through INCCRRA* to receive bonuses for their staff. INCCRRA will issue bonus payments directly to eligible licensed centers and licensed homes. Please send all questions/comments/concerns to bonuses@inccrra.org.

For additional information visit <https://www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/child-care-workforce-bonus>.

