



OKLAHOMA
Human Services

Vol.19

CHILD CARE SERVICES

February 2023

THE STARS PROGRAM



We want to ensure all programs are successful. Therefore, the Star monitoring reviews throughout 2023 will be discussion visits only! Criteria violations will not be documented. This will allow you time to learn and properly implement the Stars criteria. Full monitoring is expected to resume in January 2024.

However, the last 24 months of licensing monitoring will continue to be reviewed and numerous, repeated or serious non-compliances with minimum licensing requirements will be documented and may result in stars reduction.

You can submit a request for a higher Star level at any time!

Here is the link to apply and submit your request:
<https://bit.ly/OKDHSChildCareServicesQRISApplicationPortal>

If a login has already been created for you in CCMASS you do not need to complete Step 1 again. If you have forgotten your password, click on Forgot Password to create a new one.

ADDITIONAL QRIS RESOURCES:

FCCH: <https://www.cecpcd.org/en/resources/qris-resources-family-child-care-home/>
CCP: <https://www.cecpcd.org/en/resources/qris-resources-child-care-center/>

GRANT UPDATES

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The Quality & Stabilization Grant

WHAT: Cycles 7 - 9 Quality & Stabilization Grant
WHEN: Cycle 8 opens April 1st and closes April 30
WHY: Quality & Stabilization Support
WHO: **ALL PROVIDERS!**

New Star Level % Increase

One Star 0%
Two Star 100%
Three Star 125%
Four Star 150%
Five Star 175%

Additional Information

Cycles 7-9 offers a doubled payment amount and an **additional percentage increase** based on the program's new star rating on January 1, 2023.

Examples:

- A Five Star Home with a capacity of 7 will receive the doubled base amount of \$6,000 + 175% increase = \$16,500.
- A Five Star Center with a capacity of 50 will receive the doubled base amount of \$22,000 + 175% increase = \$60,500.

As our finance department works to process the payments, be sure to check your emails (and spam folder) for communication from the Oklahoma Human Services Child Care Services Team. You may also check the status of your application here:

<http://okdhs.org/childcaregrants>

**Remember: Staff only
qualify for one \$1,000
bonus in total!**

The Workforce Support Grant

WHAT: Cycle 3 Bonus Payment for Child Care Staff
WHEN: Cycle 4 opens April 1, 2023 (**Last Cycle**)
WHY: Child Care Staff Retention & Recruitment Support
WHO: Child care employees working in a permitted or licensed program

Home Address in the Registry Must be Current!

Workforce debit cards are mailed to the HOME ADDRESS the participant has listed in their Oklahoma Registry individual account. Participants can update their HOME ADDRESS by logging into their Registry account and updating their Personal Information. If there is a statement in their account that says, READ ONLY, they should complete <https://bit.ly/CECPDParticipantUpdateForm> and email to cecpd@ou.edu.

Participants who are currently active on the Wage Supplement and/or Stipend program AND need to update their HOME ADDRESS must complete <https://bit.ly/IndividualSupplierRegistrationForm> and email stipendandwage@ou.edu

**Got questions? Call our dedicated
Grant Support Child Care Services Call Center
Monday-Friday, 9:00 am- 4:00 pm
Phone #(405) 521-6177
ChildCareGrantsHelp@okdhs.org**



National Read Across America Day

March 2, 2023

Every year, the month of March is National Reading Month. The start of this is initiated with 'Read Across America Day' on March 2, which is also the birthday of one of the most beloved children's book authors of all time — Dr. Seuss. Reading stories and antics about his wonderful characters is a rite of passage, and the perfect way to get children interested in reading books.

Read Across America Day is more so a reading program, which calls upon everyone to read and engage with children to make reading a more fun and interactive experience. From the time when the building blocks of our character are laid, to adulthood when we seek to escape from the humdrum of daily life in the pages of a book, reading plays an integral role in shaping us into who we are. With the advent of smartphones and tablets, it is more essential than ever to motivate children to read.

