Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council

May 17, 2018

DEPARTMENT of EDUCATION
Louisiana Believes

Bulletin 137 Comprehensive Review

May 2018

Agenda

This presentation will provide an overview of changes in Bulletin 137 that will be recommended to the EC Advisory Council and BESE.

- Objective and Process
- Task Force Membership
- Key Changes
- Chapter-by-Chapter Breakdown of Changes
- Next Steps

Overview

State law requires a review of licensing regulations every three years.

- According to RS 17:407.40, the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education shall conduct a comprehensive review of all standards, rules, and regulations for licenses every three years.

- Task force members were requested to review the most up-to-date revision of Bulletin 137 for changes from the groups they represent while keeping health and safety in the fore front.

Objective and Process

Health and Safety was the main focus of the review of licensing regulations.

- In response, the Louisiana Department of Education launched a task force to review and provide input on changes to Bulletin 137 –Louisiana Early Learning Center Regulations.
- Over a six month period, the task force met multiple times to produce recommendations on how to improve regulations for all licensed early learning centers to keep all Louisiana children safe and healthy.
- The Department will engage key stakeholders, email draft regulations to the field and take recommendations to Advisory Council prior to going to June State Board Meeting.

Licensing Task Force Membership

Task force included a diverse set of representatives from providers to child safety advocates as well as state agency staff.

- Paula Polito – Advisory Council Chairperson and Chairperson of the Licensing Task Force
- Jonathan Pierce – Type II and III Centers (CCAL)
- James Evans – Louisiana Head Start Association and Head Start Director
- Abigail Iron Rope – Type I Center
- Melanie Bronfin – Non-profit Child Advocacy Organization
- Maria Blanco – Children with Disabilities Advocacy Organization
- Toni Ledet– Children with Disabilities, Louisiana Department of Health
- Pat Aronstein– Louisiana State Fire Marshal
- Leslie Lewis –Family Health, Louisiana Department of Health
- Shelia Campbell – Licensing, Louisiana Department of Education
- Lisa Brochard – Early Childhood, Louisiana Department of Education

Key Changes

Review process resulted in six key changes outlined below. More minor changes are covered in the chapter-by-chapter breakdown.

Recommendation	Impact
Establish consistent child:staff ratios and group sizes for all licensed early learning centers.	Type I centers will need to lower ratios and group sizes by July 1, 2019.
Align Director Requirements with the new Ancillary Teaching Certificate.	Directors will have more clarity on requirements and will be able to use an aligned credential.
Ensure that video recordings are reviewed in response to investigations of specific complaints or incidents.	The Department will only be able to review video as part of an investigation and will provide written notice to centers.
Allow more flexibility for obtaining necessary approvals from Department of Health and Fire Marshal.	Centers must still request inspections from Fire Marshal and Department of Health but will have an additional time period to obtain approvals in case of delay by other agencies.
Align screen time with new recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics.	Children age two and above will only be exposed to one hour of screen time.
Establish consistent age requirements for staff to be a minimum of 17 years old.	Type I centers will need to cease using 16 year children as part of their staff.

Changes to Chapter 1 - Definitions

Definitions in Chapter 1 were added or revised for clarification or technical purposes.

Section 103:

1. Academic approval – Added for technical reasons.
2. Child – Provided clarification of age.
3. Child Health Consultant – Provided clarification on assistance given in the home providers.
4. Head Start and Early Head Start – Provided clarification on serving children with disabilities.
5. Independent contractors – Provided clarification that licensing inspectors are not independent contractors.
6. LDH – Changed to current name of Louisiana Department of Health.
7. Office of Early Childhood and Licensing Division changed to the "Department" throughout regulations.
8. Parent – Provide clarification and added the term "legal."
9. Special Needs Care – Added for technical reasons in alignment with other bulletins.
10. Staff-in-Charge – Provided clarification in absence days.

Changes to Chapter 3 – Types of Licenses, Inspection Reports, Transitional Provisions and Waivers

Four sections of Chapter 3 were revised for clarification or technical purposes.

1. Section 307 – Types of Licenses - Removed the clauses on immediate revocation as this process is not possible under the circumstances of receiving directly or indirectly receiving state or federal funds. The regular revocation process would be used in those circumstances.
2. Section 315 – Inspections – Provided clarification that inspections are posted online as required by federal regulation.
3. Section 317 – Transitional Periods – Technical change and was deleted as it is no longer valid.
4. Section 319 – Waivers - Provided clarification so waiver process can be processed more quickly for the provider.

Changes to Chapter 7 – Application, Inspections and Renewals

Five sections of Chapter 3 were revised for clarification or substantive changes.

1. Section 701 - Initial Application Process – Technical change to using the online electronic system. Also provided clarification on zoning approval or certificate of occupancy is needed where applicable and added clarification that ownership documentation is needed to speed up the process for providers.
2. Section 703 – Initial Inspection Report Process – Technical change to remove Office of Early Childhood name.
3. **Section 705 – Access - Added clarification on video recordings.**
4. Section 711 – Renewal Application – Technical change to using the online electronic system.
5. **Section 713 – Renewal and Other Inspection Procedures – Provided the center the opportunity to show documentation of request for inspection to the Office of Public Health and State Fire Marshal prior to the license renewal date and allows an additional 30 days for submission of proof of inspection at time of license renewal.** Also provided clarification in that the director designee or staff-in-charge can review the inspection deficiencies.

Changes to Chapter 9 – Changes and Closures

Three sections of Chapter 9 were revised for clarification or substantive change.

1. Section 901 – Change in Location – Provided clarification in that in those instances, the center's license is not closed but suspended.
2. Section 905 – Change in License Type – Deleted section that is no longer valid and clarified the use of the online electronic system.
3. **Section 907 – Notification of Temporary or Permanent Closure – changed notification of closure from 14 days to 5 days.**

Changes to Chapter 13 – Appeals

One Section of 1307 was revised to expedite appeals.

