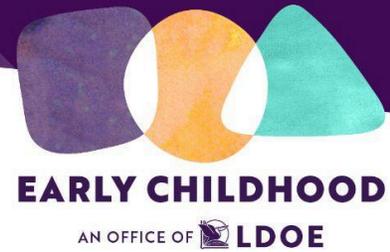




# Early Childhood Newsletter



March 12, 2026

## National Reading Month

March marks National Reading Month, and the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) encourages Early Childhood educators across the state to engage in activities that enhance language and literacy development. Reading aloud to children is a powerful tool: it increases vocabulary, strengthens cognitive skills, and helps build a meaningful connection between the reader and the child. Early childhood educators play a vital role in fostering a love of reading through interactive storytime, through discussions about books, and by encouraging children to explore the text in creative ways.



National Reading Month also offers a great opportunity to support families in nurturing early literacy skills. Parents, as children's first teachers, are instrumental in establishing good reading habits at home. Educators can share tips with families on how to make reading a part of their daily routine — such as setting aside time for storytime, asking questions about a book, and choosing a variety of books to keep children engaged and learning.

Literacy development starts at birth, and by reading with children from an early age, we lay the foundation for future academic success. Let's use National Reading Month to inspire a lifelong love of reading and learning in every child!

## Upcoming Deadlines

- [Teacher Leader Summit Early Bird Registration](#) closes

## Upcoming Events

- March 12: [Revised Bulletin 137 Provider Training](#)
- March 18: [KinderSystem CenterTrack Webinar](#)
- March 18: [Early Childhood Active Coaching Office Hours](#)
- March 19: [Revised Bulletin 137 Provider Training](#)
- March 19: [CCAP Monthly Call for Providers](#)
- March 26: [CCAP New Provider Training](#)
- March 27: [New Director Office Hours](#)
- March 31: [Young Children with Disabilities Community of Practice](#)
- April 2: [Monthly Provider Update Webinar](#)
- April 14: [Monthly CNLA Office Hours](#)
- April 16, 21, 22: Spring Collaboratives for CNLAs and CCR&Rs

## More Important Dates

Please see the [LDOE School System Support Calendar](#).

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### REMINDER: Teacher Leader Summit 2026

Early bird registration is now open for Teacher Leader Summit 2026, Louisiana's premier professional learning event for educators. Teacher Leader Summit 2026 will take place May 26-28 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

#### Early Bird Registration

- Registration Window: February 9-March 15
- Rate: \$249

#### Regular Registration:

- Registration Window: March 16-April 12 (or when capacity is reached)
- Rate: \$299

Registration must be completed on the [TLS 2026 event site](#). All registrations include full access to sessions, an official TLS 2026 t-shirt, and lunch on May 26 and May 27. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis; once registration capacity is reached, additional registrants will be added to a waitlist. No onsite registration will be available.

Please contact [ldoeevents@la.gov](mailto:ldoeevents@la.gov) with questions or refer to the [Teacher Leader Summit 2026 site](#).

### NEW: Early Childhood Provider Update Webinar

The LDOE hosts monthly webinars for early childhood providers. These webinars include essential reminders and updates for all provider types.

Providers can access the upcoming April Provider Update Webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** April 2 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872>
- **Meeting ID:** 935 9774 5872
- **Passcode:** 641464

For more information, please contact [earlychildhood@la.gov](mailto:earlychildhood@la.gov).

### NEW: Early Childhood Active Coaching Office Hours

The LDOE hosts monthly Active Coaching Office Hours specifically for early learning sites participating in site improvement. These sessions provide important reminders, guidance, and updates to support continuous growth and implementation efforts.

All early learning providers are welcome to attend. Providers can access the upcoming webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** March 18 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98038985498>
- **Meeting ID:** 980 3898 5498
- **Passcode:** 989833

For more information, please contact [earlychildhood@la.gov](mailto:earlychildhood@la.gov).

### **NEW: Office Hours for New Directors**

The LDOE team hosts New Director webinars focused on early childhood quality and operations, while also expanding new directors' peer networking.

This month's topic is "Effective Communication Strategies for Directors." Participants will gain tools and techniques that will strengthen communication with staff, families, and stakeholders, fostering collaboration, clarity, and a positive environment.

Interested participants can access the webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** March 27 at 12 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/98824530491>
- **Meeting ID:** 988 2453 0491
- **Passcode:** 760909

Please contact [Tella.Henderson@la.gov](mailto:Tella.Henderson@la.gov) with questions.

