

Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council



November 15, 2023

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Roll Call
- III. Approval of the minutes of meeting held September 25, 2023
- IV. Consideration of an update report regarding the 2023 Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Quarterly Report -Quarter 3



I. Call to Order



II. Roll Call



III. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting Held September 25, 2023



IV. Consideration of the 2023 Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council Quarterly Report - Quarter 3



Key Activities in Quarter 3

The Department and Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) continued to support local sites to implement the early childhood accountability system by completing the following activities to close out the 2022-2023 academic year:

- Began analysis and planning based on preliminary Performance Profile results.
- Analyzed the annual lead teacher survey to calculate the teacher satisfaction informational metric on network Performance Profiles.
- Worked with Community Network Lead Agencies to confirm accuracy of informational metrics and complete data certification.



Key Activities in Quarter 3

The Department and Community Network Lead Agencies (CNLAs) worked together on the following beginning-of-year activities for 2023-2024:

- Sites set up classrooms in the Teaching Strategies GOLD[®] system.
- The Department hosted a back-to-school Teaching Strategies GOLD[®] webinar and extended office hours to support CNLAs in preparation to complete the Fall checkpoint.
- The Department ensured all sites and classrooms were added or updated in the [EC CLASS[®] Portal](#).
- CNLAs submitted their [2023-2024 Local Observation Protocol](#).



Key Activities in Quarter 3

In the 2023 legislative session the Louisiana Legislature invested more than ever in early childhood care and education, enabling the Department to allocate funding for the 2023-2024 CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program:

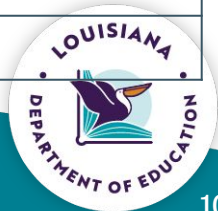
- In Quarter 3 the LDOE began fully transitioning the original B-3 Seats pilot into a permanent program called “CCAP B-3 Seats” with State General Funds. The Department is continuing work to codify the CCAP B-3 Seats Pilot program into policy and formally incorporate it into Louisiana’s CCDF State Plan.
- Seats were allocated to 42 Community Network Lead Agencies, based on Coordinated Funding Requests from January 2023, that estimated demand for approximately 6,500 seats across those communities.



Key Activities in Quarter 3

Seven Community Network Lead Agencies that raised qualifying local funds for the Early Childhood Education Fund for 2023-2024 began enrolling children.

Community Network Lead Agency	State Match Funds Allocated	Total Funds for Seats (State Match + Local Funds)	Total Anticipated Children Served
Ascension	\$954,000	\$1,908,000	136
Bossier	\$43,910	\$87,820	18
Caddo	\$2,800,00	\$5,600,000	450
Jefferson	\$399,700	\$799,400	99
Orleans	\$21,449,919	\$42,899,838	1,810
Pointe Coupee	\$1,000	\$2,000	1
Sabine	\$5,315	\$10,630	1



Key Activities in Quarter 3

The Department accepted applications for anticipated funding to be matched for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. 14 networks anticipate raising qualifying funds.

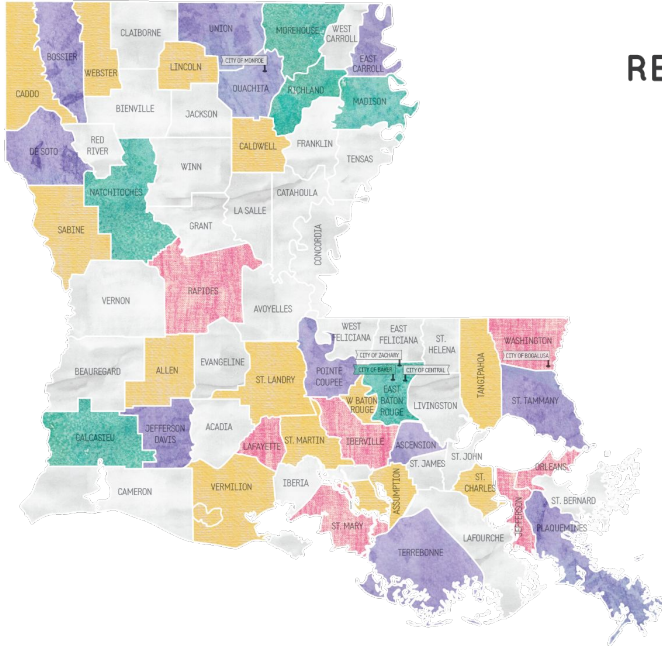
Networks New to ECE Fund	Anticipated Funding Amount
Assumption	\$18,000
Calcasieu	\$60,00
East Baton Rouge	\$500,000
Natchitoches	\$660,000
Plaquemines	\$12,000
Rapides	\$2,430,000
Tangipahoa	\$10,000
Webster	\$12,000

Networks Returning to ECE Fund	Anticipated Funding Amount
Ascension	\$1,000,000
Bossier	\$67,047
Caddo	\$3,060,00
Jefferson	\$500,000
Orleans	\$23,000,000
Pointe Coupee	\$1,664



Key Activities in Quarter 3

READY START NETWORK



- COHORT 1
- COHORT 2
- COHORT 3
- COHORT 4

Ready Start Networks continue to develop and implement initiatives focused on early childhood workforce development, quality improvements, access expansion, and increased family engagement.

