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## Early Childhood Provider Updates

March 3, 2022

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# Agenda

- Welcome
- COVID-19 Updates for Providers
- ARPA Application Dates and Formula
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Updates
- Licensing Updates
- Teaching and Learning Updates
- Upcoming Events

**Welcome!**



# COVID-19 Updates for Providers



# COVID-19 Resources



- LDOE COVID-19 [landing page](#) and [library](#)
- LDOE *BELIEVE!* [landing page](#) and [library](#)
- COVID-19 [FAQ](#) for early childhood
- **Updated:** [Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care](#)
- For questions regarding COVID-19, contact [LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov](mailto:LDOECOVID19Support@la.gov)



# ARPA Stabilization Grant, Round 2

*The Department will release the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Stabilization Grant Round 2 on March 24, 2022. Providers open and serving children by March 31, 2022 will be eligible to apply.*

March 24, 1:00 pm	ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 2 Application release and webinar
March 28, 9:30am - 10:30am	<a href="#">Office Hours</a>
April 4, 9:30am - 10:30am	<a href="#">Office Hours</a>
April 7	ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 2 Application closes
Week of May 9-13, 2022	ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 2 funds released in Regions 3 (Covington), 6 (Lake Charles), and 7 (Alexandria)
Week of May 16-20, 2022	ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 2 funds released in Regions 2 (Baton Rouge), 5 (Lafayette), and 9 (Monroe)
Week of May 23-27, 2022	ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 2 funds released in Regions 1 (Orleans), 4 (Thibodaux), and 8 (Shreveport)

Please contact the Provider Help Desk at 225-250-7635, 225-252-9543 or via the [Provider Ticket System](#) for additional assistance.

## ARPA Stabilization Grant, Round 2

*The Department is increasing the base and bonus amounts of the grant in this final round.*

**Base amount:** Eligible providers who apply will receive \$1,800 per child (calculations will use licensed capacity).

**Bonus amount:** Eligible providers who apply could receive a **maximum** bonus amount of \$774 per child (calculations will use licensed capacity). As there are multiple categories that make up the bonus, only providers who meet the maximum conditions for each category will receive the maximum bonus amount.

# ARPA Stabilization Grant, Round 2

*There are some changes to the formula for Round 2 of the grant based on analysis.*

- Increase the infant bonus percentage
- Increase the provider setting bonus percentage
  - Assign CCAP-certified family child care providers and in-home providers the same bonus percentage as Type III centers
- Increase the non-traditional hours percentage
- Increase the maximum SVI bonus percentage

## ARPA Stabilization Grant, Round 2

*This is an example of a provider qualifying for the entire bonus with a licensed capacity of 100 children.*

### Calculating base and bonus amounts:

A provider who has a licensed capacity of 100 children would receive a base amount of \$180,000 and *could* receive an additional \$77,400 bonus for a maximum total possible award of \$257,400.

Base Amount:	$\$1,800 \times 100 \text{ children} =$	\$180,000
Possible Bonus Amount:	$\$ 774 \times 100 \text{ children} =$	<u>\$ 77,400</u>
Possible Total Payment:	$\$2,574 \times 100 \text{ children} =$	\$257,400

Factor	Category	Threshold/Qualifier	Bonus Percent
Community Factor	SVI Score	0 - 0.2	4%
		0.2 - 0.4	6%
		0.4 - 0.6	12%
		0.6 - 0.8	20%
		<b>0.8 - 1</b>	<b>24%</b>
Site Factors	% CCAP-Certified	0%	0%
		0.001 - 10%	10%
		11 - 25%	14%
		26 - 50%	16%
		51 - 75%	18%
		<b>76 - 100%</b>	<b>20%</b>
	Provider Type (15%)	Type III Center	15%
		Certified Family Child Care Provider	15%
		Certified In-Home Provider	15%
Services Provided	Infant Care	If Yes	20%
	Toddler Care	If Yes	6%
	Non-Traditional Hours	If Yes	10%
	Special Needs Care	If Yes	5%

## Bonus Breakdown

Some bonus categories have multiple thresholds. If providers meet certain thresholds, they will qualify for the associated bonus percentage. Maximum thresholds are bolded.



