



CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Kickoff Webinar Part II

September 1, 2023

Agenda

- I. The LDOE's Future Vision
- II. 2023-2024 Seat Allocations and Funding
- III. CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Guidance
- IV. Next Steps



The LDOE's Future Vision

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Sustaining Access for Families

The Department is developing strategies that will transition the original B-3 Seats pilot into a permanent program with sustained funding.

Beginning this academic year, the LDOE is working to codify the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program into policy and formally incorporate it into Louisiana's CCDF State Plan.

Taking these steps will make CCAP B-3 Seats a sustained and sustainable program, ensuring access to high-quality early care and education is available for Louisiana's youngest learners.

This transition will transform CCAP into a hybrid program to include both of the following:

- CCAP vouchers that continue to allow families the flexibility some families need
- Allocated seats that provide much-needed stability to the industry and continue to give communities the ability to address the specific areas of highest need identified within their local communities

*Note: A child can be paid for with a CCAP Voucher **or** CCAP B-3 Seats, but not both.*



2023-2024 Seat Allocations & Funding

2023-2024 Seat Allocations and Funding New Investment

Additional investments in early care and education enable the Department to sustain the access provided through the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot for the 2023-2024 year.

Due to PDG and stimulus funding sunseting, previous allocations for B-3 seats for 2023-2024 were only available as “bridge funding,” to temporarily sustain access.

With the new investment for the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot, networks are receiving an August 2023 BESE-approved allocation for seats to sustain and increase access. The August allocation is the first of two allocations for the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program in 2023-2024.

- The August, or first, allocation is for 50% of the funding for the number of seats each network has been allocated for the 2023-2024 academic year.
- The second allocation for seats will be sent to December 2023 BESE for networks who have demonstrated successful fulfillment of the enrollment of their CCAP B-3 allocated seats.
 - This allocation will be for the remaining 50% of funding for seats that were successfully filled and must be used by June 30, 2024.

2023-2024 Seat Allocations and Funding

Determination of Seats Allocations

Seat allocations have increased again for the 2023-2024 year, enabling providers to serve additional children through the 2023-2024 CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program.

The amount of funding allocated to each network was based on the network's most recent Coordinated Funding Request and 2022-2023 enrollment data.

- Due to the extensive gaps in access to high-quality infant care, funding for infant seats was deemed the highest priority; consequently, all networks received allocations for the total number of infant seats requested.
- Gaps in toddler access are also high, especially when compared to three- and four-year-old access, so toddler seats were also deemed a high priority, with all networks receiving at least 80% of the toddler seats they requested for one- and two-year-olds.
- While access for three-year-olds is higher than that for infants and toddlers, it still falls far below four-year-old access; consequently, to address the ongoing need for additional three-year-old access as well, all networks received 75% of the three-year-old seats they requested.

2023-2024 Seat Allocations and Funding Tuition Rates for Seats

Due to the requirements associated with the funding being utilized for the 2023-2024 CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program, the August and December allocations can only be utilized to fund tuition.

Networks are required to provide direct payments to CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program participating sites for the full cost of all B-3 seats that have been filled at each site.

Age Group	Yearly Rate (per seat)	Monthly Rate (per seat)
Infants	\$18,940	\$1,578.33
Toddlers	\$11,700	\$975
3 Year Olds	\$10,670	\$889.17

2023-2024 Seat Allocations and Funding Administrative Costs

Networks will need funding to administer CCAP B-3 Seats, so a proposed funding allocation will be brought to October BESE for approval.

Pending BESE approval, networks will receive an additional allocation in October, specifically to support program administration costs:

- Each network will be allocated \$325.00 per seat from their total CCAP B-3 Seats allocation for the 2023-2024 year.
- This administrative costs allocation can be used on the following:
 - Salaries for administrative staff who are determining eligibility of CCAP B-3 Seats
 - Benefits for administrative staff who are determining eligibility of CCAP B-3 Seats
 - Enrollment or advertising for CCAP B-3 Seats

Other quality activities supported with prior B-3 Seats funding will now need to be supported with other funding sources or efforts, which will be shared in upcoming slides.

2023-2024 Seat Allocations and Funding Disbursement of Funds

Networks will receive funding for CCAP B-3 Seats as a direct payment, based upon successful enrollment of children, and will again be responsible for disbursement of funds to providers.

Unlike in prior years, when B-3 Seats funding was disbursed as a reimbursement through eGMS, in 2023-2024 funding for the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program will be a direct payment from the LDOE to the network. These approximately quarterly payments will be based on successful enrollment as documented by the network to the LDOE via monthly attendance trackers.

- Networks are then required to disburse funding for seats directly to participating providers for all children enrolled in the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program.
- Networks are also required to pay CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program rates for all CCAP B-3 seats using the tuition reimbursement rates provided by the Department.
- Networks may not use any of the funding provided for seats for anything other than tuition payments for participating providers.

Funding for the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program seats is anticipated to be distributed on an approximately quarterly basis.



CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Guidance

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Network Support for Providers

Networks are encouraged to work with CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program providers to ensure that children receive high-quality early care and education experiences.

Due to the structure of the payments for the 2023-2024 CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program, in many networks providers may be receiving higher tuition payments per child.

Networks are encouraged to support participating sites by providing them with guidance related to using the CCAP B-3 Seats tuition to cover the comprehensive cost of a high-quality seat. For example, providers can be encouraged to use tuition for the following:

- provide teacher incentives and wage enhancements to ensure continuity of high-quality care and education
- ensure classrooms have appropriate furnishings and materials that facilitate development and learning
- purchase curriculum and other resources that teachers can utilize to provide age-appropriate instruction

Networks should also assist participating sites in filling CCAP B-3 seats by including information about the program and participating sites in community outreach and coordinated enrollment events.

CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Guidance

LDOE Support for Providers

The Department also provides supports for quality improvement, which early learning sites participating in the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program are eligible to receive.

Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agencies are available to provide professional development, inclusive of training and coaching, for new classrooms and teachers.

- Networks are encouraged to reach out to the appropriate CCR&R and provide them with a list of all new CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program participant sites, as well as continuing sites that have new classrooms or teachers.

Providers can also apply for the LDOE's Child Care Curriculum Initiative, to receive reimbursement for a portion of the cost of Tier I curriculum kits for their sites.

- Networks are encouraged to assist providers in reaching out to the CCR&R in their community, who can assist providers with an application.

CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Guidance

Communication with Eligible Providers

In 2023-2024, networks are responsible for ensuring that all eligible providers receive information about the opportunity to participate in the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program.

To ensure that providers across the network have equal opportunities to participate in this valuable opportunity, Network Lead Agencies must notify all eligible providers in the network (including eligible Type III providers and Family Child Care providers participating in Academic Approval) of the network's 2023-2024 application for CCAP B-3 seats.

The Department will be providing networks with an application template that networks can use or networks can create and use an application that they create.

This template will be shared via e-mail, along with this deck, following the end of this webinar. In order to ensure that networks can reach full enrollment as soon as possible, the Department asks that networks disseminate the application to providers within the next two weeks.

CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Guidance

Provider Application

All providers that are interested and eligible need to be given the opportunity to complete an application to participate in the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program.

The LDOE has created a brief template that Networks may choose to use or embellish for their community needs. The CCAP B-3 Seats Provider Application should be shared with providers as soon as possible, with a turn around time of no more than two weeks.

- all eligible providers in the network need to know about the opportunity for CCAP B-3 Seats (eligibility requirements are on the subsequent slide)
- all providers who are interested and eligible need to be able to complete the application
- Networks may have set additional criteria for selecting sites, and those criteria must be explicitly clear to providers in the application and share that info with sites
 - *These additional criteria may include higher levels of quality, higher levels of participation in network meetings and opportunities, geographic need, etc.*

CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Guidance

Eligible Site Criteria

High-quality sites that provide full-time, year-round access, inclusive of infant care, can participate in the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program in 2023-2024.

Sites must meet the minimum following eligibility criteria to participate in the CCAP B-3 Seats pilot program:

- Possess a score of “Proficient” or higher on the 2022-2023 Performance Profile Rating
 - If a site is new for the 2023-2024 Academic Year, a robust plan should be included in the network’s Planning Document, to demonstrate how the network will effectively support the site to achieve a “Proficient” or higher Performance Profile Rating for 2023-2024
 - along with an explanation of why it is important for this site to participate in 2023-2024 CCAP B-3 Seats in its first year (e.g., meeting a geographic or other need identified by network data gathering)
- Possess CCAP certification
- Offer, or able to offer through CCAP B-3 Seat funding, infant seats
- Offer full-time, year-round seats (at least 30 hours per week, at least six hours of continuous care minimum per weekday)
- Meet the ECAC requirement for Lead Teachers
 - Lead Teachers in classrooms where CCAP B-3 seats will be placed should have their ECAC or be working with an ECAC program to enroll during the 2023-2024 academic year

CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Guidance

Eligibility Determination for Families

As in prior years, networks are responsible for determining families' eligibility for the program, enrolling children, and reporting attendance to the LDOE.

The Department will be hosting a webinar on September 7 that will provide both new and continuing networks with information regarding how to determine eligibility for CCAP B-3 seats.

This webinar will also contain information about other aspects of program administration and network responsibilities for the 2023-2024 CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program, including but not limited to

- network assurances
- planning document
- attendance requirements
- requirements for reporting attendance, data, and other information requested by the LDOE



Next Steps

CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Guidance

Program Period

The eligibility period for the 2023-2024 CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program is through June 30, 2024.

As the Dept. works with the Admin of Children and Families to establish the procedural and policy changes that will be necessary to transition this program permanently, we will be figuring out how eligibility redetermination will take place in 2024-2025 and forward.

Next steps for families for the 2024-2025 year will be forthcoming throughout the year, and families should hold the June 30 deadline as a time for potential transition.

- Ensure that families already enrolled with B-3 Seats are prepared to re-submit eligibility documentation by no later than mid-October

Next Steps

CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot Program Eligibility Training

The Department will host a required eligibility webinar on September 7 that will provide both new and continuing networks with updated information regarding how to determine eligibility for CCAP B-3 Seats in 2023-2024.

In the time period between today's webinar and the eligibility webinar, networks should initiate communication with eligible providers and families who are interested in CCAP B-3 Seats. Networks should:

- Communicate the availability of CCAP B-3 Seats to families, providers, and community partners
- Send the provider application to all eligible providers in the community
- Ensure families already enrolled with B-3 Seats re-submit eligibility documentation by no later than mid-October
- Reach out to additional families who are potentially eligible for CCAP to see whether they are interested in applying for CCAP B-3 Seats

LDOE Next Steps

1. Share Site Application template
2. Share allocation amount for 2023-2024 with individual networks
3. Share 2023-2024 Planning Document after this webinar
4. Share Program Assurances after this webinar
5. Host CCAP Eligibility Webinar (9/7, 3-4 p.m.)
6. Share attendance trackers (Planning Documents must be submitted by networks before trackers can be finalized)

Network Next Steps

1. Share CCAP B-3 Seats application opportunity with eligible and interested providers
2. Have any CCAP B-3 Seats administrative staff attend eligibility webinar
3. Complete Planning Document by September 15 at 5 p.m.
4. Ensure providers track and share July-present attendance of CCAP B-3 Seat children so that July-September attendance can be submitted together