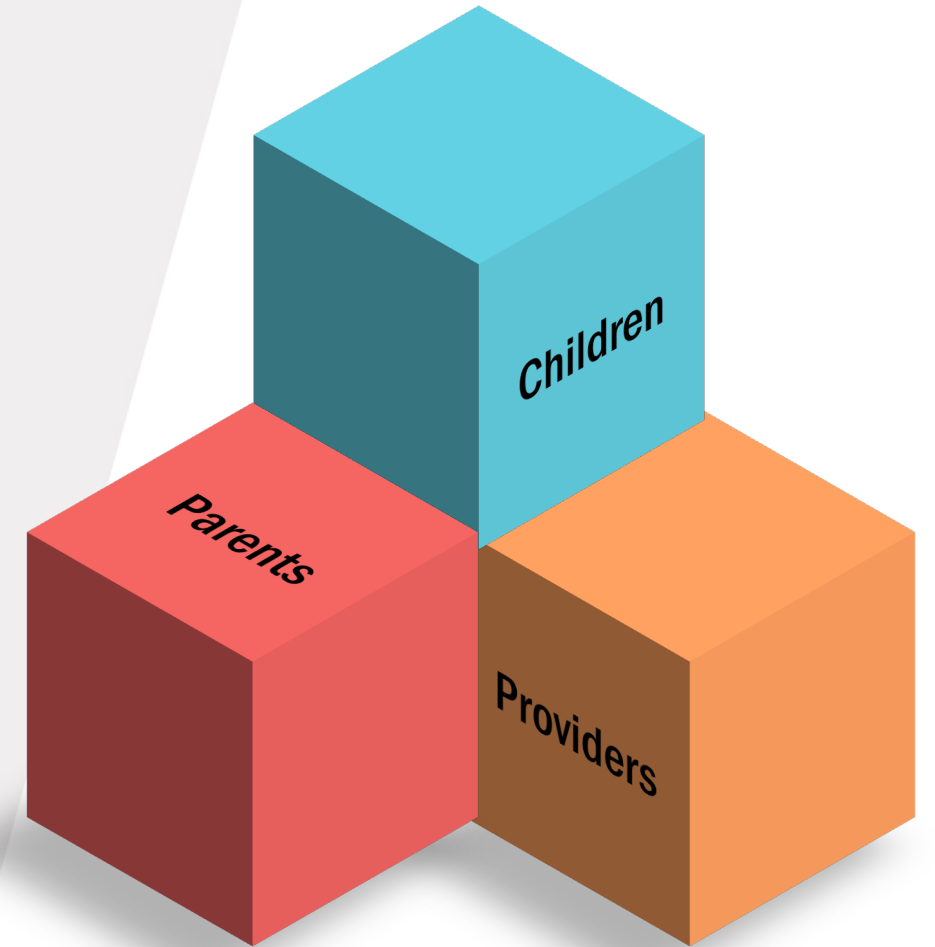




WORKFORCE
SOLUTIONS Capital Area

Connecting People to Jobs

CHILD CARE SERVICES



A proud partner of the **americanjobcenter**® network

Workforce Solutions Capital Area is an Equal Opportunity Employer/Program. Auxiliary aids and services are available, upon request, to persons with disabilities. Relay Texas: 1.800.735.2989 (TDD) / 711 (Voice)

www.wfscapitalarea.com

Agenda

1. Programmatic Information
2. Direct Services
3. Eligibility Requirements
4. Enrollment & Recertification Overview
5. How To Apply
6. Local Match
7. Continuity of Care
8. Special Projects
9. Quality Initiatives
10. Community Engagement

Programmatic Info

Child Care and Development Block Grant Funding (CCDBG)

- The Child Care Services (CCS) program is directed by federal and state rules, state policies and guidance, and local policies.
- Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) is the Lead Agency in Texas. TWC contracts with 28 Local Workforce Development Boards throughout the state.
- As the Texas Workforce Development Board for Capital Area ,we are responsible for the administration of the subsidized child care program in Travis County. Funding is invested in two ways to serve the families in our community. Through direct child care services to promote economic self sufficiency for low-income families and quality investments that support healthy development and school readiness needs of children.



Direct Child Care Services

Target: 2,795 children served per day

PRIORITY GROUP 1 MANDATORY POP.

Guaranteed child care services

- Choices
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Applicant
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Employment and Training (SNAP E&T)
- Former Choices

PRIORITY GROUP 2 DISCRETIONARY POP.