# Example 1

Type I provider with a **licensed capacity of 50** located in an area with an **SVI score of 0.49** who **serves toddlers and children with special needs**, but does not offer infant care or have non-traditional hours.

**This provider would receive:**

- **12%** of the bonus amount as a result of their **SVI score**
- **6%** of the bonus amount for serving **toddlers**
- **5%** of the bonus amount for serving **children with special needs**

Since they do not serve CCAP-certified children or infants, or provide non-traditional hours, they do not qualify for the bonus amounts given to those categories.

Total qualified bonus percent =  
12% + 6% + 5% = **23%**

**Base amount** = \$1,800 x 50 children = **\$90,000**  
**Bonus amount** = \$774 x 50 children x 23% = **\$8,901**  
**Total possible amount** = **\$98,901**

Factor	Category	Threshold/Qualifier	Bonus Percent
<b>Community Factor</b>	SVI Score	0 - 0.2	4%
		0.2 - 0.4	6%
		0.4 - 0.6	12%
		0.6 - 0.8	20%
		<b>0.8 - 1</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Site Factors</b>	% CCAP-Certified	0%	0%
		0.001 - 10%	10%
		11 - 25%	14%
		26 - 50%	16%
		51 - 75%	18%
		<b>76 - 100%</b>	<b>20%</b>
	Provider Type (15%)	Type III Center	15%
		Certified Family Child Care Provider	15%
		Certified In-Home Provider	15%
<b>Services Provided</b>	Infant Care	If Yes	20%
	Toddler Care	If Yes	6%
	Non-Traditional Hours	If Yes	10%
	Special Needs Care	If Yes	5%



**Believes**

## Example 2

**Type III** provider with a **licensed capacity** of **100** located in an area with an **SVI score** of **0.62** who **serves infants and toddlers**, but does not offer special needs care or have non-traditional hours. **28** of the children in their licensed capacity are CCAP-certified.

**This provider would receive:**

- **20%** of the bonus amount as a result of their **SVI**
- **16%** of the bonus amount as 28% of their capacity is **CCAP-certified children**
- **15%** of the bonus amount for being a **Type III center**
- **20%** of the bonus amount for serving **infants**
- **6%** of the bonus amount for serving **toddlers**

Since they do not serve children with special needs, or provide non-traditional hours, they do not qualify for the bonus amounts given to those categories.

Total qualified bonus percent =  
 $20\% + 16\% + 15\% + 20\% + 6\% = \mathbf{77\%}$

Base amount = \$1,800 x 100 children = **\$180,000**  
 Bonus amount = \$774 x 100 children x 77% = **\$59,598**  
 Total possible amount = **\$239,598**

Factor	Category	Threshold/Qualifier	Bonus Percent
<b>Community Factor</b>	SVI Score	0 - 0.2	4%
		0.2 - 0.4	6%
		0.4 - 0.6	12%
		0.6 - 0.8	20%
		<b>0.8 - 1</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>Site Factors</b>	% CCAP-Certified	0%	0%
		0.001 - 10%	10%
		11 - 25%	14%
		26 - 50%	16%
		51 - 75%	18%
		<b>76 - 100%</b>	<b>20%</b>
	Provider Type (15%)	Type III Center	15%
		Certified Family Child Care Provider	15%
		Certified In-Home Provider	15%
<b>Services Provided</b>	Infant Care	If Yes	20%
	Toddler Care	If Yes	6%
	Non-Traditional Hours	If Yes	10%
	Special Needs Care	If Yes	5%



**Believes**

# Example 3

Family child care provider with a **capacity of 6** located in an area with an **SVI score of 0.15** who **serves infants and toddlers**, and has **non-traditional hours**, but does not serve children with special needs. **All of their children are CCAP-certified.**

## This provider would receive:

- 4% of the bonus amount as a result of their **SVI**
- 20% of the bonus amount as 100% of their capacity is **CCAP-certified children**
- 15% of the bonus amount for being a certified **FCC provider**
- 20% of the bonus amount for serving **infants**
- 6% of the bonus amount for serving **toddlers**
- 10% of the bonus amount for **non-traditional hours**

Since they do not serve children with special needs, they do not qualify for the bonus amount given to that category.

