



Minnesota Child Care Provider
Information Network
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June 10, 2020

RE: Special Session and Family Child Care

We are writing on behalf of the state 501(c)3 association Minnesota Child Care Provider Information Network (MCCPIN) to ask for action and support during the special session regarding Family Child Care. This association has a board fully comprised of Family Child Care Providers and is the affiliate of the national association for family child care, NAFCC.

We are asking you to support the following actions:

- **Sustainability funding for Child Care:** The Peacetime Emergency Grant was established to support emergency workers at a time when that was the critical focus. We are asking for grants and/or forgivable micro loans (similar to the Payroll Protection Program) specifically target to Family Child Care which has been hard hit and few financial resources available.
- **Early Learner Scholarships 3&4 Star shift to 2024:** This is a critical action during this special session. Without this action, beginning July 1, Early Learner Scholarships can only be utilized at 3 & 4 Star rated programs. Parents and providers need more access to financial support, not less. By extending the shift to 2024, there is time to support families. This extension also gives time for both a modification to the Parent Aware Program to be a better fit for Family Child Care and engagement of Family Child Care to meet the 3 & 4 Star Ratings.
- **Training Changes:** We support the changes to trainings which align the state with federal requirements. Our efforts to support these trainings is to meet federal guidelines so funding can be released for CCAP.
- **CCAP Rate Increase:** We support this action. By raising rates, families can obtain quality care at an affordable cost. Providers are supported by not having to ask families to contribute more out of pocket or lose the difference between the CCAP rate and the provider rate.

Thank you for your time and efforts to improve the lives of the youngest in our society and maintain Family Child Care as a viable option for families to care for their children.

The mission of the Minnesota Child Care Provider Information Network (MCCPIN) is to support, promote and strengthen the profession of licensed family child care, thereby enriching the lives of providers, children, families and communities.