1. **Section 1307 – Appeal of Denial, Revocation or Refusal to Renew – Changed from 30 days to 15 days.**

Changes to Chapter 15 – Daily Attendance Records

Three sections were revised with one substantive change.

1. Section 1507 – Daily Attendance Records - Added clarification on documentation needed for independent contractors.
2. **Section 1509 – Policies – Added options of posting or providing proof or parent signature for policies and change of screen time to align with American Academy of Pediatrics.**
3. Section 1511 – Procedures – Added clarification on physical activity.

Changes to Chapter 17 – Required Staff, Qualifications, Ratios, and Personnel Files

Three sections were revised substantively and two sections were revised for clarification.

1. **Section 1707 – Required Staff – Provided clarification concerning the director designee being on site; clarified that temporary absence of a staff-in-charge is less than 11 days; aligned staff requirements for Types I with Types II and III to minimum age of 17.**
2. **Section 1709 – Director Qualifications – aligned the qualifications to include an early childhood ancillary teaching certificate and added management/administration as an area to the 90 clock hours; allowed for grandfathering of directors.**
3. **Section 1711 – Child-to-Staff Minimum Ratios and Group Sizes – aligned child-to-staff ratios and group sizes for Type I with Types II and III.**
4. Section 1715 – Staff Records and Personnel Files – provided clarification on personnel files to include first day onsite working with children.
5. Section 1717 – Records for Independent Contractors and Student Trainees – provided clarification on who are included as independent contractors.

Changes to Chapter 17 – CPR, First Aid Certificates and Medication Management

Two sections were revised to address health and safety concerns.

1. **Section 1723 – CPR and First Aid Certifications - Addressed the need for a staff certified in appropriate CPR and First Aid in each building.**
2. Section 1725 – Medication Management and Training – Tweaked for clarification.

Changes to Chapter 18 – Types of CCCBC Determinations

Section 1803 was added to provide clarification between types of CCCBCs.

1. **Section 1803 – Type of CCCBC-based Determinations of Eligibility for Child Care Purposes – Added to allow for promotion of staff to owner/director/director-designee with appropriate CCCBC determination.**

Changes to Chapter 19 – Food and Nutrition, Emergency Preparedness and Evacuation Planning

Two sections of Chapter 19 were revised for environment change or clarification.

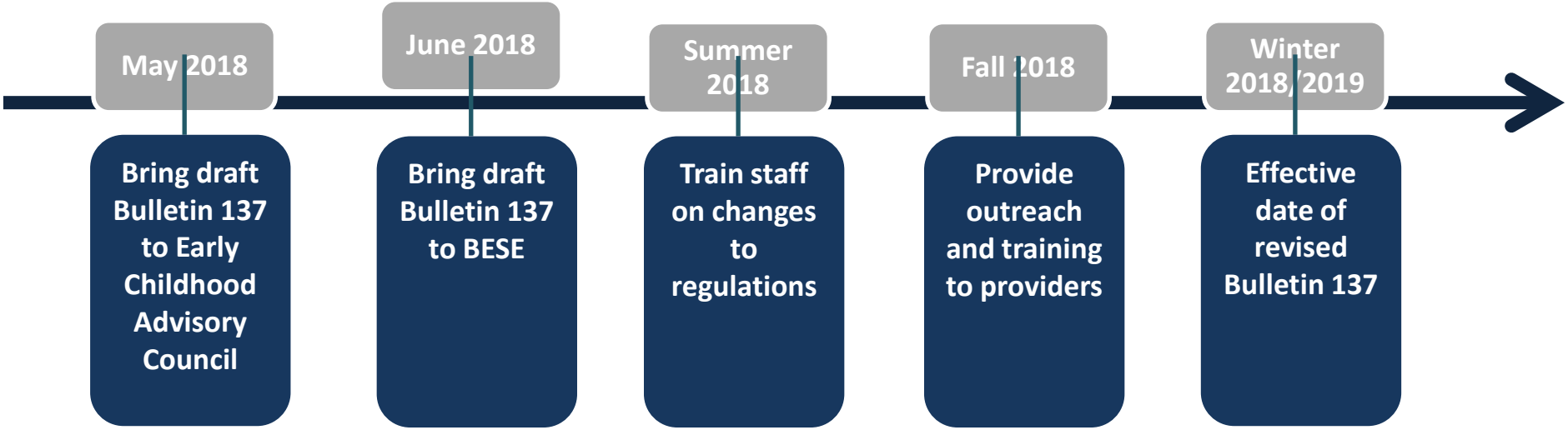
1. **Section 1919 – Food Service and Nutrition – Revised to allow space to breastfeed their child on site.**
2. Section 1921 – Emergency Preparedness and Evacuation Planning – Allowed for crank flashlight and crank radio.

Next Steps

The Department will work closely with the field to support implementation of changes.

To support providers, the Department will:

- Produce one-pagers that cover key changes;
- Update UDEMY classes;
- Conduct webinar(s) and in-person trainings; and
- Use newsletter to communicate key changes.



Child Care Development Fund State Plan
FFY 2019-2021

Agenda

As Lead Agency, the Department seeks your input as a part of developing the State Plan.

- Child Care Development Fund
- Background on the State Plan
- Areas Covered by the State Plan
- Section by Section Content
- Feedback

Child Care Development Fund

The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014 reauthorized the Child Care Development Fund (CCDF).

What is CCDF?

- CCDF is a block grant of federal monies that are distributed by the states.
- Provides resources to enable low-income parents to work or pursue education and training so that they can better support their families while at the same time promoting the learning and development of their children.
- Provides funding to enhance the quality of child care for all children.
- Improves the health and safety of children in child care.

What does CCDF cover in Louisiana?

- Licensing
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- Criminal Background Checks
- Quality investments including but not limited to Resource and Referral Agencies, Mental Health Consultation, Pathways, Scholarships, and Child Care Curriculum Initiative
- School Readiness Tax Credits serve as the match for CCDF

CCDF and the Vision of Kindergarten Readiness

CCDF funds have played an integral part in preparing Louisiana children for kindergarten.

