

PRIORITIZED STATE CHILD CARE SYSTEM INVESTMENTS TOOLKIT

Communication Assets for **Community Partners**

These communications are intended for community partners to share broadly with their networks regarding expanded income eligibility for CCDF and On My Way Pre-K, new reimbursement rates for providers and coming CCEG announcements



Email for Partners to Share with their Networks

Subject: State makes series of investments to increase access to and sustainability of early learning

Preview: Next steps and resources to navigate the changes

Email copy:

Providers,

Indiana recently announced a series of investments to increase access to and the sustainability of child care for Hoosier families. We are excited about the opportunity these investments make for more children and families to benefit from high-quality early learning programs.

The state's priorities through these investments include increasing income eligibility requirements for families to receive child care assistance (from 127% of the federal poverty level to 150% - which equals around \$45,000 annual income for a family of four), introducing new reimbursement rates for providers caring for children whose families qualify for CCDF and On My Way Pre-K, and investing more than \$10M to expand seats at new and existing programs that serve children eligible for state assistance.

The following are next steps and resources:

- **Increased income eligibility requirements for families to qualify for CCDF and OMWPK:** Families eligible for CCDF may begin applying for assistance on

Aug. 1. Families eligible for OMWPK may continue to apply and their eligibility will be assessed on an ongoing basis to align with school start dates. Providers are encouraged to share this information with currently enrolled or prospective families using [this toolkit](#). Learn more [here](#).

- **New CCDF reimbursement rates:** The public comment period is open now through July 21, 2023 for providers and community members to share feedback regarding the new reimbursement rates. Please do so by emailing OECOSLPublicComment@fssa.in.gov. New rates will go into effect on July 30. Providers should expect to see the new rates applied during payments scheduled for August 30. Learn more [here](#).
- **Child Care Expansion Grants:** The state is in the final stages of making award determinations. Award notices will be sent the week of July 10. Learn more [here](#).

Thank you,

XXX



Announcement/Alert for Partner Website

Indiana is increasing access to early learning opportunities by expanding income eligibility requirements for families to receive child care assistance and introducing new reimbursement rates for providers caring for children whose families qualify for CCDF and On My Way Pre-K. Learn more and apply for assistance at Early Ed Connect: <https://earlyedconnect.fssa.in.gov/onlineApp/home>



Social Content (x4 per each channel)

For family channels:

Post 1:

Just in! If you are a family looking for affordable child care options, you could qualify for state assistance. Indiana is expanding income eligibility guidelines for state assistance programs. Families eligible for CCDF may begin applying for assistance on Aug. 1. Families eligible for On My Way Pre-K may continue applying for assistance and applications will be reviewed to align with school start dates. Families are invited to learn more and apply at Early Ed Connect. Even if you were previously denied assistance from the CCDF or On My Way Pre-K programs, you could qualify under these new criteria!

Post 2:

Enrolling your child in a high-quality early learning opportunity gives them a firm foundation heading into kindergarten - and allows parents and guardians access to the workforce to provide for their families. Come Aug. 1, Indiana is rolling out its newest effort to help families afford the steep costs of child care by expanding income eligibility requirements for the CCDF and On My Way Pre-K programs. Learn if you meet these new requirements and apply at Early Ed Connect:

<https://earlyedconnect.fssa.in.gov/onlineApp/home>

Post 3:

Child care often ranks among a family's most significant expenses. To ensure more hardworking families are receiving support, Indiana is expanding income eligibility requirements for the CCDF and On My Way Pre-K programs starting Aug. 1. Learn if you meet these new requirements and apply at Early Ed Connect:

<https://earlyedconnect.fssa.in.gov/onlineApp/home>

Post 4:

More Hoosier families will qualify for help from the state to pay for child care starting Aug. 1, when new income eligibility guidelines kick in. Families are invited to learn more and apply at Early Ed Connect. Even if you were previously denied assistance from the CCDF or On My Way Pre-K programs, you could qualify under the new income guidelines (from 127% of the federal poverty level to 150% - which equals around \$45,000 annual income for a family of four).