Services dependent upon availability of funds

- Children needing protective care
- Children of a qualified veteran or qualified spouse
- Children of a foster youth
- Children experiencing homelessness
- Children of parents on military deployment
- Children of teen parents
- Children with disabilities

Direct Child Care Services

Target: 2,795 children served per day

PRIORITY GROUP 3 BOARD-APPROVED POPULATION

Services dependent upon availability of funds

- Pre-K Partnerships
- Former CPS
- Siblings of children currently receiving care
- Children of customers who are participating in TWC workforce funded programs (WIOA), the WERC Program or other Special Projects defined by the Board where child care is needed for customers to participate while working/training in a program designed to help the customer achieve self-sufficiency.
- Children of young adults between the ages of 16-24 at the time of enrollment. Young adults will be participating in a program operated by an Austin Opportunity Youth Collaborative active partner, and will be receiving case management services that stabilize and/or support young adults in their quest to achieve education and employment outcomes.
- City of Austin/Travis County referred families from high quality centers
- Income Eligible

Total Number of Children in Care (3107)



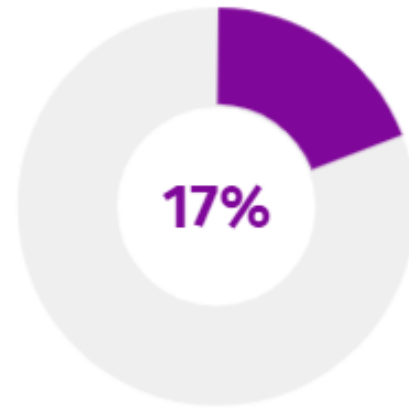
4 Star Rated Center

1705 Children are being served in 4 Star Rated Centers



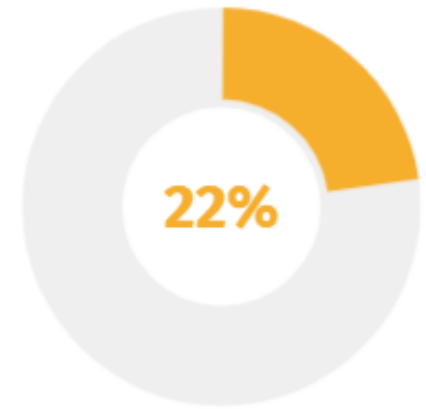
3 Star Rated Center

202 Children are being served by 3 Star Rated Centers



2 Star Rated Center

520 Children being served by 2 Star Rated Centers



Non-TRS Rated

680 Children are being served in Non-TRS Rated Centers

Eligibility for Child Care Services

- The child(ren) must:
 - Reside in Travis County
 - Reside with the parent/s
 - Be a US citizen or legal immigrant
- Parents in a single parent household must be working or in education/training activity for a minimum of 25 hours per week
- Parents in a two-parent household must maintain a minimum of 50 combined hours per week
- Family household gross income cannot exceed 85% of the state median income size for their family size
- Parents pay a share of the cost using a sliding fee scale based upon income, family size, and number of children needing care

Enrollment & Recertification

Parent/Caregiver Identify and Residence Documents*

- Valid driver's license/state ID/passport **and**
- Current utility bill/lease/mortgage statement with address (current – dated within past 30 days)

Child/ren Citizenship and Age Verification*

- Birth certificate, passport, birth record
- Child/ren Immigrant/"Qualified Alien" Verification

Household Income Verification – for all household members (earned and unearned)

- If employed, paycheck stubs for the last 3 months
- If self-employed, business income statement AND other verification (such as quarterly federal tax returns, profit and loss statement, bank statements or business ledgers/records/receipts, etc.) for the last 3 months
- If cash-paid, completed wage verification form (pg. 14 of the application) or letter from employer with contact information.
 - ***This information must be verifiable in order to use as proof of income and participation for child care services.***
- Verification of all other income, such as pension, annuities, life insurance, rental income, lottery payments, etc.
- If attending school or training, current transcripts, school schedule, and/or training verification – documentation submitted must include the student's name

Complete Child Care Services Packet

- Need all 8 pages complete, signatures and initials in all applicable places

* secondary documentation for the items listed above are available in the event a customer is unable to submit the required documentation.

How to Apply for Child Care Services

- Enrollment in the childcare program is subject to the availability of funds. Because the need for childcare services is great in our community, we currently maintain a list of families waiting to be enrolled in the childcare program. When enrollment into the program is not immediately available, we ask eligible parents to complete a pre-assessment form to be added to the waitlist.
- Interested parents can:
 - Visit our website at wfscapitalarea.com to apply online
 - Email austinccs@wfscapitalarea.com for a waitlist application
 - Contact Workforce Solutions Child Care Services for assistance at [512.597.7191](tel:512.597.7191), or
 - Visit one of our office locations



Matching Funds

Much of our funding for subsidized child care is an allocation from the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF). We supplement this funding with additional investments from our local partners.

Local Match: A portion of our allocation from TWC is contingent upon our ability to raise matching funds from the community. These funds are leveraged through a certification or transfer from a public entity or a donation from a private entity.

PARTNERS

- City of Austin
- Travis County
- AISD
- Austin Community College

Continuity of Care

Through our partnership and funding from the County and Austin Public Health (City), we are able to provide a bridge to support families in quality rated centers (TRS) until they are eligible for CCDF either through an upfront job search or ensure child care continuity of service for low-income families in instances when there is a program violation.