### **NEW: Young Children with Disabilities (YCWD) Community of Practice Webinar**

The LDOE hosts monthly webinars for early childhood special education administrators and educators. These webinars include professional development and updates regarding young children with disabilities in early childhood settings.

Providers can access the March YCWD Community of Practice Webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** March 31 at 3 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/91561982271>
- **Meeting ID:** 915 6198 2271
- **Passcode:** 787411

For more information, please contact [Caitlyn.Robinson@la.gov](mailto:Caitlyn.Robinson@la.gov).

### **REMINDER: Teaching Strategies® Webinars**

Teaching Strategies® provides webinars to help users navigate the platform effectively so that children meet developmental outcomes. Users can register to attend sessions live or watch the on-demand sessions at any time.

The links below will bring you to the landing page for each webinar:

- [What's New and What's Coming From Teaching Strategies®](#)
- [What's New in Gold Administrator Reports](#)
- [Featured Webinars](#)

Contact TeachingStrategies® at 1-800-637-3652 with questions.

### **NEW: CCAP Monthly Provider Call**

CCAP hosts a monthly call for all certified providers that shares CCAP updates and requirements for providers and families. Providers can access the March Monthly Call via the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** March 19 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [CCAP Monthly Call for Providers](#)
- **Meeting ID:** 939 7378 5023
- **Passcode:** 082226

For more information, please contact the Provider Help Desk at 225-250-7635 or 225-614-5917.

### **NEW: CCAP New Provider Training**

CCAP hosts a monthly training for all newly-certified providers. The training gives providers essential tools and resources that support their new role as a certified provider. The training can be accessed via the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** March 26 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [CCAP New Provider Training](#)
- **Meeting ID:** 973 3264 6864

For more information, please contact the Provider Help Desk at 225-250-7635 or 225-614-5917.

### **NEW: KinderSystems March Webinar**

Learn about CenterTrack, a Child Care Management System (CCMS) free to Louisiana child care providers!

Interested participants can access the webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** March 18 at 12 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** [CenterTrack Webinar](#)
- **Webinar ID:** 160 165 2409

Please note that attendees need to register for the webinar prior to attending. Please e-mail

[SupportLA@KinderSystems.com](mailto:SupportLA@KinderSystems.com) with questions.

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## **UPDATES FOR FUNDING AND ENROLLMENT**

### **REMINDER: Early Childhood Literacy Initiative - Upcoming Early Childhood Curriculum Funding, Reviews, and Updates to the Tier I Early Childhood Curriculum List**

The LDOE updated the state's *Early Learning and Development Standards* (ELDS) in 2024 to reflect the latest research and best practices in early childhood education. In alignment with these updated standards, the LDOE has revised the "2025-2026 Instructional Materials Review (IMR) Rubric" for Early Childhood Education (ECE), Ages Birth to Five, and is currently reviewing newly-submitted early childhood curricula.

In anticipation of those soon-to-be-announced new Tier 1 curricula aligned with the Science of Reading, the LDOE is allocating funding for new infant, toddler, and pre-k curriculum purchases. This funding was approved by BESE at its January 14 meeting, and funding is now available through eGMS to CNLAs, for school-based pre-K classrooms, and to CCR&Rs, for child care classrooms. This funding opportunity will run from February 1 - June 30.

Funding can be used to provide the following:

- **Curriculum Allocation:** The curriculum allocation will be used to purchase newly-rated high-quality instructional materials (rated as Tier I) that align to the updated [Early Learning and Development Standards](#) and LDOE IMR review processes. The newly-rated Tier I curriculum list will be populated as reviews are completed and can be located on the [IMR webpage](#) Early Childhood Instructional Materials dropdown and will be populated on an ongoing basis as reviews are complete..
  - CNLAs should work with schools to purchase newly-rated Tier I curriculum and curriculum-aligned professional development requested by school-based publicly funded pre-K classrooms.
  - CCR&Rs should work with child care sites to purchase newly-rated Tier I curriculum and curriculum-aligned professional development requested for infant, toddler, and preschool classrooms by Type III child care and FCC sites who have opted into Academic Approval.
- **Science of Reading (SoR) Training Stipend Allocation (available for district-employed pre-K teachers, through CNLAs):** The SoR Training stipend allocation will be used to provide LDOE-created SoR training to support early identification and interventions, including for teachers of young children with disabilities who teach pre-K.
  - This portion of the allocation offered through CNLAs to school-based pre-K educators will fund \$250 stipends for the completion of 3 LDOE Science of Reading pre-K modules through the LDOE Canopy platform.
  - Please note: There will be additional information regarding funding opportunities for training stipends for publicly funded child care center teachers, Early Head Start/Head Start teachers, Family Child Care educators with Academic Approval, and NSECD teachers in publicly funded sites shared at a later date.
  - The Early Childhood *Science and Art of Reading* professional learning series aims to equip educators with a shared understanding of the knowledge and skills needed to implement scientifically-based literacy instruction. This professional development series is housed in the LDOE's [Louisiana Professional Learning Platform](#). The course code is **C100N1N9**.

