

Act 76

Readiness Payments

Background

- Created in the 2023 Child Care & Early Education law (Act 76)
- To support family child care homes, center based child care and preschool programs, and afterschool programs to get ready for the expansion of the Child Care Financial Assistance Program (CCFAP)
- Flexible funding to support capacity and quality

Eligibility

To be eligible for the program, you must meet the following criteria:

- **Have an active Registered or Licensed Family Child Care Home (FCCH), Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program (CBCCPP), Afterschool Child Care Program (ASP) license from the State of Vermont**
- **Be open and serving children as of the date of your application.**
- **Intend to stay open and serving children through at least June 2025.**
- **Accept or are willing to accept payments the CCFAP on behalf of children in your care or be a Head Start recipient.**
- **Have completed the final ARPA Stabilization funding report (if applicable).**

Application

- Applications opened **August 25th, 2023**
- Eligible programs will apply by submitting an online form.
- Apply once and receive fixed monthly payment.
- One application per license.
- Payments are anticipated to start in September 2023 and continue through February 2024.
- Potential for additional payments before June 30, 2024.

Payment

Payments are intended to strengthen programs with these priorities



Stabilization



Expansion



Quality

Use of Funds

The use of the funds should support the Readiness Payment Program's goals and be in alignment with the information shared in the application. Expenditures can include:

- Compensation and other personnel-related costs
- Facility costs including renovations
- Program materials, including groceries or classroom supplies
- Professional development
- Mental health supports
- Other expenses the program deems to be in alignment with the goals of Act 76

Monthly Per Child Base Payment

License Type	Monthly Base Rate Per Child
Registered or Licensed Family Child Care Home	\$75
Center-Based Child Care and Preschool Program – Less than 60 Licensed Capacity	\$65
Center-Based Child Care and Preschool Program – 60 or more Licensed Capacity	\$60
Afterschool Child Care Program	\$35

Bonus Payments

5% to 20% of the per
child base payment

Intended to support
expenses related to
categories

Data pulled from BFIS/CDDIS

- Licensed capacity (base payment)
- Serves Infants and toddlers (10%)
- Specialized child care (20%)
- Percentage of children on CCFAP at time of application (5%-20%)
- Program has 3, 4, or 5 STARS (10%)

Data requested in the application

- Increase licensed capacity (20%)
- Increase enrollment (10%)
- Increase infant/toddler enrollment (10%)
- Use a portion of funds for salary increases, bonuses or benefits (20%)
- 45 + hours of operation (10%)
- Open year round (10%)
- Provides daily meals/snacks (5%)
- Linguistic and cultural diversity (5%)

Percentage of Children with CCFAP Certificates

Number of children with CCFAP certificates enrolled in a program at the time of application divided by the programs licensed capacity.

$$A / B = C$$

(A) # of children with CCFAP certificates enrolled at time of application	(B) Licensed capacity	(C) % of children with CCFAP certificates enrolled at the time of application	Range of CCFAP enrollment	Percentage of bonus
15	25	60%	50% and above	20%
14	40	35%	30-50%	15%
5	20	25%	25% (10-30%)	10%
1	12	8%	8% (<10%)	5%

Example Payment

Registered or Licensed Family Child Care Home

Licensed Capacity – 10

Per Child Base Payment – \$75

$750 + 75 + 75 + 150 + 75 =$
Total Monthly Payment
\$1,125.00

Monthly Base Payment

$10 \times \$75 = \750

✓ Serves Infants and Toddlers

$\$750 \times 10\% = \75

✓ 4 STARS

$\$750 \times 10\% = \75

✓ Salary increases

$\$750 \times 20\% = \150

✓ Operates 45+ Hours/Week

$\$750 \times 10\% = \75

Example Payment

Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program



Capacity
1-59

Licensed Capacity – 35

Per Child Base Payment – \$65

$2275 + 227.50 + 227.50 + 455 + 455 =$

Total Monthly Payment

\$3,640

Monthly Base Payment

$35 \times \$65 = \$2,275$

✓ Serves Infants and Toddlers

$\$2,275 \times 10\% = \227.50

✓ 3 STARS

$\$2,275 \times 10\% = \227.50

✓ Salary Increase

$\$2,275 \times 20\% = \455

✓ CCFAP %

$\$2,275 \times 20\% = \455

Example Payment

Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program



**Capacity
60+**

Licensed Capacity – 65

Per Child Base Payment – \$60

$3900 + 780 + 390 + 390 + 780 + 390 + 780 + 585 + 390 =$

Total Monthly Payment

\$8,580.00

Monthly Base Payment

$65 \times \$60 = \$3,900$

- ✓ Increasing Capacity
 $\$3,900 \times 20\% = \780
- ✓ Increasing Enrollment
 $\$3,900 \times 10\% = \390
- ✓ Serves Infants and Toddlers
 $\$3,900 \times 10\% = \390

- ✓ Provides Specialized Child Care

$\$3,900 \times 20\% = \780

- ✓ 4 STARS

$\$3,900 \times 10\% = \390

- ✓ Salary Increase

$\$3,900 \times 20\% = \780

- ✓ CCFAP

$\$3,900 \times 15\% = \585

- ✓ Operates Year Round

$\$3,900 \times 10\% = \390

Example Payment

Afterschool Child Care Program

Licensed Capacity – 40
Per Child Base Payment – \$35

$1400 + 280 + 140 + 140 + 280 + 140 + 70 =$
Total Monthly Payment
\$2,450

Monthly Base Payment
 $40 \times \$35 = \$1,400$

✓ Increasing Capacity
 $\$1,400 \times 20\% = \280
✓ Increasing Enrollment
 $\$1,400 \times 10\% = \140
✓ STARS
 $\$1,400 \times 10\% = \140

✓ Salary Increase
 $\$1,400 \times 20\% = \280
✓ CCFAP %
 $\$1,400 \times 10\% = \140
✓ Provides Meals/Snacks
 $\$1,400 \times 5\% = \70

Resources & Support

- [Program Overview](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Sample Application](#)
- [Application Form](#)
- Questions or Comments – [AHS.DCFCDDReadiness76@vermont.gov](#)