CCDF Investment	What is Funded
Child Care Assistance Program	Seats in quality rated early learning centers and family home/in-home providers
Licensing	Health and safety monitoring of early learning centers and CCAP providers
Unified Rating System	CLASS observations and administrative support;
Enrollment	Supports for communities to coordinate enrollment (e.g. website)
Scholarship	Tuition for child care teachers
Believe and Prepare: Early Childhood	Start-up costs for high quality teacher preparation programs
Pathways Registry	Registry for teachers, directors and trainers
Resource and Referral	Training and technical assistance (e.g. coaching) for programs/teachers to improve instruction
Mental Health Consultation	Intensive coaching for programs/teachers
Curriculum Initiative	Funding and support for implementing high quality curriculum
Bonus Payments and School Readiness Tax Credits	Owners, directors and teachers receive payments or credits for performance or credentials

Background on the State Plan

The plan describes how the Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) program will be administered by Louisiana.

What is a CCDF State Plan?

- A standard document that states use to demonstrate how they comply with all the federal regulations.
- This document generally covers licensing, child care assistance, background checks and quality improvement in child care.
- Every state/territory is currently completing a State Plan which must be submitted to Feds by 7/1/2018.

What time period does the State Plan cover?

- The document includes the state's plan for child care for 3 years (10/1/2018-9/30/2021).
- The documents does <u>not</u> lock the state in; revisions can be made at any time and states often make revisions as circumstances change.

Areas Covered by the State Plan

The sections below are broken down in the State Plan where the Lead Agency provides more description.

1. Define CCDF Leadership and Coordination With Relevant Systems
2. Promote Family Engagement Through Outreach and Consumer Education
3. Provide Stable Child Care Financial Assistance to Families
4. Ensure Equal Access to Child Care for Low-Income Families
5. Establish Standards and Monitoring processes To Ensure the Health and Safety of Child Care Settings
6. Recruit and Retain a Qualified and Effective Child Care Workforce
7. Support Continuous Quality Improvement
8. Ensure Grantee Accountability

State Plan – Section 1

Section 1 defines the CCDF leadership and describes the coordination in development of the State Plan.

This section identifies:

- The leadership of the CCDF program
- Stakeholders that were consulted in development of the Plan
- How matching funds and maintenance-of-effort (MOE) funds are identified
- The coordination with child care resource and referral agencies
- The development of disaster preparedness and response plans

Highlights:

- ***Louisiana is unique among states in using School Readiness Tax Credits, which encourage improving quality and supporting families, teachers and communities directly, to meet the state match for the CCDF grant.***
- ***Louisiana supports child care centers with emergency preparedness planning through resources and tools.***

State Plan – Section 2

Section 2 describes how family engagement is promoted via outreach and consumer education.

This section identifies:

- How consumer and provider information related to child care and other services, including developmental screenings, are made available to parents, providers and the general public
- How parental complaints are handled
- How the consumer statement about quality of provider and health and safety inspections is available to parents

Highlights:

- ***Louisiana has a robust School and Center Finder website that parents can use to search for the provider that best fits the needs of their children.***
- ***Louisiana's Mental Health Consultation Program provides supports for families and providers to address concerns related to social-emotional development.***
- ***Louisiana has developed a Developmental Screening Guidebook to provide guidance on screening processes for both families and providers.***

State Plan – Section 3

Section 3 describes how the Lead Agency provides stable child care assistance to families.

This section identifies:

- How subsidy eligibility is defined
- How the Lead Agency improved access for vulnerable children and families
- How working families are protected during a 12 month period of time and defines the family contribution to payments

Highlights:

- ***Louisiana has reduced eligibility requirements to working 20 hours per week or full-time student status which has significantly increased the number of families eligible for child care assistance.***
- ***Louisiana has implemented a CCAP Wait List, providing an accurate estimate of the true need for child care assistance in Louisiana.***
- ***Local communities continue to make progress on coordinating enrollment to support families as they make choices about care for their children.***
- ***Families are supported in the transition from CCDF as their income increases.***

State Plan – Section 4

Section 4 describes how the Lead Agency ensures equal access to child care for low-income children.

This section identifies:

- Strategies that the Lead Agency uses to promote parental choice, ensure equal access, and increase the supply of child care

Highlights:

- ***Louisiana increased rates in 2016 and reduced the amount of copayments to make child care more affordable for low-income families. As a result, participation increased dramatically.***
- ***Louisiana's Market Rate Survey has been restructured to provide more insight on the costs of quality with the new unified rating system.***
- ***Child Care Assistance Program Bonus Payments are provided to highly-rated Type III providers, further incenting their commitment to quality.***
- ***Child counts are completed in every community, thus enabling Louisiana to calculate access gap at a local level at every age.***

State Plan – Section 5

Section 5 describes how the Lead Agency ensures the health and safety of child care providers.

This section identifies:

- Licensing requirements including child:staff ratios and group size as well as staff and director qualifications
- Health and safety requirements and training
- Monitoring and enforcement procedures
- Criminal background check requirements

Highlights:

- ***Louisiana has implemented the new Child Care Criminal Background Checks and is on track to meet the September 30, 2018 deadline.***
- ***Louisiana continues to improve and increase trainings available on the Louisiana Early Learning Center Licensing Regulations.***

State Plan – Section 6

Section 6 describes how the Lead Agency assists with recruiting and retaining a qualified and effective child care workforce.

This section identifies:

- The framework for training, professional development, and post-secondary education for child care staff and directors
- Strategies to strengthen business practices of child care providers
- Strategies to address early learning and developmental guidelines

Highlights:

- ***Louisiana has 18 EC Ancillary Certificate Programs, and nearly 5,000 individuals with an EC Ancillary Certificate.***
- ***Louisiana is developing a Statewide Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate Program to include high quality on-line coursework accessible in every parish.***
- ***The School Readiness Tax Credits are aligned with the EC Ancillary Certificate to financially support teachers that meet the requirement and remain in child care.***
- ***Louisiana is developing an Early Childhood Leadership Academy to support instructional leadership within child care centers.***
- ***Significant investments have been made in the Child Care Curriculum Initiative, supporting an increase in access to Tier I Early Childhood Curriculum.***

State Plan – Section 7

Section 7 describes how the Lead Agency supports continuous quality improvement in child care.