The LDOE is committed to supporting providers and school systems through this transition. Information about new Tier I curricula that have been approved will be made available via this newsletter, e-mail blasts, and webinars. These newly-reviewed and approved resources will ensure that all early childhood classrooms are equipped with high-quality, standards-aligned instructional materials that support strong learning outcomes for every child, from birth to age five.

Please reach out to [LouisianaCurriculumReview@la.gov](mailto:LouisianaCurriculumReview@la.gov) with questions related to the instructional materials reviews.

For all other questions, including those related to funding, purchases, and newly-rated curriculum, please reach out to [earlychildhood@la.gov](mailto:earlychildhood@la.gov).

### **NEW: Infant and Toddler Libraries**

The Department is excited to announce the purchase of nearly 1,200 infant and more than 2,000 toddler libraries for Type III child care centers and Family Child Care educators with Academic Approval.

- Ready Start Networks (RSNs) or Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (CCR&R) will reach out to providers about the infant and toddler libraries available.
- Infant and toddler libraries will be shipped directly to each RSN or CCR&R to distribute at monthly meetings.

For all other questions, including those related to infant and toddler library purchases, please reach out to [earlychildhood@la.gov](mailto:earlychildhood@la.gov).

### **NEW: Heggerty Training Registration**

To provide targeted support to improve literacy and language outcomes in Pre-K early learning classrooms in Type III child care centers and academically-approved Family Child Care, the LDOE is purchasing Heggerty Pre-Kindergarten and Early Pre-Kindergarten Curriculum manuals along with professional development.

The LDOE is not requiring the use of Heggerty curriculum manuals. However, programs that are using Heggerty materials are seeing improved child outcomes in phonological awareness and phonemic awareness skills and improved Kindergarten readiness.

There is not an expected date for recipients to begin using the materials. However, it would be best if educators wait to use the materials until after they have been trained to use them correctly in April or May. Heggerty will provide a series of 10 virtual administrator professional development opportunities to those who will be utilizing the manuals. These sessions will focus on supporting child care educators to implement Heggerty Curriculum lessons to improve child outcomes in language and literacy objectives.

The available training dates and times can be found below. Please select the date below to register for training.

- [April 15: 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.](#)
- [April 18: 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.](#)
- [April 21: 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.](#)
- [April 23: 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.](#)
- [April 23: 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.](#)
- [April 27: 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.](#)
- [April 29: 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.](#)
- [May 2: 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.](#)
- [May 5: 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.](#)
- [May 7: 6 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.](#)

**Please note:** The 10 virtual sessions are identical trainings. Please only register for 1 training session; participants will need their manual for training.

For more information, please contact [Caitlyn.Robinson@la.gov](mailto:Caitlyn.Robinson@la.gov).

### **NEW: Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) 2026 Sliding Fee Scale**

The new 2026 CCAP Sliding Fee Scale has been released by the Department. The parent's copayment and qualifying income have been calculated using the new scale as of February 1, 2026.

Additional families may now be eligible for CCAP based on the new scale. Providers should immediately adjust families' co-pay amounts to be reflective of the new CCAP Sliding Fee Scale.