For provider channels:

Post 1:

Expanded income eligibility requirements for families to qualify for CCDF and On My Way Pre-K begin on Aug. 1. Child care providers are encouraged to share this information with currently enrolled or prospective families. Learn more and access resources here: <https://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/system-updates-2023/>

Post 2:

Indiana is making investments to increase access to and the sustainability of child care for Hoosier families. Beginning Aug. 1, more hardworking Hoosier families will become eligible for assistance through the state's CCDF and On My Way Pre-K programs (from 127% of the federal poverty level to 150% - which equals around \$45,000 annual income for a family of four). Child care providers should direct families to Early Ed Connect to learn more: <https://earlyedconnect.fssa.in.gov/onlineApp/home>

Post 3:

As child care providers, we know you do everything you can to help families afford early education programs. Beginning Aug. 1, Indiana will help make care more affordable for even more families as it expands eligibility guidelines to qualify for state assistance programs. If you had a family previously declined assistance because they were on the cusp of requirements, encourage them to re-apply. Learn more here <https://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/system-updates-2023/>

Post 4:

Providers, take note. Beginning Aug. 1, more Hoosier families will qualify for assistance through the state's CCDF and On My Way Pre-K programs - and we need your help! Get the word out to current and prospective families who stand to benefit from the new guidelines (from 127% of the federal poverty level to 150% - which equals around \$45,000 annual income for a family of four). Learn more here: <https://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/system-updates-2023/>

For community channels:

Post 1:

The state of Indiana is making a series of investments to increase access to and the sustainability of child care for Hoosier families. One of these changes begins Aug. 1 with expanded eligibility guidelines for child care assistance (from 127% of the federal poverty level to 150% - which equals around \$45,000 annual income for a family of four). Soon more families will be able to benefit from the state's CCDF and On My Way Pre-K programs. Families are invited to learn more and apply at Early Ed Connect: <https://earlyedconnect.fssa.in.gov/onlineApp/home>

Post 2:

Indiana is expanding income requirements to help more hardworking Hoosier families afford child care. Learn more about new ways to qualify for state assistance programs, CCDF and On My Way Pre-K, at this link: <https://earlyedconnect.fssa.in.gov/onlineApp/home>

Post 3:

Worried about affording child care or pre-K? Indiana is expanding income requirements to qualify for state assistance beginning Aug. 1 (from 127% of the federal poverty level to 150% - which equals around \$45,000 annual income for a family of four). Families who need help affording early learning opportunities are encouraged to visit Early Ed Connect to learn more about the changes and to see if they qualify: <https://earlyedconnect.fssa.in.gov/onlineApp/home>

Post 4:

Ensuring as many Hoosier children have access to child care and early learning opportunities is behind the state's newest investment. Starting Aug. 1, the state is expanding income guidelines for state assistance programs to cover more families. Want to see if you're eligible? (And we highly recommend you do so.) Visit Early Ed Connect: <https://earlyedconnect.fssa.in.gov/onlineApp/home>



Newsletter Feature

Indiana has announced new investments to increase access to and the sustainability of child care for Hoosier families, with one of the changes taking effect as soon as Aug. 1.

State efforts include increasing income eligibility requirements for families to receive child care assistance (from 127% of the federal poverty level to 150% - which equals around \$45,000 annual income for a family of four), introducing new reimbursement rates for providers caring for children whose families qualify for CCDF and On My Way Pre-K, and investing more than \$10M to expand seats at new and existing programs that serve children eligible for state assistance.

The following are next steps for families, providers and community stakeholders:

- **Increased income eligibility requirements for families to qualify for CCDF and OMWPK:** Families eligible for CCDF may begin applying for assistance on Aug. 1. Families eligible for OMWPK may continue to apply and their eligibility will be assessed on an ongoing basis to align with school start dates. Providers are encouraged to share this information with currently enrolled or prospective families using [this toolkit](#). Learn more [here](#).
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