



GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY®
Illinois Professional Development System

Registry News



Fall 2021 Newsletter

You are receiving this email newsletter because you are a Gateways to Opportunity Registry Member. The Registry News will provide up-to-date information about programs and policy changes. Additionally, we always include something you can use in your classroom. Feel free to share this newsletter by printing a copy for your program, or forwarding it to a friend.

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Is Your Registry Information Updated?

It is important to keep your Registry membership up to date. With a free Gateways Registry Membership, your education, credentials, and all Registry trainings you have attended will be tracked in the Registry database. You have access to this information at any time by viewing your Professional Development Record (PDR) online.

Follow the steps below to ensure your Registry information is accurate:

1. Go to **www.ilgateways.com**. Click the **Registry Member Login** button.
Log into the Gateways Registry Dashboard with your **username** and **password**.
2. Click the **My Registry** Portal. Then click the **Update** section.
3. Under the **Contact** tab, update any information that may have changed and click **Save**.
4. Next, click the **Employment** tab.
5. If your employment information is in the Registry, you will be prompted and asked if you still work at that agency/site/organization.
 - 5a. If you do, click **OK**.
 - 5b. If you do not, click **Cancel**. Search for your current employer by clicking the red **Search for Employer** button. Click on the employer's name to return that information. Click **Save**.
6. Finally, click the **Credentials** tab.
 - 6a. To add a credential or certification you currently hold, select it from the drop-down and click the Add button. Then, complete the required fields. Gateways to Opportunity Credentials cannot be added here, as they will automatically appear once you have earned them. When you are done, click the **Save** button.

Data Bits and Bites

Individuals with a **Gateways ECE Credential** earn more than those with education alone. Licensed center teachers with a **bachelor's degree plus an ECE Credential** made around \$3.50 more than those without an ECE Credential.



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Find us on 

For step-by-step instructions on updating your Registry information, [click here!](#)

Limited Time **Education Reimbursement** Opportunity!

The Preschool Development Grant Birth-5 Education Reimbursement Initiative is available!

This is your chance to apply for funds during 2021. If you currently attend an accredited Illinois college or university, you can apply for a maximum of \$600 to repay existing debt owed directly to your higher education institution.

Funding will be given to early educators (center director, assistant director, teacher, assistant teacher, family child care provider, family child care assistant, group home provider, group home assistant, Preschool for All teacher, or Preschool for All teacher aide) working directly with children ages birth through five who are employed by an Illinois early childhood program and are currently enrolled in coursework at an accredited Illinois college or university. Illinois early educators who are attempting to enroll in coursework at an accredited Illinois college or university but are blocked from doing so due to a current outstanding balance may also apply. Educators performing other direct services in early childhood settings and educators working in license exempt programs are not being considered for reimbursement through this program at this time.

This is a **limited time offer** available through December 2021, or until funding has been expended.

To learn more about this program, or to download an application, visit www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/education-reimbursement.

Please email PDA@ilgateways.com for more information or to submit your completed application and required documents.

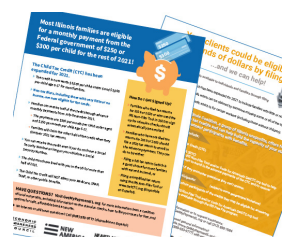
This [publication or project] was made possible by grant number 90TP0057. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official view of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.

Governor Pritzker Announces a Child Care Workforce Bonus Program to Recognize the Efforts of Child Care Workers

Child care workers have carried the increased burden of caring for our youngest children throughout the pandemic. Programs will apply to receive funds for their staff and should expect to receive sufficient funding to administer bonus amounts of approximately \$750-\$1200 per full-time equivalent staff member.



More details about the eligibility and process for which to apply for Child Care Workforce Bonuses will be available in October 2021. For more information, [click here!](#)



The Child Tax Credit (CTC) has been expanded for 2021

The credit amounts have been increased to \$3,600 per child under 6 and \$3,000 per child age 6-17 for most families. This money can be used for school supplies, child care, groceries, and so much more.

Share this information with families in your program today! Visit GetMyPaymentIL.org to find out more!

Child Care Restoration Grants 2021

Round Four CCRG is opening Monday, October 18, 2021, for new applications and renewal opt-ins!

