



# ELCHC Service Delivery & Efficiency Committee Meeting

Monday, February 21, 2022 @ 1:00 pm

Hybrid Meeting

6302 E. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd., Suite 100 Tampa, FL 33619

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87403385582?pwd=bDVtdG1wbVhwaWJWb0xGWTJmc1p0UT09>

Meeting ID: 874 0338 5582

Passcode: 431234



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### I. CALL TO ORDER

D. Fudge

A. Roll Call/Quorum Verification

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT I

*Individuals wishing to address the Early Learning Coalition of Hillsborough County Board of Directors must complete a Public Comment Request Card and submit it to the official recorder prior to the noticed start time of the meeting. Said comments will be limited to three (3) minutes per individual on a first-come, first-serve basis, and only at such time as is identified on the official meeting agenda for public comment. All public comments in Public Comment I must pertain to an item on the approved agenda.*

### III. ACTION ITEMS

### IV. CEO REPORT

G. Gillette

- A. Funding Increase for Voluntary Pre- Kindergarten (VPK) Program
- B. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Stabilization Plan - 3
- C. Workforce Grant Update
- D. Funding for Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten (VPK) Technology Update
- E. Listening Tours Update

### V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Regulation and Compliance Updates

M. Folts/L.  
Gamson

### VI. ADJOURNMENT

# ARPA Stabilization Plan

- Model for an initial distribution of resources



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January 4, 2022

# Priorities

- Stabilize and support Florida's entire network of early learning providers
- Expand access to high quality providers for families where cost is the primary barrier
- Invest in quality
- Invest in the early learning workforce and take steps to transition Florida's early learning workforce into the early learning profession
- Strengthen Providers



# Background

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) has two types of funding for child care providers, with funding for Stabilization and Discretionary investments:

- **ARPA Stabilization**: total \$1.5 billion for Florida. **The purpose of these funds is to stabilize providers.** This plan will allocate approximately half of these funds. Providers must use these funds on the following categories:
  - Personnel costs
  - Rent, utilities, facilities maintenance, and insurance
  - Personal protective equipment, cleaning, and other health and safety practices
  - Equipment and supplies
  - Goods and services
  - Mental health services for child care provider staff and children
- **ARPA Discretionary** (UP NEXT): total \$952 million for Florida, **these funds are flexible in their use, but generally to expand access to child care.** DEL is working on a plan for these funds. Deadline to use these funds is September 2024.
- The next few slides will go over the methodology for calculating the stabilization grants.

# Strategy for ARPA Stabilization Grants

- Make stabilization grants available to all providers.
- Establish a base award amount for child care providers calculated on currently enrolled children.
- Supplemental awards for high quality, non-traditional hours and workforce investments will be percentages calculated off the base award amount.
- Provide two rounds of grants through an application via ELCs with the expectation that the 1<sup>st</sup> round disburses half the stabilization subgrant funds (\$685 mil).
- Gather data after round 1 and refine formula/strategy as needed for round 2.
- Approach reflects DEL priorities, as well as those from other stakeholders.

# Base Grant

- The foundation of the base funding amount is the size of the program. Approximately 85% of the funding will be awarded in the base grant. Amounts are based on the most recent Market Rate Study.
  - **Infants and Toddlers:** \$867 per child.
  - **Children 2 to Kindergarten Entry:** \$702 per child
  - **School-Age:** \$540 per child.
  - **FL School Readiness Enrollment:** additional \$70.20 per SR enrolled child.
- Minimum award for qualifying providers is \$12,000.



# Supplemental Program Bonuses (11,792 providers)

In accordance with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) guidance CCDF-ACF-IM-2021-02, the intention of the supplemental program bonuses is to reward child care services that support children's development and sufficiently support working families.

Providers may be eligible for multiple bonuses. All bonuses are in addition to the base rate.

- **Quality Services with Infrastructure deficit** (1,783 providers, \$12.3 mil) = 10% bonus
  - *Includes providers with either Gold Seal or CLASS score of 5.00 or higher*
- **Quality Services: CLASS 5.00 or higher** (1,246 providers, \$9.9 mil) = 15% bonus
- **Quality Services: CLASS score of 4.00 or higher** (2,890 providers, \$7 mil) = 5% bonus
- **Quality Services: Gold Seal** (1,929 providers, \$29.5 mil) = 20% bonus
- **Non-Traditional Hours** (1,638 providers, \$2.2 mil) = 5% bonus
  - *Includes Nights and/or Weekend Care*
- **Workforce Investment Bonus** (approx. 80% of total providers, \$46.5 mil) = 10% bonus
  - *Provider agrees to use at least 25% of total grant amount on staff (bonuses, wage increases, health care costs, retirement, educational advancement, or tuition reimbursement)*





# Timeline

- Stabilization funds must be obligated by September 30, 2022 and liquidated by September 30, 2023.
  - ARPA required CCDF lead agencies to notify HHS if they are unable to obligate at least 50% of the stabilization subgrants total \$1.37 billion, or \$685 million, by December 11, 2021.
  - In accordance with federal requirements, DEL notified the HHS Office of Child Care that DEL has not obligated any of the stabilization subgrant funds as of December 11, 2021.
- Discretionary funds must be obligated by September 30, 2023 and liquidated by September 30, 2024.

# Questions?



**Matthew Mears**  
**Chancellor**

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