

# Early Childhood Provider Call

## Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2022 – 1:30pm

### Caitlin Gleason, Associate Secretary, Early Childhood Support (ECS)

Caitlin welcomed everyone and thanked them for joining today's call. This call was recorded for transcription purposes. Please enter any questions into the chat.

#### **Early Childhood Support new staff update**

Office of Child Care Licensing

- Licensing Specialist position will be reposted in September. To apply, please visit [Join Delaware Schools](#).

Office of Early Learning

- Interviews are being completed and offers are being made with anticipation of filling vacancies in the next few weeks.

**Governor's Career Expo** We are hoping to showcase the early childhood care and education industry among the other invited industries (medical, construction) in hopes more students decide to go into this field when graduating. (Last year we had over 500 job seekers at this location).

**Date:** September 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

**Location:** Blue Hen Corporate Center (Bayhealth location)

**Set up:** You may set up the day before or starting at 7:30am day of the event

**Time:** 8:30am to 6:00pm

**This event will be in two parts. You will be able to attend one or both parts.**

**8:30am to 2:00pm – Student Portion:** During the student event, we ask for each company to have an interactive hands-on activity students can interact with. In the past, events that have been interactive really encouraged students to go into these careers.

**2:00pm to 3:00pm – Break/Transition:** There will be a break from 2pm to 3pm for vendors to take a break and we will transition to the 3pm to 6pm Community Career Fair.

**3:00pm to 6:00pm – Community Career Fair:** you can just have a regular job fair set up. It does not have to be interactive unless you choose to do this.

Please send completed [Employer Interest Response Form](#) to [Jennifer.Jurczak@Delaware.Gov](mailto:Jennifer.Jurczak@Delaware.Gov), no later than **September 2, 2022** for consideration

**The Child Care Bonus Program** The application period closed on July 29, 2022. However, we are still verifying materials for about 900 applicants. There was a total of 5,042 who applied. About 2,856 have been paid, 1,113 are submitted for payment, and about 1,000 are either ineligible or under review. For questions regarding the Child Care Bonus Program, please reach out to the [Help Desk](#) either via phone 302-549-4212 or by email [DelawareECE@welsfoundation.org](mailto:DelawareECE@welsfoundation.org). They are available Monday – Friday, 8:00am to 7:00pm.

**DEEDS Certificates** As people are logging back in to check their credentials and print certificates, we were made away of an issue for logging in. We have a help request desk specifically for all educator credentialing at - <https://education.delaware.gov/educators/child-care-licensing-and-careers/educator-credentialing/contact-us/> The user can select k-12, early learning or log in issues as the options and it will direct the request to the right team.

#### **Upcoming Office of Child Care Licensing (OCCL) Events**

- Tuesday, August 23, 1:00pm: [Center Regs update training](#)
- Thursday, August 25, 6:00pm: [FCC/LFCC Regs update training](#)
- Monday, August 29, 6:30pm: [Provider Advisory Board Meeting](#)

**Legislative and Budget Priorities** DDOE is thinking about legislative and budget priorities for next fiscal year. DDOE will have a draft of priorities and timeline of activities at the September 20<sup>th</sup> [Delaware Early Childhood Council \(DECC\) meeting](#). The QRIS Revision work will resume in September as well, and an info session timeline will be announced at the September 20<sup>th</sup> DECC meeting.

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### **Belvie Herbert POC Administrator, Delaware Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS)**

The Purchase of Care (POC) Program continues to waive the family co-pays. Family co-pays will be waived through at least September 2022.

Child care providers can bill for up to fifteen (15) absent days in the month for any child that attends at least one (1) day during the month. Absent days can be the result of the following:

- Need for the child to be out;
- The providers need to close the classroom(s);
- Their facility closes to meet quarantine and isolation requirements.

The 15 absent days will be in effect through July at this time.

**Provider Handbook:** We received feedback from providers and members of this committee for a POC provider handbook. The POC team is working on those documents and expects to get a draft out to providers by the end of August for comment prior to final distribution of the document.

**POC Listserv:** If you are not a part of this email list, please call 302-255-9670 and leave your email address to be included.

Any questions for POC, please send to the Resource mailbox [pocresource@delaware.gov](mailto:pocresource@delaware.gov).

**Blood Lead Level Testing:** The regulations are not finalized. Currently going through the comments from the draft regulations. The regulations should be finalized on or after October 2022.

### **Highmark – Importance of Lead Screening**

Presentation can be found [HERE](#)

### **Westside Family Healthcare – Health Insurance Marketplace**

[Small Business Toolkit](#) which includes:

- Cover page to explain how to use the toolkit and contents
- Letter of Introduction for Employees
- How to Schedule an Appointment with a Certified Assister Flyer
- Partner Email Content
- Westside Family Healthcare Enrollment Services Flyer
- Westside Family Healthcare Patient Services Flyer

[Special Enrollment Period Flyer](#)

[Patient Services Flyer](#)

[Infographic Special Enrollment](#)

**The meeting recording can be found [HERE](#)**

### **UPCOMING PROVIDER CALLS**

*Please add these dates to your calendar*

October 20, 2022 at 1:30pm

December 15, 2022 at 1:30pm

As the dates get closer, a reminder email will go out along with the WebEx link.