- Grants will cover expenses from October, November, and December 2021.
- Programs found eligible will be paid 40% of the current monthly grant amount.
- Grant funding is based off a program's capacity on October 1, 2021.
- Grant applications and renewal opt-ins will close on **Wednesday, December 15, 2021**.

Find information here - www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/restoration-grants.

Have a current Gateways Credential and want an extra \$150 to \$1950 every six months?

The Gateways ECE Credential, Infant Toddler Credential, School-Age, and Youth Development Credential, and/or Family Child Care Credential (all at level 2 or higher) can now help you meet levels and options on the Great START wage supplement scale*!

Visit www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/great-start or email gstart@inccrra.org for more information.

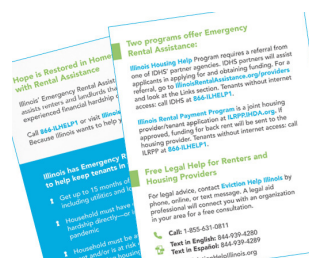
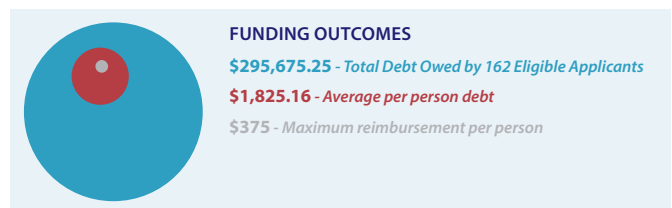
**All Great START requirements must be met to qualify.*



Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Education Reimbursement Initiative 2020 Funding Outcomes

Through the Governor's Office for Early Childhood Development (GOECD), with funding from the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5), and in partnership with the Illinois Network of Child Care Resources and Referral Agencies (INCCRRA), a program was implemented to address potential financial barriers to advancing or completing educational goals at accredited Illinois institutions of higher education.

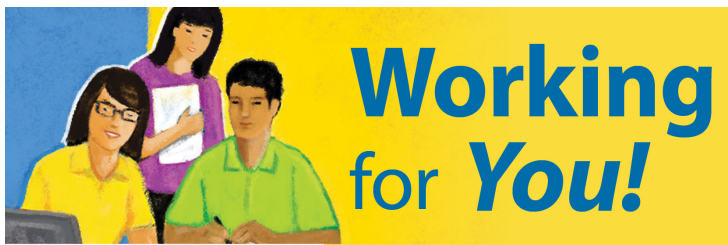
The time-limited Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five Education Reimbursement Initiative was identified as a way to support the early childhood workforce in Illinois. Program applications were made available statewide in May 2020 and accepted until all funds were obligated. At the conclusion of this program, an analysis of the data gathered was completed.



Illinois' Emergency Rental Assistance Program

The Illinois Emergency Rental Assistance Program assists renters and landlords that have experienced financial hardship due to COVID-19. Tenants can apply for rental assistance and relocation expenses through one of IDHS's many partner agencies.

Share this information with families in your programs that could benefit from housing assistance - www.illinoisrentalassistance.org.



A Gateways Professional Development Advisor (PDA) is an experienced professional who will assist you with planning and achieving your career goals.

PDA Services include help with the following, and more!

- Explore degrees and programs that fit your needs
- Provide resources for Professional Educator Licensure and other professional credentials
- Share scholarship and financial aid resources to assist with college expenses
- Guide you through career goal development

Let us help you learn more about what opportunities are waiting for you. Professional Development Advisor services are **FREE!**

Request assistance from a Professional Development Advisor on our website today!

www.research.net/r/requestforPDAsurvey.



Un Asesor de Desarrollo Profesional (PDA) es un profesional con experiencia quien lo ayudara a planear y lograr sus objetivos profesionales.

¡Los servicios de PDA incluyen ayuda con lo siguiente y más!

- Analiza carrera/título o programa que se adapte a sus necesidades.
- Proporciona recursos sobre cómo obtener una Licencia de Educador Profesional u otra credencial profesional.
- Comparte recursos, información sobre becas y ayuda financiera para asistirlo con los gastos universitarios.
- Le guía durante el desarrollo de sus objetivos.

Permítanos ayudarle a saber más sobre las oportunidades que le están esperando. ¡Los Servicios de un Asesor de Desarrollo Profesional son totalmente GRATIS!

¡Solicite hoy mismo, la asistencia de un Asesor de Desarrollo Profesional en nuestro sitio web!

www.surveymonkey.com/r/solicituddeserviciosPDA



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