This section identifies:

- The efforts to support quality for child care
- The types of quality improvement activities including measurable indicators of progress used to evaluate the progress in the quality of child care services

Highlights:

- ***Louisiana releases performance profiles annually for all Head Starts, public and nonpublic pre-K, and child care centers accepting CCAP based on scores from the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS).***
- ***These ratings are aligned to the SRTC providers, directors, and families receive.***
- ***These ratings are comprised of ~15,000 Pre-K and toddler observations conducted in every site across the state. These observations provide in-depth feedback based on a high-quality tool to teachers multiple times a year.***

State Plan – Section 8

Section 8 describes how the Lead Agency ensures program integrity and accountability.

This section identifies:

- Internal controls to ensure the integrity and accountability and processes are in place to investigate and recover fraudulent payments and to impose sanctions on clients or providers in response to fraud

Highlights:

- ***The Lead Agency has created a fraud and recovery unit to investigate potential fraud and recover funds as needed.***
- ***Postlewaite & Netterville completed an internal analysis of CCAP fraud, recovery and payment policies and procedures and provided recommendations to improve integrity, training, and services.***

Next Steps

The Lead Agency will consult with stakeholders on the development of the State Plan.

Process for Submitting Feedback

Send feedback on the draft State Plan to by entering your comments at this website - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/StatePlan-2019-2021 or by emailing earlychildhood@la.gov.

Louisiana’s 2018 Market Rate Survey

Market Rate Survey Overview

The Market Rate Survey is required by the Feds and the information will be used to evaluate our CCAP rates as well as inform improvement work.

- Market Rate Survey was conducted by LSU through a contract with the Department.
- Survey must be completed every three years before the new Child Care Development Fund state plan is submitted to the federal government.
- Survey is a study of the prices or fees that child care providers typically charge and parents typically pay as well as the costs of providing high quality child care.
- Data collection for 2018 survey is complete and the Department is working on report:
  - *Overall response rate for survey is 67% including a response of 73% from Type III centers.*
  - *Report will include cost variations by geography, provider type, and ages of children.*
  - *Report will also include CCAP coverage and capacity, staff training, and costs of quality.*

Part I will cover the costs of care; part II will cover the costs of quality.

Market Rate Survey
Participation

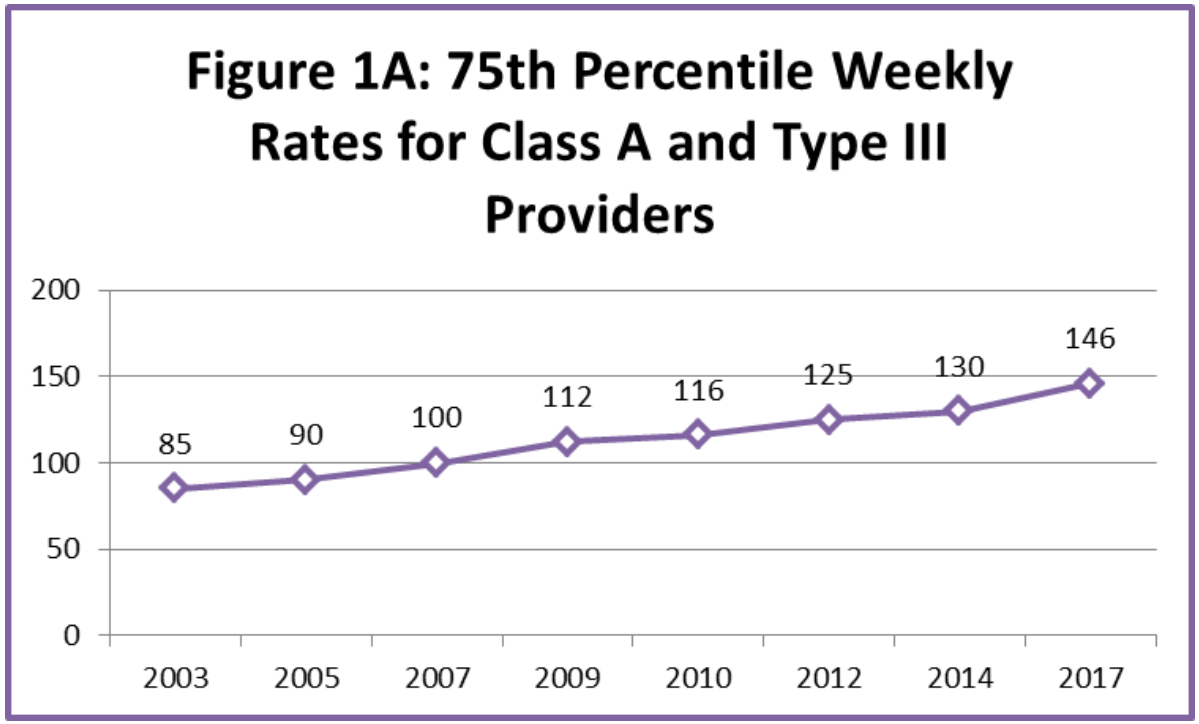
Overall two-thirds of providers in the sample set responded to the Market Rate Survey.

Response Rates for the 2017 Child Care Market Rate Survey			
New Classification	**Total in Sample**	**Total Response**	**Response Rate**
Type I	296	209	70.61
Type II	181	112	61.88
Type III	1,005	732	72.84
Head Start	245	89	36.33
Non-Head Start	760	431	56.71
In-Home and Family Child Care	304	173	56.91
School Child Care	43	3	6.98
Total	**1,829**	**1,229**	**67.20**

Market Rate Survey

Rates over Time

The Market Rate Survey indicates that child care rates have steadily increased over time.