Total qualified bonus percent =  
4% + 20% + 15% + 20% + 6% + 10% = **75%**

Base amount = \$1,800 x 6 children = **\$10,800**  
 Bonus amount = \$774 x 6 children x 75% = **\$3,483**  
 Total possible amount = **\$14,283**

Factor	Category	Threshold/Qualifier	Bonus Percent
Community Factor	SVI Score	0 - 0.2	4%
		0.2 - 0.4	6%
		0.4 - 0.6	12%
		0.6 - 0.8	20%
		<b>0.8 - 1</b>	<b>24%</b>
Site Factors	% CCAP-Certified	0%	0%
		0.001 - 10%	10%
		11 - 25%	14%
		26 - 50%	16%
		51 - 75%	18%
		<b>76 - 100%</b>	<b>20%</b>
	Provider Type (15%)	Type III Center	15%
		Certified Family Child Care Provider	15%
		Certified In-Home Provider	15%
Services Provided	Infant Care	If Yes	20%
	Toddler Care	If Yes	6%
	Non-Traditional Hours	If Yes	10%
	Special Needs Care	If Yes	5%



Believes



## **Child Care Assistance Program Updates**

# LaCAP Grant Provider Survey - Next Stage



The Department has partnered with Postlethwaite and Netterville (P&N) to collect information regarding the use of Louisiana Child Care Assistance Provider (LaCAP) Relief Grant Round 6 funds for CCAP certified providers and Rounds 1 & 2 funds for Non-CCAP certified providers.

The survey is to be completed by March 24, 2022..

- **LaCAP Grant Round 6 - CCAP Certified Providers**
  - Survey will be released March 8, 2022
- **LaCAP Grant Round 1 & 2 - Non-CCAP Certified Providers**
  - Survey will be released March 10, 2022

Release of ARPA Round 2 funds may be delayed for providers who have not completed their second survey.

# LaCAP Grant Provider Survey - Next Stage

*You will receive an email from the following sender.*

- Sender: P&N - LDOE LaCAP Grant
- Email address: [info@LDOE-pnsurvey.com](mailto:info@LDOE-pnsurvey.com)
- Subject Line: LDOE LaCAP Grant Survey

**The deadline to complete the survey is March 24, 2022.**

Participation in the survey is required. **Failure to complete the survey may impact your future relief grant funding opportunities and you will be automatically chosen for an audit of the LaCAP grants via the Office of Inspector General (OIG).**

# Licensing Updates



# Email Contact for Providers

*Providers should ensure their center-specific email address is on file with Licensing.*

All providers should ensure that the center's email address shared with the Department, is an e-mail address specific to the center rather than specific to the center director or other staff member, in the event the director is no longer associated with the center.

To request an update to your center's email address, please email your licensing consultant or [ldelicensing@la.gov](mailto:ldelicensing@la.gov).

# CPR and PFA Vendors

*The Department continues to work to assist providers with obtaining CPR and PFA certification for early childhood center staff and family child care providers.*

There are 33 [currently-approved vendors](#) listed on the Child Care Facility Licensing page of the Louisiana Believes website under “For Your Information”. Vendors must be approved by the Department and registered with the Division of Licensing prior to being paid for training center staff. **Please note:** the vendor must be able to provide a live demonstration to early childhood center staff and receive a live demonstration from early childhood center staff.

Each **approved** vendor may train up to 300 center staff at a rate of up to \$65 per staff.

Under no circumstance can a vendor who is a director or owner of a center be paid for training the staff employed at their own center.

For more information, email [ldelicensing@la.gov](mailto:ldelicensing@la.gov).

# Emergency Preparedness and Evacuation Planning

*Providers are required to conduct tornado drills.*

- All providers must conduct tornado drills at least once per month.
- These drills shall be conducted in the months of March, April, May, and June at various times of the day, shall include all children, and must be documented.
- A [sample form](#), titled “Monthly Tornado Drills,” can be found in the Licensed Centers Library.
- For more information, contact your licensing consultant.

# Motor Vehicle Passenger Checks

*A visual passenger check of a vehicle is required to ensure that no child is left in a vehicle.*

It is imperative that vehicles are adequately inspected for children before staff exit the vehicle, especially as temperatures rise outside.