Key Activities in Quarter 3

Ready Start Networks are committed to a unified effort to promote high-quality ECE and increase access at the local level.

- 10 Ready Start Networks are continuing participation in a Preschool Development Planning Grant, with 5 focused on strengthening family engagement and leadership and 5 focused on recruiting and retaining quality ECE workforce.
- The data obtained from these efforts will prioritize building systems and structures to support the implementation of state- and local-level strategies.



Key Activities in Quarter 3

The Department continued to provide professional development opportunities for child care teachers across the state.

- 20 BESE-approved Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate (ECAC) Programs provided course content and support focused on preparing teachers for successful classroom interactions during this period.
- CCR&R agencies provided a total of 3,392 hours of coaching and 263 hours of training.
 - These agencies also provided 285 hours of coaching to 78 Family Child Care sites across the state that have opted into Academic Approval.
 - The training and coaching provided focused on improving teacher-child interactions, engaged support for learning, and instructional support.



Key Activities in Quarter 3

The Department provided the following network administrator trainings to support Young Children with Disabilities:

- *Exploring OSEP Features and Reports Within Teaching Strategies GOLD®*
 - This professional development offered participants an opportunity to review the Teaching Strategies GOLD® platform and learn how the monitoring of GOLD® data informs instruction.
 - Participants were also given an overview of OSEP reporting and OSEP reporting tools to be able to generate and analyze OSEP reports.
- *Leading an Inclusive Early Childhood Program*
 - This professional development offered participants strategies to improve the use of inclusive practices in early childhood settings.
 - Participants learned about the principles of high-quality inclusion and were introduced to impactful strategies that support the inclusion of young children, with and without disabilities, and their families.

Supporting Teachers to be Successful



Key Activities in Quarter 3

The Department provided sites leaders and teachers with opportunities and information related to professional recognition, leadership, business practices, and benefits through the following activities:

- Launching the third year of the Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Award Nomination Portal;
- Providing outreach, support, and monthly webinars for new directors;
- Offering Cohort 5 of the [Louisiana Early Leaders Academy](#), providing participants with leadership development, systems thinking training, and collaboration with peers to strengthen their business practices; and
- Connecting child care site leaders and staff members with information from the Healthy Navigators for Louisiana Program of the Southwest Louisiana Area Health Education Center, to assist directors in offering benefits packages to their employees or connecting employees with health insurance options.

Supporting Directors to be Successful



Key Activities in Quarter 3

- The Department has partnered with KinderSystems in the development of the new Family Central application portal.
- Family Central is a software system that will allow families to enter applications directly into the Department's subsidy management system.
- This transition is the beginning of a new, streamlined application process for families and payment process for providers.

CCAP Children Served in Quarter 3	
July 2023	19,157
August 2023	18,701
September 2023	17,708



Key Activities in Quarter 3

The Department is continuing to mail CCAP Waitlist Verification Forms to families determined eligible for CCAP.

- Families certified to the Waitlist from October 1, 2022 - May 31, 2023, were mailed a Waitlist Verification Form.
- Families were instructed to review the form and note changes, if any, since submitting their original application. Changes may include income, provider choice, or Education and Training (E&T) hours.

CCAP Cases Removed from the Waitlist in Quarter 3	
Families Certified	485
Children Certified	529

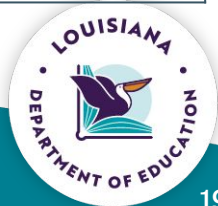
Key Activities of Quarter 3

Site Type:					
Month	Type I	Type II	Type III	FCC	In-Home
July 2023	204	165	1162	249	4
August 2023	204	168	1171	250	3
September 2023	204	166	1162	252	3

Star Rating:						
	0 Stars	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star
2022	22*	7	67	420	507	61
2023	7*	7	78	408	448	51

*This does not include new, unrated sites.

Publicly-Funded Early Learning Sites



Upcoming Activities



Upcoming Activities

The Department is moving forward in the development of the following:

- CCAP B-3 Seats Policy
- CCDF Louisiana State Plan

The Department will be bringing proposed drafts of each of these documents to stakeholders, including the ECCE Advisory Council, in the coming months.



Upcoming Activities

Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council members serve three-year terms. The Louisiana State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE) and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) are seeking applications for membership on the Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) Advisory Council.

- Applicants must submit a 2023 [application](#) to be considered for membership during the 2023-2026 term.
- Applications must be submitted online, and the deadline for submitting an application is Tuesday, **November 21, 2023**.
- Applications will be reviewed for demonstrated relevant experience and commitment to the field.

If you have further questions, please contact Claudette.Jones@la.gov.

ECCE Advisory Council Membership Applications



Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council

2023 Meetings
February 15, 2023
May 18, 2023
July 19, 2023
September 25, 2023
November 15, 2023

2024 Meetings
February 20, 2024
May 8, 2024
July 17, 2024
September 18, 2024
November 20, 2024



Adjournment