Copay	2 persons		3 persons		4 persons		5 persons	
\$0	\$0	\$3,559	\$0	\$4,397	\$0	\$5,234	\$0	\$6,071
\$2.00	\$ 3,560	\$ 3,837	\$ 4,398	\$ 4,740	\$ 5,235	\$ 5,643	\$ 6,072	\$ 6,546
\$3.00	\$ 3,838	\$ 4,115	\$ 4,741	\$ 5,083	\$ 5,644	\$ 6,052	\$ 6,547	\$ 7,020
\$8.00	\$ 4,116	\$ 4,393	\$ 5,084	\$ 5,427	\$ 6,053	\$ 6,461	\$ 7,021	\$ 7,494
\$10.00	\$ 4,394	\$ 4,727	\$ 5,428	\$ 5,839	\$ 6,462	\$ 6,951	\$ 7,495	\$ 8,064
Copay	6 persons		7 persons		8 persons		9 Persons	
\$0	\$0	\$6,909	\$0	\$7,066	\$0	\$7,223	\$0	\$7,380
\$2.00	\$ 6,910	\$ 7,449	\$ 7,067	\$ 7,618	\$ 7,224	\$ 7,787	\$ 7,381	\$ 7,956
\$3.00	\$ 7,450	\$ 7,988	\$ 7,619	\$ 8,170	\$ 7,788	\$ 8,351	\$ 7,957	\$ 8,533
\$8.00	\$ 7,989	\$ 8,528	\$ 8,171	\$ 8,722	\$ 8,352	\$ 8,916	\$ 8,534	\$ 9,110
\$10.00	\$ 8,529	\$ 9,176	\$ 8,723	\$ 9,384	\$ 8,917	\$ 9,593	\$ 9,111	\$ 9,801
Copay	10 persons		11 Persons		12 Persons			
\$0	\$0	\$7,537	\$0	\$7,694			\$0	\$7,851
\$2.00	\$ 7,538	\$ 8,126	\$ 7,695	\$ 8,295			\$ 7,852	\$ 8,464
\$3.00	\$ 8,127	\$ 8,715	\$ 8,296	\$ 8,896			\$ 8,465	\$ 9,078
\$8.00	\$ 8,716	\$ 9,303	\$ 8,897	\$ 9,497			\$ 9,079	\$ 9,691
\$10.00	\$ 9,304	\$ 10,010	\$ 9,498	\$ 10,219			\$ 9,692	\$ 10,427

For additional assistance, contact the Provider Help Desk at 225-250-7635 or 225-614-5917.

**NEW: Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act**

The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act defines a person experiencing “homelessness” as an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence. CCAP supports homeless assistance by ensuring homeless families can timely enroll their child(ren) in the certified site of their choice while the parent works, attends school, or seeks employment.

The Local Education Agency (LEA), i.e., the school system, determines homeless status for families and informs the Child Care Assistance Program of status determinations.

- The LEA makes several attempts to contact the applicant. After several unsuccessful attempts, the application will be closed. The applicant may reapply.
- A homeless applicant’s contact information must remain current so that both CCAP and the LEA can make contact and communicate with the applicant to complete the application process. Changes in contact information (e.g., phone number, e-mail address, transitional housing number, or physical addresses) must be reported immediately to CCAP via a [Report of Changes form](#).

Families experiencing homelessness are initially certified for 12 months.

Verifications requested of a homeless applicant must be received within the first 90 days of the applicant submitting an application or by the deadline stated in a CCAP Notice to the applicant.

- Families experiencing homelessness demonstrate seeking employment by registering for a HiRE account with Louisiana Works or by participating in a Transitional Living Program.
- If verifications are received before the due date, the 12 month certification will continue.
- If verifications are not received by the due date, the certification will end by the 90th day with notices sent to the parent and child care provider.

At redetermination of the family’s case, if the family still qualifies for CCAP benefits in the homeless category and has not exceeded 85% of the State Median Income (SMI) threshold, the family may be certified for another year.

For additional Homeless Assistance help, e-mail [LDECCAP@la.gov](mailto:LDECCAP@la.gov).

**REMINDER: Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Attendance Tracking - Provider’s Role**

CCAP-certified Family Child Care and Type III providers are required to monitor attendance each week at their site. This means ensuring the site's Child Care Management System (CCMS) is linked to KinderConnect, to submit weekly attendance.

Providers must maintain a secure, working internet connection so family attendance is visible in the attendance portal. Checking the portal for successful attendance recording when child care services are provided helps parents to maintain their CCAP cases and prevent payment delays for providers. Providers should also immediately notify clients who are not checking in/out properly and regularly by demonstrating the correct way to utilize the tablet

and/or phone to document attendance.