A staff person shall physically walk through the vehicle and inspect all seat surfaces, under all seats, and in all enclosed spaces and recesses of the vehicle interior.

The staff member shall record the time of the visual passenger check and sign the log indicating that no child was left in the vehicle.

**Please ensure staff have received proper training and repeated training if needed.**



## Teaching and Learning Updates

# School Readiness Tax Credits (SRTC)

*School Readiness Tax Credits can only be claimed by filing a tax return.*

In January, the Department and Pathways mailed out all tax forms for family, teacher, and director School Readiness Tax Credits.

- In order to claim [family](#), teacher, or director School Readiness Tax Credits, individuals must file a tax return.
- Free income tax preparation assistance is available to all eligible taxpayers by calling 2-1-1.

Please email [demita.walker@la.gov](mailto:demita.walker@la.gov) for any SRTC questions.

# VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program

The VITA program offers free tax help to lower-income individuals who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns.

- IRS-certified volunteers provide free basic income tax return preparation with electronic filing to qualified individuals.
- The service is completely free of charge and confidential for all eligible individuals.

Please contact 2-1-1 for more information or to make an appointment to file a tax return.

# Teacher Support Grant Round 2 Payments

*The Department issued initial payments for Round 2 of the Teacher Support Grants the week of February 21.*

- Round 2 of the Teacher Support Grant application opened in January of 2022. Eligible applicants were required to be CCAP-certified, Type III early learning centers open and serving children at the time of the application. This grant was not open to providers that were stand-alone Head Start or Early Head Start, family child care, schools, or part-time care.
- Grant funding provided \$5,200 per open classroom in the EC (CLASS) Portal as of December 30, 2021.
- Sites that require additional verification before payments will receive funding after the verification process is completed in March.
- Please email [pheriche.perkins@la.gov](mailto:pheriche.perkins@la.gov) with any questions.

# Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year

*The Department is asking all ECE leaders to identify and support excellent candidates to apply for Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year.*

Providers should:

- Reach out to excellent teachers at your site and strongly encourage them to apply (at least one teacher should apply, if not more than one)
- Be specific and encouraging when communicating with your teacher(s) (e.g., “We would love for you to represent our center in the TOY Award Program!”)
- Offer teachers direct support to review their application documentation, assist with filming their videos, etc. and reiterate that you think the candidate has the qualifications needed to succeed in this application process

Site leaders should also consider applying for the Leader of the Year Award!

# Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year Benefits

There are several benefits of having an applicant for the Teacher or the Leader of the Year Award:

- Valuable prizes for semi-finalists and finalists
- A trophy that can be displayed in the winning teacher's classroom or leader's site
- Publicity for the early learning site
- Pride for the winner and her/his community
- Becoming a part of a historical award program
- Development and career opportunity for semi-finalists and finalists

# Early Childhood Teacher and Leader of the Year

## New Application Timeline

Reach out to community network lead agency, CCR&R, and/or coach to help candidates complete applications

Feb 1

TOY/LOY  
Application  
re-opens

March  
11

TOY/LOY  
Application  
closes at 5pm

Week of  
April 11

TOY/LOY  
Semi-Finalists  
Announced,  
final interviews  
begin

May 31

Teacher Leader  
Summit

July 30

Teacher and  
Leader of the  
Year Gala  
*New Orleans*

# BESE-Approved Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate (ECAC) Programs

All CDA coursework for the early childhood ancillary certificate must be taken at a BESE-approved Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate (ECAC) program. Scholarships will only be awarded for candidates attending BESE-approved programs who are also enrolled in Pathways.

- To enroll in Pathways, please visit [their website](#).
- To view the list of BESE-approved CDA programs, please visit [LouisianaBelieves.com](#).
  - *Please note that ProSolutions is no longer offering coursework that counts toward the ECAC requirement in Louisiana.*
- To submit a question regarding Early Childhood Ancillary Certification, please visit the [certification portal](#).