Website: National Today

URL: <https://nationaltoday.com/national-read-across-america-day/>

Exciting Opportunity!!

In support of Read Across America, Child Care Services Director Brittany Lee will be visiting 10 programs in the month of March to read the book she authored named "Kids of Oklahoma, Find your TRUE NORTH!" to the children of your program!!

Sound like something you would LOVE?! Click on her book below to complete the form for the chance for Director Lee to read to your children!!



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITY



UPDATED: In January 2023 the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care scholarship began providing 50 scholarships for assistant directors or directors of licensed child care facilities to apply for the National Administrators Credential (NAC) administered by NECPA.

The scholarship will cover 100% of the 40 clock hour online course for the NAC credential (\$620) and upon attainment a \$200 stipend to the child care staff member.

Please contact the Scholars for Excellence in Child Care program for an application and more information at: scholars_for_excellence@osrhe.edu



FCCH Licensing Requirements

NOW AVAILABLE IN SPANISH!

<https://bit.ly/SpanishLicensingRequirementsFCCH>



OBI – Federal Child Care Qualified Entity Audit

The Office of Background Investigations (OBI) continues to conduct the bi-annual Qualified Entity (QE) audit survey for all General Administrative Offices (GAO), Temporary Hiring Authorities (THA), and child care programs.

The QE audit survey is an educational process to ensure understanding of the federal laws for the storage, handling, and dissemination of fingerprint-based criminal history results. Completion of the QE audit survey is required to maintain a valid QE.

The QE audit survey will soon end for Family Child Care Home programs. Audits surveys are sent by email to the Authorized Recipient; or US Mail, if requested. If you received a survey but have not yet completed it, please locate the survey form, fill it out, and return it to OBI, ASAP. If OBI does not received your completed survey, your QE status will be terminated.

Termination of your QE status means that your program will no longer be able to receive background check results for your employees, which could affect your compliance with licensing requirements.

The next cycle of the audit surveys will involve GAOs and THAs, followed by Residential and Child Placing Agency programs. Child Care Center based programs will be the final group to participate in the audit survey process, later this year.

All programs should anticipate the receipt of the audit survey and plan to complete it.

Remember, an updated Qualified Entity Application and Agreement (19LC112E) form is required when there is a change in an Owner/Responsible Entity, the Authorized Recipient, adding or removing programs for GAOS; and any contact information: address, phone number, email addresses.

**The Office of Background Investigations can be reached:
405-962-1735 or OBICC@okdhs.org**

New Grant Payment Information

The OKDHS Finance Department is working to move all providers to a new payment system. Providers who have received grant fund payments recently received the below email. The form referenced can be found in the email.

It is a valid and trusted email.

OKDHS is in the process of moving payment systems. In order to receive your next grant disbursement, please provide your updated information on the attached form as soon as possible. You will need to fill out one form for each child care facility that you operate.

Payment Information Form

In order to complete the form, you will need to have access to the following:

- Taxpayer Identification Number
- W9*
- Certificate of Good Standing (does not apply to individuals or sole proprietorships)
- Banking verification (must be one of the following)
 - Bank Signed OMES EFT Direct Deposit Enrollment Form
 - Bank Issued ACH Direct Deposit Verification Letter
 - Bank Issued ACH Direct Deposit Authorization Form (Individuals, Sole Proprietors, and Single Member LLCs Only. This can be found on your bank's website.)