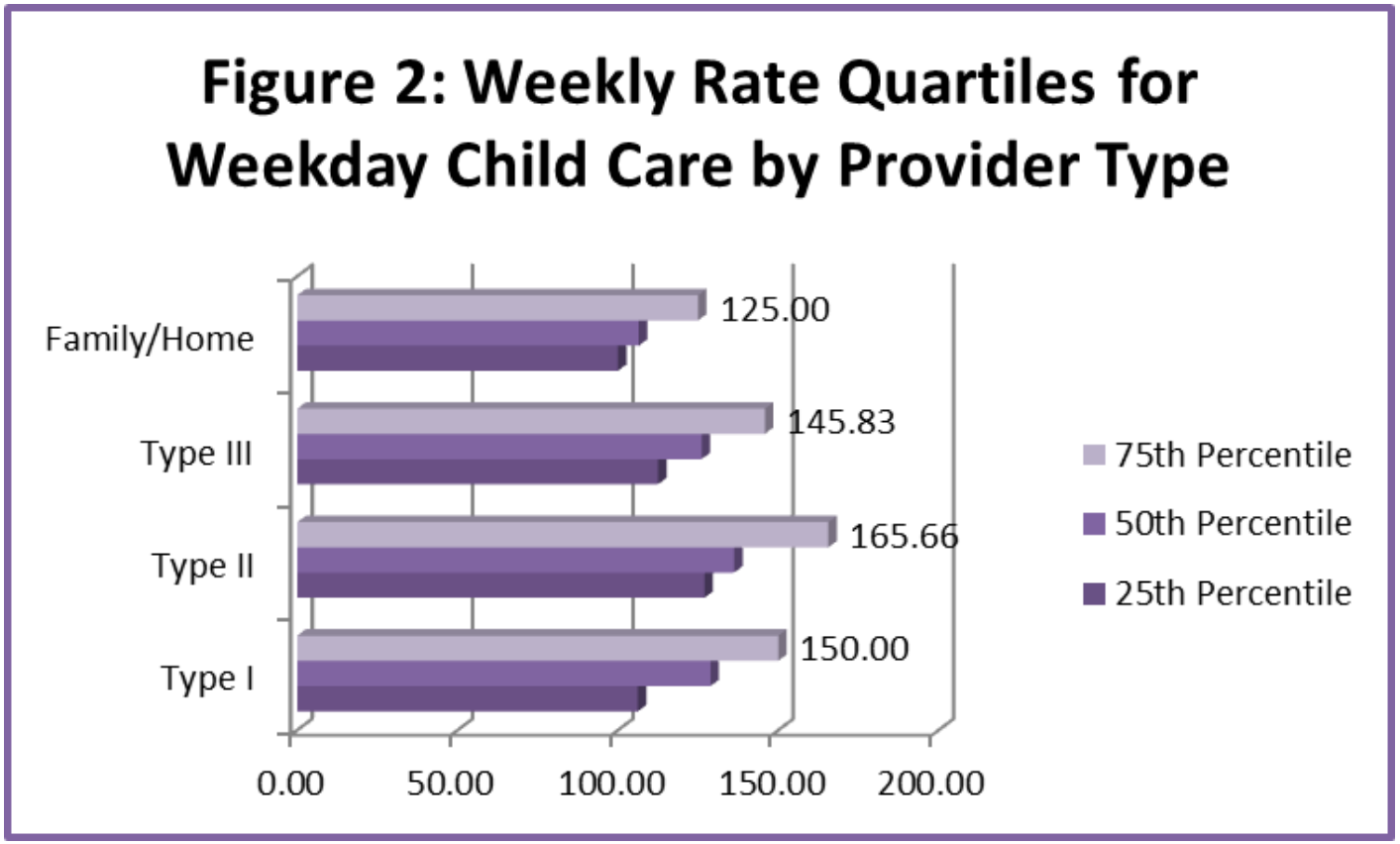


Between 2014 and 2017, Type III centers reported an average $20 increase in cost of care.