Certified providers must compare weekly CCAP bank deposits with remittance advices for accuracy. Payment discrepancies of any kind should be reported in the [Provider Help Desk Ticket System](#) within 30 days of the discrepancy. Children who no longer or never attended a site for services should be placed in the [Provider Help Desk Ticket System](#) for removal.

Accessing the [Louisiana EdLink Child Care Assistance Program \(CCAP\) Infosite](#) offers a wealth of support with attendance resources, tools, and training for families and providers.

For additional help, contact KinderSystems at 1-888-829-9258 or by e-mail at [supportLA@kindersystems.com](mailto:supportLA@kindersystems.com).

#### **NEW: CCAP B-3 Seats Recertification Notifications to Providers**

The LDOE is working to conclude the process of sending out provider notifications for the CCAP B-3 Seats program children who have been re-certified and rejected. The e-mail will come from the [NoReply@la.gov](mailto:NoReply@la.gov) e-mail address, so please check your e-mail inbox daily for the CCAP B-3 seats re-certification or rejection notices for your site.

For additional assistance, contact the B-3 inbox at [ldoeb3@la.gov](mailto:ldoeb3@la.gov).

#### **NEW: CCAP Case Redeterminations**

Redeterminations for CCAP families have resumed. Clients and providers with a March 2026 redetermination should have received a redetermination notice in the mail in mid-February 2026 as a reminder.

These redeterminations include the families whose cases were extended from July 2025 to March 2026. It is important that all CCAP families have the most up-to-date contact information on file with the LDOE for all future notifications.

If the family's prior redetermination month was extended from July 2025 and neither the provider nor the parent have received a redetermination notice for the month of March 2026, please contact the LDOE as soon as possible to avoid potential breaks in service. Families should e-mail [LDECCAP@la.gov](mailto:LDECCAP@la.gov), and providers should contact the CCAP Provider Help Desk at 225-250-7635 or 225-614-5917.

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## **UPDATES FOR LICENSED CENTERS**

#### **NEW: Licensed Center Forms**

The [Licensed Center Forms](#) section on the website has been updated with forms to support compliance for licensed centers.

#### **Updated: Orientation Training Verification**

This form now includes the requirement for documentation of the notification that parent's written consent to release is not applicable to staff members' personal communication devices or accounts and only provides for the release of information, recordings, or photographs by the center.

#### **Updated: Daily Attendance Log for Student Trainees and Student Mentors**

This form now includes the requirement to capture the attendance of Student Mentors at the early learning site.

#### **New: Department's Form Noting Required Child-to-Staff Ratios**

This form has been added. Please remember it must be visibly posted in each room included in the center's licensed space.

Please contact your [Licensing Consultant](#) with questions.

#### **NEW: Tornado Drills**

[Bulletin 137](#) requires tornado drills be conducted at least once per month in the following months: March, April, May, and June. These drills must be conducted at various times of the day, include all children, and be documented.

A [sample form](#) to document tornado drills can be found on the [Child Care Facility Licensing](#) webpage under Licensed Center Forms.

Please contact your [Licensing Consultant](#) with questions.

### **Reminder: Daily Attendance Records**

[Bulletin 137](#) requires daily attendance records be maintained for the children, staff, owners, independent contractors, student trainees, student mentors, and visitors.

These records must:

- accurately reflect who is on the center's premises at any given time
- be maintained on site for a period of two years and be available for inspection, whether as hard copies or electronic form

Maintaining accurate, up-to-date attendance records is essential for ensuring safety, accountability, and compliance.

Please contact your [Licensing Consultant](#) with questions.

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## **UPDATES FOR LICENSED CENTERS, FAMILY CHILD CARE, AND IN-HOME PROVIDERS**

### **NEW: Maintaining the Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) Roster**

Accurate management of the Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) roster constitutes a mandatory requirement under [Bulletin 137](#) §1807 B for all licensed child care centers. Timely and precise roster maintenance ensures regulatory compliance and is crucial for sustaining a safe environment for both children and personnel. The following guidelines provide essential instruction for effectively managing your center's CCCBC roster.