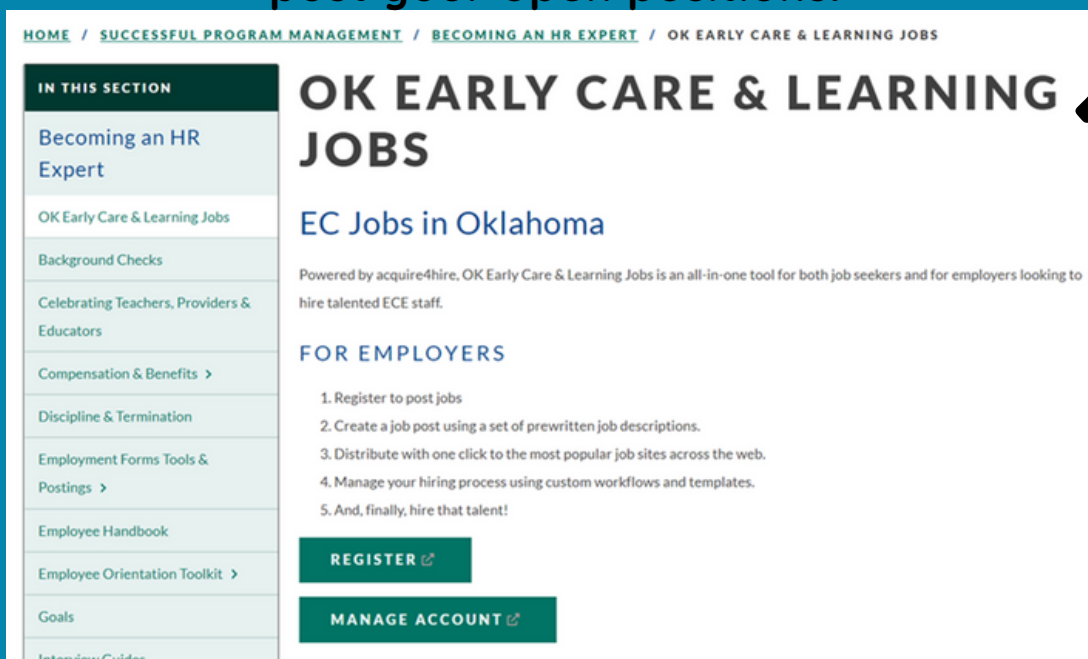
FILL YOUR OPEN POSITIONS THROUGH SHARED SERVICES!

We're hiring!

If you have not done so already, please register at <https://bit.ly/OKSharedServices> so you can start posting your open positions! Child care services will promote and advertise the child care profession through public service announcements and social media campaigns.

If you have already registered for Shared Services, you can register for the OK Early Care & Learning Jobs platform and start posting your open positions today! All job openings will automatically be posted to eight major job boards.

Click the image below to watch a video tutorial on how to post your open positions.



HOME / SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM MANAGEMENT / BECOMING AN HR EXPERT / OK EARLY CARE & LEARNING JOBS


OK EARLY CARE & LEARNING JOBS


EC Jobs in Oklahoma

Powered by acquire4hire, OK Early Care & Learning Jobs is an all-in-one tool for both job seekers and for employers looking to hire talented ECE staff.

FOR EMPLOYERS

1. Register to post jobs
2. Create a job post using a set of prewritten job descriptions.
3. Distribute with one click to the most popular job sites across the web.
4. Manage your hiring process using custom workflows and templates.
5. And, finally, hire that talent!

REGISTER 

MANAGE ACCOUNT 

IN THIS SECTION

- Becoming an HR Expert
- OK Early Care & Learning Jobs
- Background Checks
- Celebrating Teachers, Providers & Educators
- Compensation & Benefits >
- Discipline & Termination
- Employment Forms Tools & Postings >
- Employee Handbook
- Employee Orientation Toolkit >
- Goals
- Interview Guides

Steps for Child Care Providers Interested in a Subsidy Contract



OKLAHOMA
Human Services

Step #1

Get a License

Before a contract request can be submitted for evaluation, providers must have an approved license or permit from Oklahoma Human Services.

Step #2

Begin the Stars Program

Providers must be participating in the Stars program. The Stars level that must be obtained before you may submit a request for a contract is shown below:

Child Care Centers:

- Must be a 2 Star program or higher.

Child Care Homes:

- If licensed, must be a 1 Star program or higher; or
- If permitted, must be a 2 Star program or higher.

Step #3

Submit Request

If you are interested in submitting a contract request, email CCProviderContracts@okdhs.org and include your license K8#.

For more information on the Child Care Subsidy program and Subsidy contracts, please visit <https://childcarehandbook.oucpm.org/>.