Report re 4-Year Old Program (Best in Class) and DHS Early Childhood division

Senator Judy Lee, Chairman | Interim Human Services Committee | June 30, 2022
The purpose of the Early Childhood division is to build greater access to quality early childhood experiences so kids age 0-5 from all backgrounds and circumstances have the opportunity to reach their potential.
2022-2023 BEST IN CLASS PROGRAMS
Where are they?

Cohort 1
2021-2022
23 programs
29 classrooms

Cohort 2
2022-2023
38 programs
50 classrooms
WORKFORCE INCENTIVES AND STIPENDS

Special grants supporting Workforce Retention, Workforce Training, and Career Pathway

GET READY

Early Childhood Workers
Individual Incentives and Stipends are COMING!

Quality early learning experiences begin with a qualified and trained workforce.

If you work with children in an early childhood setting, you can Get REWARDED for:

- Completing training leading to an Early Childhood Center or Early Childhood Educator degree.
- Completing an Early Childhood Credential.
- Completing the Childhood Stabilization course and working in a licensed child care program during the previous 90 days.

WHO:

- Early childhood professionals registered in N.D.'s Growing Futures Registry.
- Registered and update your existing Growing Futures Registry account.

WHEN:

- ACT NOW. Create or update your Individual Growing Futures Membership account at www.nd.gov/dhs/services/earlychildhood/earlychildhood-stipends.html.
- Access stipends and incentives when they become available.

WHAT: See ALL Stipend and Incentive Details at:

www.nd.gov/dhs/services/earlychildhood/earlychildhood-stipends-incents.html

Career Pathways Incentives:
- Receive a $100 Career Pathways Incentive award ranging from $200 to $1,000 for completing an accredited Early Childhood credential or degree.

Workforce Training Incentive:
- Receive multiple Workforce Training Incentives for completing specific coursework and training requirements.

Workforce Retention Stipend:
- Receive stipends for completing the required Childhood Stabilization course AND working in a licensed child care program for the previous 90 days (at least 13 hours per week). Your employer must have verified your employment in the Growing Futures Registry.

NEED HELP?

- For help getting your account started for the application process, please contact support@growingfutures.org or call the Early Childhood Center at 701-328-2161, PTO (776) and 711.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT:

www.nd.gov/dhs/services/earlychildhood/earlychildhood-stipends-incents.html
# Child Care Workforce Retention Stipends

Special grants supporting Workforce Retention, Workforce Training, and Career Pathway

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Award Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15-19 hours of continuous employment per week in the previous 90-days</td>
<td>$150</td>
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<tr>
<td>20-30 hours of continuous employment per week in the previous 90-days</td>
<td>$300</td>
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<tr>
<td>31-40 hours (or more) of continuous employment per week in the previous 90-days</td>
<td>$600</td>
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Training incentives are designed to assist an individual toward achievement of a designated Early Childhood professional credential or degree and/or completion of high priority training content.
Career Pathway incentives acknowledge and reward completion of recognized professional qualifications in the early childhood field.
EARLY CHILDHOOD DIVISION TIMELINE
What’s Next

August 2022

- Licensing Specialists receive training on Child Care Licensing System
- Market ND3 cost sharing model and utilization of Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts

July

- 2022/23 Best in Class cohort begins
- Research partner assists Best in Class programs to market and recruit their community
- Open grant applications for workforce retention, training and career path incentives
- ECIDS Charter and Executive Steering Committee launch

September 2022

- Training for providers on Child Care Licensing (CCL)
- Launch September QRIS Bright & Early ND Cohort
- Early Childhood Council meets
During the **first 5 years** of life, emotionally nourishing relationships lay the **foundation** for lifelong health and well-being.

The caring adults who touch the lives of infants, toddlers and preschoolers can maximize our long-term impact in ensuring all children have an **opportunity to realize** their **full potential**.
Contact Information

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