Market Rate Survey

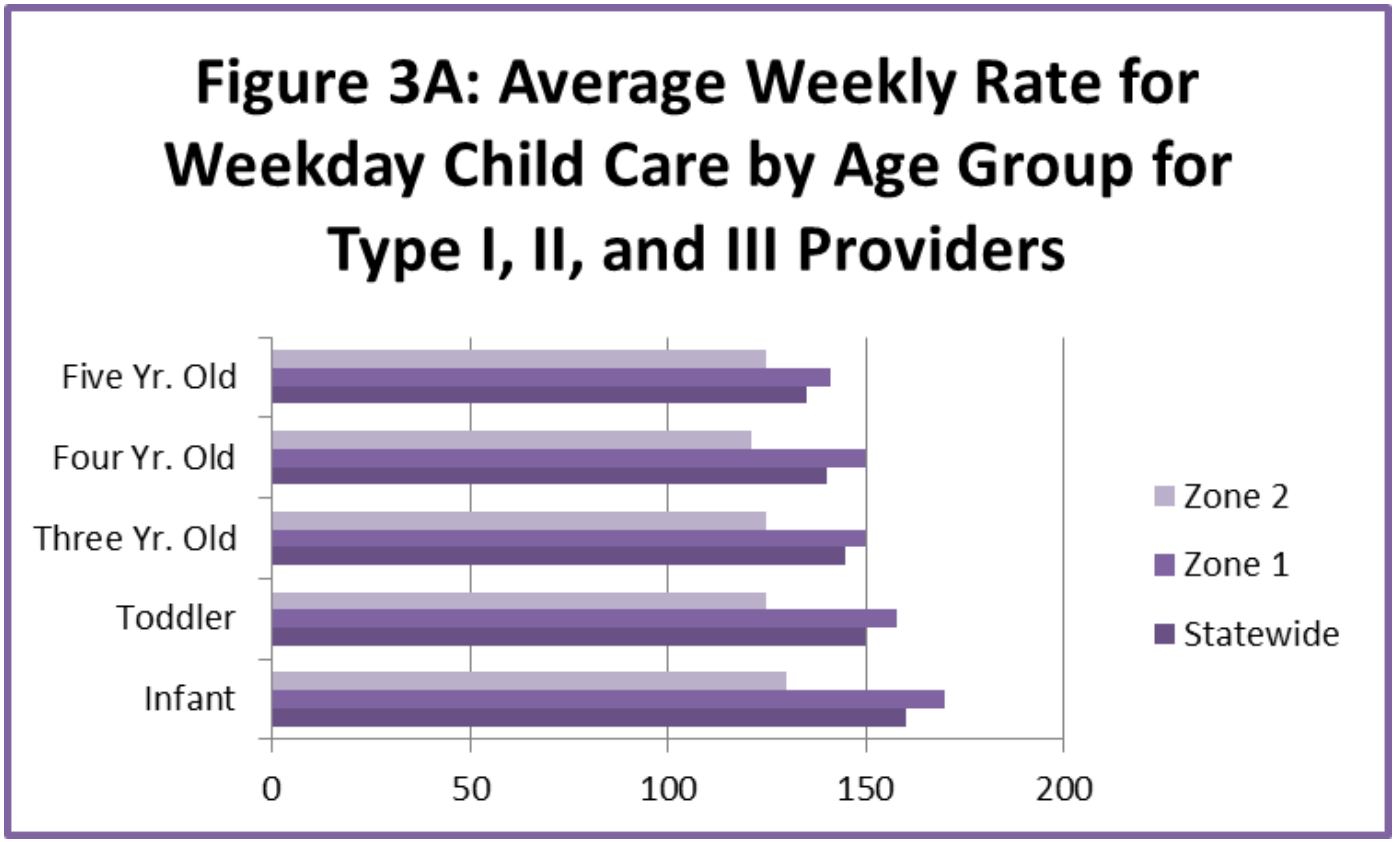
Rates by Provider Type

Licensed centers report charging similar weekly rates, regardless of type. Family day homes report charging less per week.



Market Rate Survey
Comparison by Zone

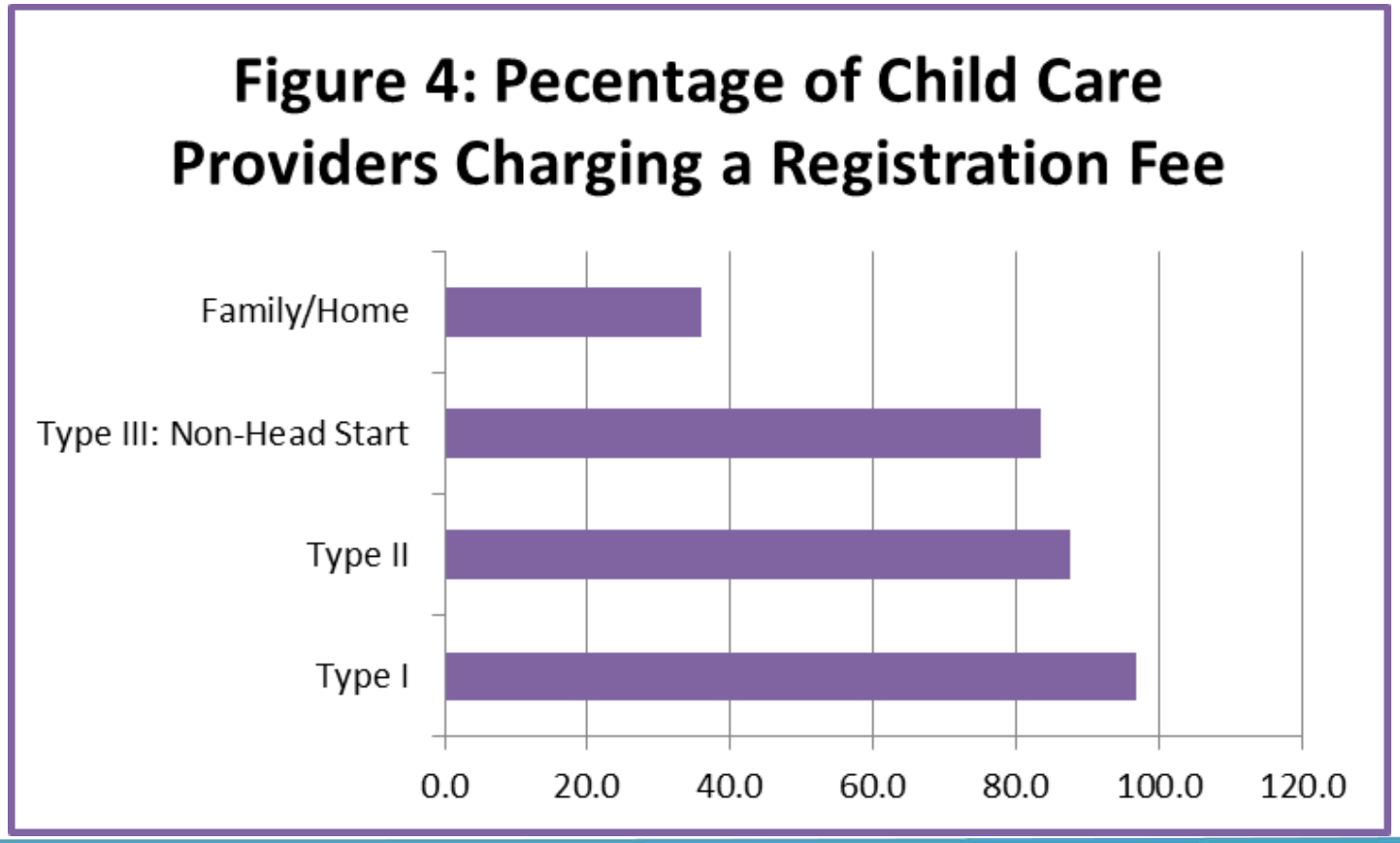
Centers report that child care costs are significantly higher in Zone 1 or urban parishes than they are in Zone 2, the state's more rural parishes.