- Austin Public Health (City) investment: **\$629,438**
- Travis County investment: **\$459,499**
- Total Funding: **\$1,038,937**

2020 PROGRAM YEAR RESULTS

- **446** children served out of the **1,579** families that lost their childcare scholarship
- **19%** of families served experienced a wage increase by either gaining new employment or increased hours, making them eligible for long term childcare funding
- **100%** of the children referred to Continuity of Care remained in quality rated centers

Local Referring Partners

- **Quality Rated Center can also become a Local Referring Partner**
 - Must complete an agreement and an orientation
 - For parents in your center or on your waitlist, a referral may be submitted to us.
 - For providers not currently signed up, please email ccslocalreferral@wfscapitalarea.com
- **Local Referring Partners are a part of Priority 3**
 - Families are prescreened for potential eligibility
 - Reside in Travis County.
 - Have a child/children under the age of 13 or 19 if a child with disabilities that needs child care.
 - Working/Training/In School at the minimum of 25 hours a week for a single-parent home and 50 hours a week for a 2-parent home.
 - Be within income guidelines – no greater than 85% of State Median Income
- Referrals are sent to ccslocalreferral@wfscapitalarea.com

COVID Response Funding

CDBG-CV ESSENTIAL WORKER CHILD CARE

Categories:

- Child care industry (teachers, caregivers, etc)
- Education (teachers, support staff, bus drivers, etc)
- First Responders
- Critical Infrastructure (Grocery, Utilities, Trucking, etc)
- Other Infrastructure (State & Local Government, Mail/Delivery Services, Banking, etc)

Income limit to participate:

- Does not exceed HUD Income Guidelines

SERVICE INDUSTRY RECOVERY CHILD CARE

Categories:

- Arts, Entertainment & Recreation
- Accommodation & Food Services
- Retail Trade

Income limit to participate:

- Does not exceed 75% of State Median Income (SMI)

Time limit for SIR funding:

- 12-months

CCDF UPFRONT JOB SEARCH

- Families not meeting participation at the time of outreach for enrollment
- 3-months (90 days)

Quality Investment Funding

The Quality Child Care Collaborative (QC3) is the cornerstone of our quality improvement investments

QC3 is an intensive mentor-driven program that provides free mentoring and training, technical assistance, referrals, and resources to help providers in our community achieve a quality ranking.

COMMUNITY INVESTORS

Texas Workforce Commission (TWC)	\$1,172,056
Austin Public Health (City)	\$454,637
Travis County	\$634,300
United Way	\$40,000
Total Funding	\$2,261,033



QC3 Goal

To increase the quality of child care in the community by assisting child care facilities to:

- Achieve Texas Rising Star (TRS) certification and/or attain national accreditation; and
- Increase the accessibility of high-quality child care services to low-income children

QC3 SUPPORTS POSITIVELY IMPACT OUR PARENTS & PROVIDERS

AUSTIN-TRAVIS COUNTY HIGHLIGHTS (FY20)

5,846

Children across Travis County in Workforce Solutions' (WFS) care

387

Child care providers contracted by WFS

157

Providers are Texas Rising Star (TRS) certified*

+50 providers achieved TRS certification through WFS during pandemic

1,284

Providers and teachers trained and mentored

Through 93 trainings hosted

297

Children enrolled in Continuity of Care program

Funded by City of Austin / Travis County to bridge any gaps in eligibility for local parents

84

Jeanette Watson Wage Supplement Recipients**

Helps early childhood professionals continue to work in a field where wages are not commensurate with other skilled positions

Child Care Providers

CONTRACTED PROVIDERS

- Licensed Child Care Centers (LCCC): **277**
- Licensed Child Care Homes (LCCH): **21**
- Registered Child Care Homes (RCCH): **18**
- Relative Care Listed Homes: **6**

QUALITY PROVIDERS

- Texas Rising Star Providers: **182**
- Texas School Ready Providers: **29**
- Nationally Accredited Providers: **54**

Community Engagement

PARENT OPPORTUNITIES

General Inquiries:

- austinccs@wfscapitalarea.com

Parenting Series — Virtual Sessions:

- Parenting: Strategies for Success
- Linking Language and Learning: Keeping the Kids Talking
- From Minor Challenges to Major Crises; Stress is part of our lives
- Supporting Parents in Understanding Temperament of Young Children
- Promoting Positive Social/Emotional Development in Your Children
- Connecting with your Children: Fun Activities that Strengthen Your Bonds – And Improve Behavior, Too!
- The art of problem solving: giving kids opportunities for independent thinking

PROVIDER OPPORTUNITIES

General Inquiries:

- ccsproviderservices@wfscapitalarea.com

Provider Advisory Meetings:

- Monthly on the last Thursday
- 11:30am – 12:30pm

TRS Director Meetings:

- Held on the first Thursday of Every Month
- 12:00pm – 2:00pm and 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Future Projects

- Texting feature for parent communication
- Provider Payment Portal
- New workflow management system
- Contracted Slots
- Child Care Industry Partnership
- Community Meetings hosted by Board Staff
- Videos to Better Understand and Access Program
- Staff Training to Enhance the Customer Experience
- Trauma informed care, Strengthening Families approach, etc.



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