# 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).



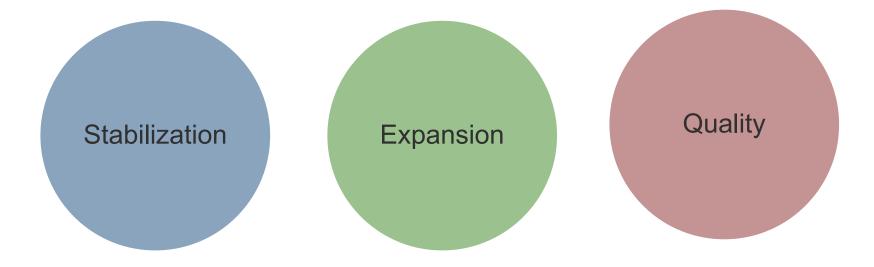
## **Application**

- 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.





#### Payments are intended to strengthen programs with these priorities





## **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

Monthly Base Payment

10 X \$75 = \$750

✓ Serves Infants and Toddlers

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$750 X 10% = $75
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- ✓ 4 STARS
- \$750 X 10% = \$75
- ✓ Salary increases
- \$750 X 20% = \$150
- ✓ Operates 45+ Hours/Week

\$750 X 10% = \$75



### Example Payment Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program

Licensed Capacity – 35 Per Child Base Payment – \$65

#### 2275+227.50+227.50+455+455=

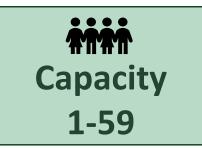
#### Total Monthly Payment \$3,640

- Monthly Base Payment 35 X \$65 = \$2,275 ✓ Serves Infants and Toddlers \$2,275 X 10% = \$227.50 ✓ 3 STARS
- \$2,275 X 10% = \$227.50
- ✓ Salary Increase
- \$2,275 X 20% = \$455
- ✓ CCFAP %

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







# **Example Payment**

**Center Based Child Care and Preschool Program** 

Licensed Capacity – 65

Per Child Base Payment – \$60

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

### Total Monthly Payment \$8,580.00

Child Care Monthly Base Payment \$3,900 X 20% = \$780 65 X \$60 = \$3,900 ✓ 4 STARS ✓ Increasing Capacity \$3,900 X 10% = \$390 \$3,900 X 20% = \$780 ✓ Salary Increase ✓ Increasing Enrollment \$3,900 X 20% = \$780 \$3,900 X 10% = \$390 ✓ CCFAP ✓ Serves Infants and \$3,900 X 15% = \$585 Toddlers ✓ Operates Year Round \$3,900 X 10% = \$390 \$3,900 X 10% = \$390



Capacity

60+

Provides Specialized

### **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 X \$35 = \$1,400

✓ Increasing Capacity

\$1,400 X 20% = \$280

✓ Increasing Enrollment

\$1,400 X 10% = \$140

✓ STARS

\$1,400 X 10% = \$140

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

\$1,400 X 5% = \$70



# Resources & Support

- Program Overview
- Frequently Asked Questions
- Sample Application
- Application Form
- Questions or Comments <u>AHS.DCFCDDReadiness76</u> @vermont.gov