Market Rate Survey

Registration Fees

Four out of five Type III centers charge registration fees which will be covered in part by the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) as of October 1.



Market Rate Survey

Average Registration Fees

Type III centers charge more than $100 on average for registration fees.

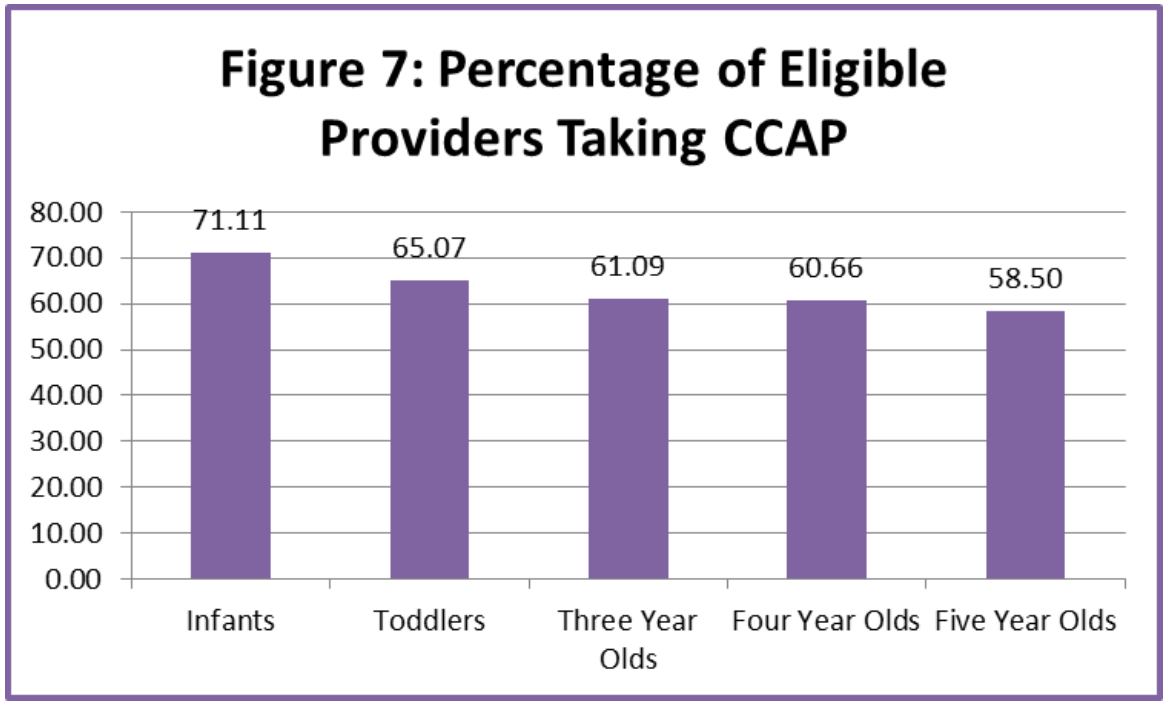
Table 5: Registration Fee by Provider Type

	Mean	Std Deviation
Type I	$144.79	$98.55
Type II	$121.56	$114.86
Type III Non-Head Start	$107.80	$51.82
Family/In-Home	$61.70	$43.54

Market Rate Survey

Providers Reported Use of CCAP

Most Type III centers report that they do take CCAP with higher rates at the younger ages.

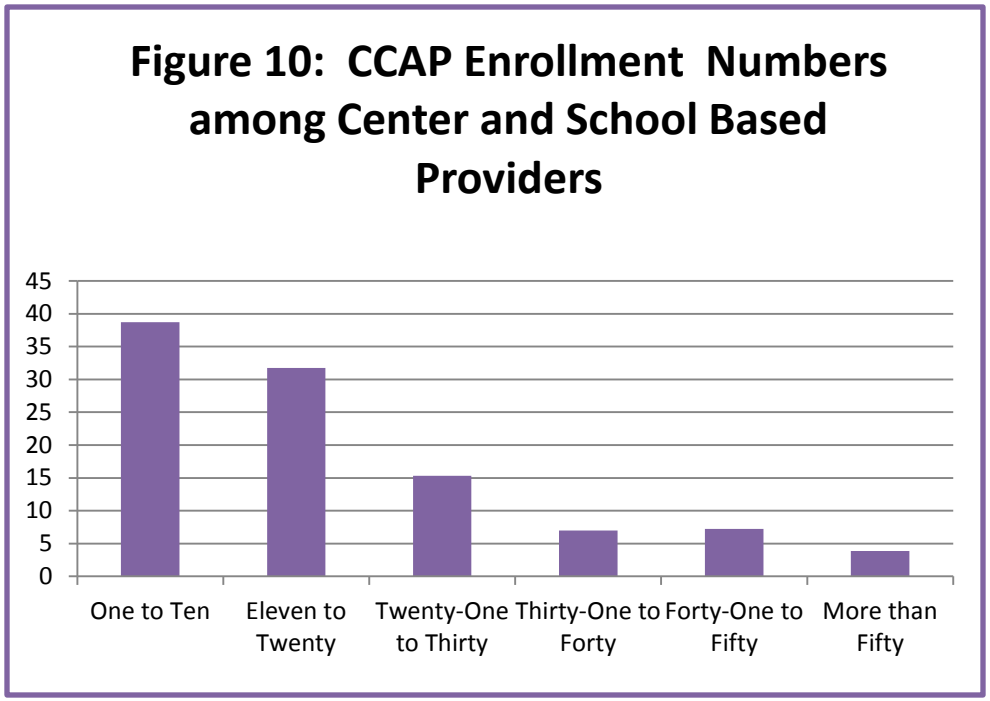


Between 2007 and 2017, participation in CCAP rose from 50% of Class A providers to 82.4% of Type III providers.

