Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) COVID-19 Federal Funding Third Tranche of New Initiatives - Modification Discussion Paper

Background

The Texas Workforce Commission has received increased Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funding through several COVID-19 related pieces of federal legislation:

CARES – TWC previously received \$371,663,374 of <u>Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security</u> (CARES) Act funding. The majority of these funds were budgeted to support a temporary enhanced reimbursement rate for subsidy child care providers, and to fund a temporary essential worker child care program.

CRRSA – TWC is receiving \$1,135,748,591 in Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds from the <u>Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021</u> (CRRSA). On February 23, 2021, the Commission approved the <u>Planned Use of CRRSA Funds Report outlining possible uses for these funds.</u>

ARPA – TWC will also receive \$4,424,303,632 CCDBG funding through the <u>American Rescue Plan Act</u> (ARPA) as follows:

CCDF Discretionary Funds \$1,703,369,713 CCDF Stabilization Grant Funds \$2,724,368,837

TWC's three-member Commission (Commission) will consider additional investments of these funds. See Attachment 1 for an overview of funding.

Issue: 2022 Child Care Relief Funds, Ownership Changes

The Commission took several actions to set the parameters and funding available for the 2022 Child Care Relief Fund:

- In October 2020, the Commission <u>approved</u> \$2.45 billion to support 2022 Child Care Relief Funding (CCRF), and set the eligibility criteria, which included a requirement to be licensed by Child Care Regulation (CCR) no later than February 28, 2022.
- In January 2021 the Commission <u>amended</u> the eligibility criteria to require that providers commit to remaining open through May 2023.
- In February 2021, the Commission <u>approved</u> an increase, bringing the total amount available to \$3.45 billion.

Several providers who changed ownership have requested that TWC consider amending the 2022 CCRF eligibility parameters. The Commission's 2022 CCRF eligibility parameters required child care providers to have been permitted by CCR by February 28, 2022. New owners are required to obtain a new permit from CCR to reflect the ownership change, even if all other aspects of the program (location, teachers, director, licensed capacity) remain the same. These new owners had submitted a request to CCR, but a new permit had not been issued by the TWC deadline of February 28, 2022. Although CCR had not issued a new permit, CCR allowed these providers to continue serving Texas families under the prior owner's permit. These providers are not eligible, despite remaining open and operating during this time.

- 1 As the 2022 CCRF was intended to help stabilize existing child care providers, the Commission should
- 2 consider modifying the eligibility criteria to allow providers who were undergoing ownership changes,
- and who meet the eligibility requirements below, to apply for the 2022 CCRF.
- 4 To be eligible for the 2022 CCRF for ownership changes, providers must:
- have been open and operating under the previous owner's CCR permit as of February 28, 2022;
- have received a permit from CCR between March 1, 2022 and May 31, 2022, due to an ownership change at the same location;
- be open to provide child care services as of May 31, 2022;
- be in good standing with CCR; and,
 - be committed to remain open at least through May 2023.
- 11 TWC will notify potentially eligible child care providers of the modification to the eligibility criteria.
- 12 Providers with ownership changes must submit an application no later than Sunday, July 31, 2022.
- 13 **Decision Point**

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- 14 Staff recommends that the Commission allow child care providers who were undergoing a change in
- ownership, as described above, to apply for 2022 Child Care Relief Funding.

1 Attachment 1

Project	Date Approved	Funding Level		
Essential Worker Child Care	March 24, 2020	\$52,400,000		
Enhanced Reimbursement Rate	May 19, 2020			
	July 28, 2020	\$207,200,000		
	August 20, 2020	\$207,200,000		
	January 12, 2021			
FY20 Low-Income Child Care	August 20, 2020	\$17,500,000		
FY21 Low-Income Child Care	August 20, 2020	\$33,300,000		
First Tranche				
2021 Child Care Relief Funds (up to \$775 million)	May 4, 2021	\$583,000,000		
TA/Business Coaches	May 4, 2021	\$15,000,000		
Second Tranche				
Service Industry Recovery Child Care (up to \$500 million)	June 29, 2021	\$116,800,000		
Texas Rising Star Support	June 29, 2021	\$30,000,000		
Texas Rising Star Contracted Slots Pilot	June 29, 2021	\$1,200,000		
Training: Early Childhood Apprenticeship Program	June 29, 2021	\$3,450,000		
Development		, ,		
TWC Program Administration	June 29, 2021	\$5,678,743		
Third Tranche , Third Tranche Modification , Ninth Tranche				
Modification (this Discussion Paper)				
2022 Child Care Relief Funds (increased in the 5 th Tranche)	October 19, 2021	\$2,451,931,953		
TRS Program Administration	October 19, 2021	\$42,500,000		
CCRF Program Monitoring	January 11, 2022	\$20,000,000		
Fourth Tranche				
FY22-24 Low Income Child Care	November 2, 2021	\$293,200,000		
Matching Grants to Improve Quality	November 2, 2021	\$25,000,000		
TWC PreK Partnership Expansion	November 2, 2021	\$26,000,000		
Training: Professional Development Scholarship Expansion	November 2, 2021	\$7,000,000		
Shared Services Alliances	November 2, 2021	\$25,000,000		
Studies/Evaluations	November 2, 2021	\$1,602,500		
FY22 CCS Provider Enrollment/Growth Support (up to \$287	November 2, 2021	\$189,000,000		
million)		Ψ102,000,000		
Fifth Tranche		T		
Outreach/Education Campaigns	February 1, 2022	\$10,000,000		
Training: Texas A&M Agri-Life	February 1, 2022	\$8,000,000		
Training: HHSC/ECI	February 1, 2022	\$4,545,000		
Training: Skills for Small Business/Child Care	February 1, 2022	\$1,000,000		
2022 CCRF Increase (bringing total to \$3.45 billion)	February 1, 2022	\$1,000,000,000		
Child Care Industry Expansion	February 1, 2022	\$75,000,000		
Sixth Tranche				
Child Care Regulation IT Enhancements	March 8, 2022	\$10,700,000		
Child Care Business Coaching, extension	March 8, 2022	\$15,000,000		
Cost of Quality Calculator Online Tool	March 8, 2022	\$500,000		

Seventh Tranche		
FY22-24 Low Income Child Care	March 22, 2022	\$314,750,000
Eighth Tranche		
TEA Prek Partnerships	April 18, 2022	\$2,400,000

Total Approved	\$5,588,658,196
Remaining Balance	\$346,492,319