- **Procedure for Removing Former Employees:**  
Upon an employee's separation from the center, prompt removal from the roster is required.
  - Navigate to the "Eligible for Child Care Purposes" [queue](#) within the provider dashboard.
  - Locate the former employee's determination letter and select the "delete" icon.
- **Procedure for Adding New Staff with an Existing CCCBC Determination:**  
If a new hire possesses a valid, pre-existing CCCBC determination, the following steps must be executed:
  - Log into the provider [dashboard](#) and select the "New Application" tab.
  - On the New Applicant page, search for the individual by entering their Social Security Number (SSN). If the applicant's SSN is not recorded in the system, select "Applicant has no SSN issued" and utilize their driver's license number as the identifier.
  - Upload a validly-signed [consent](#) form to finalize the process.
- **Procedure for Reapplying After a Break in Employment:**  
If an applicant has had a lapse in association with any early learning center exceeding 180 consecutive days, a new CCCBC application is mandatory.
  - Initiate a new application by selecting "Applicant has no SSN issued" and inputting their driver's license number.
  - Should an error message be received indicating the "e-mail address already in use," a new, distinct e-mail address must be provided for the applicant.
- **Protocols for "Corrections Requested" or "Provisional" Status:**  
For individuals whose CCCBC status is currently designated as "Corrections Requested" or "Provisional," please contact [LDECCBCprocessing@la.gov](mailto:LDECCBCprocessing@la.gov) for comprehensive instructions prior to any further action.

For additional information or assistance, contact [ldeccbcprocessing@la.gov](mailto:ldeccbcprocessing@la.gov).

### **REMINDER: Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) Transferability and Validity**

In accordance with [45 CFR Part 98](#), criminal background checks for staff members in Louisiana child care programs are both transferable and valid for a period of five years. Eligibility is established upon successful completion of the

required background screening and is maintained as long as employment with a licensed child care provider in Louisiana continues without a break in service exceeding 180 consecutive days.

When a staff member moves between licensed child care providers within Louisiana and the transition occurs within 180 days of leaving the previous position, a new background check is not required within the five-year period, except when an owner CCCBC position is being assumed (i.e., when transitioning from a CCCBC staff position to an owner role). Any employment interruption from a licensed early learning center or Family Child Care provider site exceeding 180 consecutive days requires completion of a new Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC) and the submission of new fingerprints.

For additional information or assistance, contact [ldeccbcprocessing@la.gov](mailto:ldeccbcprocessing@la.gov).

### **NEW: School Readiness Tax Credits (SRTC)**

The Provider School Readiness Tax Credit (SRTC) is aligned with Performance Profile ratings issued through the unified quality rating system that is established by the Board of Elementary and Secondary Education in *Bulletin 140*.

- The amount of the tax credit is based on the quality star rating of the site and the number of eligible children served.
- The number of eligible children served includes children attending the site through the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) or who are in foster care under the custody of DCFS.

Provider School Readiness Tax Credit (SRTC) letters for the 2025 tax year were mailed by the LDOE in early March 2026. These letters include the “Certificate of Star Rating” and “Average Number of Children.”

The average monthly number of eligible children, aged birth to five, included within the Provider SRTC amount, is calculated as outlined in [R.S. 47:6105](#) and is based on attendance, not enrollment. This calculation is detailed below:

- A child is considered full-time when the CCAP or foster care program pays for at least 12 days of service per child during the month. Two part-time participants may be combined to equal one full-time participant for purposes of this calculation.
- A child is considered to be attending part-time when CCAP or the foster care program pays for at least 40 hours of service per child during the month or CCAP or the foster care program pays for at least 5 days but no more than 11 days of service per child during the month.

In the Provider SRTC letter, the average number of children for each month of the calendar year was calculated based on payments made for children in that month, including any months with no payments, and the months were averaged over the 12 month period total.

- Months in which a site did not care for any qualifying children were included in the average, with zero children for that month(s).
- CCAP B-3 children were included in the counts for July - December 2025. For questions about B-3 children included in the average, contact [LDOEB3@la.gov](mailto:LDOEB3@la.gov).

Please contact [demita.walker@la.gov](mailto:demita.walker@la.gov) with questions regarding School Readiness Tax Credits.

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## **CONTACT US**



- For questions regarding licensing or child health and safety, please contact [LDElicensing@la.gov](mailto:LDElicensing@la.gov).
- For questions regarding the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP), please contact the [LDECCAP@la.gov](mailto:LDECCAP@la.gov).
- For all questions regarding Child Care Criminal Background Check processing, please contact [LDEccbcprocessing@la.gov](mailto:LDEccbcprocessing@la.gov).
- For all other questions regarding early childhood, please contact [earlychildhood@la.gov](mailto:earlychildhood@la.gov).
- Subscribe to our monthly newsletter by completing our [Newsletter Signup](#) form.