Market Rate Survey

Number of CCAP Children per Site

CCAP children are distributed across a wide range of sites, typically alongside private-paying families. Less than 4% of centers are serving more than 50 CCAP children.



Considering the licensed capacity of Type III centers is nearly 80,000 children, Act III reforms are having a positive effect on thousands of Louisiana children.

Market Rate Survey

Site Level Wait Lists

Not only are there more than 5,000 children on the statewide wait list, but centers report wait lists at the site level across all age groups.

Table 8: Enrollment, Waitlist, and Teacher Counts by Age and Zone

	Type I	Type II	Type III	Non-Head Start	Head Start
Infants					
Total Enrolled	1,120	595	3,183	2,394	126
Total Waitlisted	1,320	574	2,609	2,226	358
Toddlers					
Total Enrolled	5,403	1,789	9,672	9,006	412
Total Waitlisted	1,881	593	2,913	2,419	467
Three Yr. Olds					
Total Enrolled	3,180	1,148	8,680	5,532	2,843
Total Waitlisted	772	259	1,746	1,337	503
Four Yr. Olds					
Total Enrolled	2,355	664	5,117	3,323	1,672
Total Waitlisted	288	126	735	1,822	76
Five Yr. Olds					
Total Enrolled	1,245	578	1,938	1,822	45
Total Waitlisted	136	79	182	170	2

Early Childhood Care and Education Advisory Council
Quarter 1 -2018

Early Childhood Community Networks
Key Activities in Quarter 1

The Department and Community Networks have continued to support local sites to implement the early childhood accountability system and to coordinate enrollment.

Supporting the Early Childhood Accountability System:

- Lead agencies scheduled and began completing spring *CLASS* observations
- Sites completed the spring *GOLD* checkpoint, assessing progress for the publicly-funded children within their care.

Working Together to Coordinate Enrollment:

- Communities collaborated on developing their Coordinated Enrollment Plans and made eligibility determinations.
- Around the state, communities hosted enrollment fairs and events to support families in identifying the best available care for their children.
- Lead agencies worked with sites to complete the February Child Count.

Collaborating as a Community and Planning for Next Year:

- Lead agencies attended the sessions at the January and February supervisor collaboration meetings focused on using data to plan improvement, hosting engaging meetings, planning for coordinated enrollment events, and strategies for supporting early identification tools.
- Sites and lead agencies entered information about the number of infant classrooms in their community, informing the Departments goal of eventually including infant classrooms in *CLASS*.

Supporting Teachers to be Successful

Key Activities in Quarter 1

The Department has increased the number of professional training opportunities available to child care teachers across the state.

Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate Programs:

- Through Believe and Prepare: Early Childhood, BESE will have reviewed over 20 program applications for Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate Programs by June 2018.
- By July 1, 2018, child care lead teachers around the state will be able to access these high quality preparation programs which include coursework that counts towards a EC Ancillary Certificate while also embedding high-quality practice and coaching.
- In January, BESE approved three additional Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate Programs, two of which will offer online coursework in various parishes.

Teachers Earning the Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate:

- As of March 2018, over 4,500 individuals had earned the Early Childhood Ancillary Certificate.

Supporting Teachers through Training and Materials:

- The Department continued the Child Care Curriculum Initiative for the 2017-2018 school year. The Department has begun the process for validating curriculum use within classrooms.
- The Department allocated Preschool Expansion Grant Supplemental Funds to eight communities. These funds will improve the overall quality of 307 classrooms in over 63 sites, most of which are approaching proficient.

Supporting Child Care Centers
Key Activities in Quarter 4

The Department has supported child care centers through sharing information about licensed center requirements and the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).

Supporting Child Care Directors and Centers:

- The Licensing Division hosted a training on Bulletin 137 for those interested.
- The Department is continuing to develop an Early Childhood Leadership Academy, which will prepare child care directors to support instruction and growth within their centers.
  - The Department applied to the Zaentz Early Ed Innovation Challenge to support the initiative.
- New guidance regarding for emergency preparedness was released, including an updated toolkit.

Collecting Feedback from Families and Centers:

- The Market Rate Survey was shared with all licensed centers and family homes.
- The Department released the third annual Early Childhood Family Survey in consultation with the United Way of Southeast Louisiana and the Louisiana Association of United Ways.

Child Care Assistance Program:

- The Child Care Assistance Program released a complete application, aiming to simplify the application process for families.
- The CCAP Wait List Statistics and Monthly Enrollment have continued to be reported and posted on the Department website.
  - There were 3,504 families (4,899 children) on the CCAP Wait List as of March 2018. This is a total of 4,899 children.

Preparing for Child Care Criminal Background Checks

Key Activities in Quarter 1

The Department began implementing a comprehensive criminal background check system starting March 1, 2018 in response to new requirements in the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act of 2014.

Components of a Child Care Criminal Background Check (CCCBC):

The new CCCBC process includes:

1. a fingerprint-based search of the La. Bureau's criminal history record information (CHRI);
2. a fingerprint-based search of the FBI CHRI;
3. a search of the National Sex Offender Registry (NSOR);
4. a search of the La. Sex Offender Registry;
5. a request for a search of the La. Child Abuse and Neglect Registry; and
6. a name-based search of the following in each state in which the individual has resided in the past five years: state criminal repository, state sex offender registry, and state child abuse and neglect registry.

The changes to the background requirements are reflected in Bulletin 137 and 139.

The Department launched a new online Child Care Civil Background Check System in order to accept and process Child Care CBC applications. Over 6,000 applications have been processed.

Publicly-Funded Licensed Early Learning Centers

Monitoring Change Over Time

There has been little change in the number early learning centers. The 2018 Star Ratings are based on the Performance Profile ratings.

	Type I	Type II	Type III
January 2018	295	185	1008
February 2018	290	184	1002
March 2018	292	184	1008

2018 Star Ratings:

0 star	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star
16	76	303	386	136	5