

Delaware Child Care Providers:

We wanted to share a quick update to the best of deaeyc’s knowledge about the state budget and how it impacts future planning for both family child care and center based care who take the Purchase of Care subsidy.

The Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) included raising POC rates to 100% of the 75th Percentile of the 2021 Market rate survey. If the GRB is included in the budget passed by the legislature, the following information will be applicable starting July 1, 2023.

- Purchase of Care rates increase to 100% of the 75th percentile of the 2021 Market Rate. The expected rates are in the included chart. Upon the budget passing the new subsidy rates would start July 1, 2023, with the increase being seen in your July 2023 Purchase of Care payment that you receive in August 2023.
- We expect that providers will have 60 days (as of September 1, 2023) to update their private pay rates to reflect the rate increase. To be funded the full amount of the Purchase of Care subsidy, providers must charge a private pay rate equal to or greater than the POC rate. However, providers may implement sliding scale fee models or financial aid for some families.

SFY 2024 GRB Recommended POC Rates				
Location/Age ranges	Family home		Center	
NCC	Daily	Weekly	Daily	Weekly
Infant (0)	\$41.25	\$206.25	\$64.88	\$324.40
Toddler (1)	\$38.00	\$190.00	\$56.40	\$282.00
Pre-school (2 to 5)	\$36.00	\$180.00	\$49.00	\$245.00
School Age (6 & >)	\$23.40	\$117.00	\$30.11	\$150.55
Infant Special Need	\$43.31	\$216.56	\$68.12	\$340.62
Toddler Special Need	\$43.25	\$216.25	\$59.22	\$296.10
Preschool Special Need	\$43.25	\$216.25	\$55.69	\$278.45
School age Special Need	\$24.57	\$122.85	\$31.62	\$158.08
Kent and Sussex	Daily	Weekly	Daily	Weekly
Infant (0)	\$35.00	\$175.00	\$43.50	\$217.50
Toddler (1)	\$31.50	\$157.50	\$40.00	\$200.00
Pre-school (2 to 5)	\$30.00	\$150.00	\$35.00	\$175.00
School Age (6 & >)	\$19.50	\$97.50	\$24.25	\$121.25
Infant Special Need	\$36.75	\$183.75	\$45.68	\$228.38
Toddler Special Need	\$33.08	\$165.38	\$42.00	\$210.00
Preschool Special Need	\$31.50	\$157.50	\$40.00	\$200.00
School age Special Need	\$20.48	\$102.38	\$25.46	\$127.31

Due to future budget projections, the following initiatives are not moving forward this year at this time:

- Geographic Purchase of Care subsidy rate parity: Kent and Sussex Counties will continue to have different rates than New Castle County.
- Absent days reverted back to 5 paid absent days in June.
- Parent co-pays will be paid by the state through August 31, 2023. Providers will be notified by DHSS of how and when this process will take place within the first two weeks of July. Notifications will be received at least 45 days prior to policy implementation.

As soon as the state has final budget information, DHSS will schedule a call and send written communication to all POC providers, in early July.

You can also bring questions to the upcoming Provider Calls scheduled on:

CALL FOR CHILD CARE CENTERS

Wednesday, June 21, 2023 | 1:30pm – 2:30pm
 WebEx Meeting Link: [HERE](#)
 Join by Phone: 1-415-655-0001
 Meeting Number (access code): 2623 710 6356
 Password: GNwuniMP278

CALL FOR FAMILY CHILD CARE

Thursday, June 22, 2023 | 1:30pm – 2:30pm
 WebEx Meeting Link: [HERE](#)
 Join by Phone: 1-415-655-0001
 Meeting Number (access code): 2624 150 6119
 Password: XrC5yuShj54