## Upcoming Events

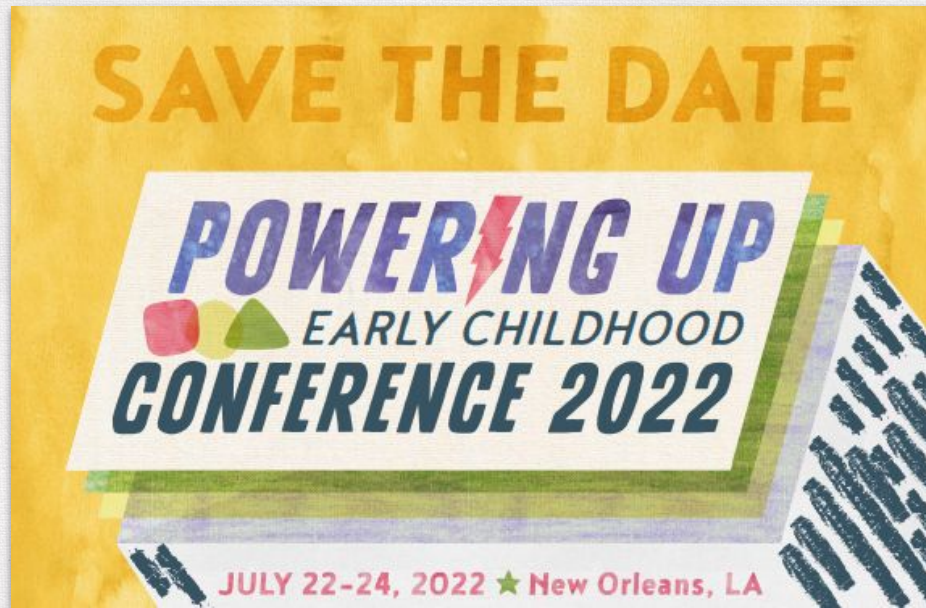


# Teacher Leader Summit: *Making a Comeback!*

- The [2022 Teacher Leader Summit](#) will be held Tuesday, May 31 - Thursday, June 2 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (NOENMCC).
- [Registration](#) is open through April 15 and is on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Contact [LDOEvents@la.gov](mailto:LDOEvents@la.gov) with any questions



# Early Childhood Conference



- When:** July 22-24  
(Friday, Saturday, and Sunday)
- Where:** New Orleans, LA
- Who:** EC directors/providers, child care teachers, and families

More information can be found on the [Powering Up webpage](#).

# Summary of Important Dates

March 8	P&N survey for LaCAP Round 6 to be released
March 10	P&N survey for LaCAP Rounds 1 and 2 for non CCAP Certified Providers such as Type I and II providers to be released
March 11	Teacher of the Year and Leader Of the Year application closes
March 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 2 application release</li><li>• P&amp;N survey deadline for LaCAP Round 6 and LaCAP Rounds 1 and 2 for Type I and II</li></ul>
April 7	ARPA Stabilization Grant Round 2 application closes
April 15	Teacher Leader Summit <a href="#">registration</a> closes (Summit to be held May 31-June 2)
July 22-24	Early Childhood Conference

# Upcoming Webinar

*The Department will be hosting monthly webinars for early childhood providers. These webinars will include important updates and reminders for all provider types.*

Providers can access the next provider webinar using the information below:

- **Webinar Date/Time:** Thursday, April 7 at 1 p.m.
- **Webinar Link:** <https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/93597745872>
- **Phone Number:** 1-312-626-6799
- **Meeting ID:** 935 9774 5872

# Contact Info

## Child Care Licensing

- Call 225-342-9905
- Email [ldelicensing@la.gov](mailto:ldelicensing@la.gov) or email licensing consultants directly

## Child Care Assistance Program

- Call 225-250-7635 or 225-252-9543
- Email [ldeccap@la.gov](mailto:ldeccap@la.gov) or enter a [ticket](#) at the Provider Help Desk
- TOTS Assistance: [Jackie.Droddy2@la.gov](mailto:Jackie.Droddy2@la.gov)

## Child Care Provider Certification

- Email [providercertification@la.gov](mailto:providercertification@la.gov)

## Child Care Criminal Background Checks

- Call 225-342-2716 or 225-342-5311 or email [LDEchildcareCBC@la.gov](mailto:LDEchildcareCBC@la.gov)

## General Early Childhood Support

- Email [earlychildhood@la.gov](mailto:earlychildhood@la.gov)

