# **Child Day Care Contracts Webinar** July 18, 2024



### Today's Agenda

- Introductions
- Contract Changes for FY25 (July 1, 2024 June 30, 2025)
- General Policy Changes
- Program Changes
- Early Start CT

### **Contract Changes for FY25**

- Extended contract period: Contracts amended to extend through June 30, 2025
- Increase in contract value:
  - FY 2024 Private Provider Payments\*—
  - FY 2025 CDC Services (including increased Preschool Full Time/Full Year rate from \$8,924 to \$10,500) +
     Annualized COLA + Annualized Private Provider Payments

\*2.55% of total services value for CDC programs. Programs operated by municipalities, board of educations, or higher education are *not* eligible for these funds.

# Your Contract + Amendment(s) = great sources of information!

Page 1 of the original contract, Contract Term is amended to extend the contract period by twelve [12] months from June 30, 2024, to June 30, 2025 and the total maximum amount payable under this contract has increased by \$222,309.62 from \$401,429.93 to \$623,739.55.

- 2. Funding provided to the Contractor under this Contract is being increased by \$222,309.62 as follows:
  - a. Funding in the amount of \$4,639.52 is added to State Fiscal Year 2024 (July 1, 2023 June 30, 2024) pursuant to Public Act 23-204, Sec. 41, (b)(22) to provide support for Private Providers during SFY 2024. The Private Provider payment shall be used for recurring operating expenses, reasonably attributed to the delivery of contractual services.
  - b. Funding in the amount of \$217,670.10 to support program implementation in State Fiscal Year
    2025 (July 1, 2024 June 30, 2025). Funding in SFY 2025 includes the annualized Private Provider support payment, and a rate increase for the full-time preschool category of care from \$8,924 per child per year to \$10,500 per child per year, pursuant to Public Act 23-150, Sec. 1, (1)(b).



### **Contract Changes for FY25**

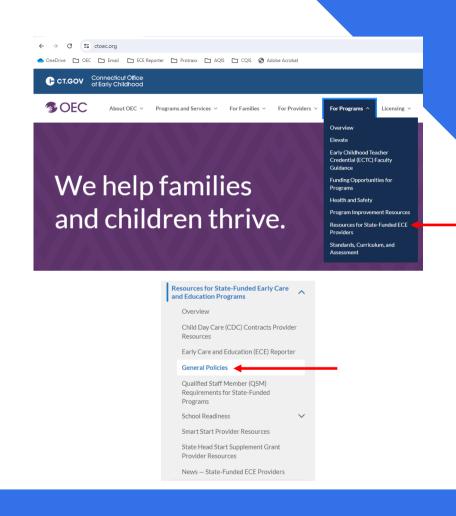
• Language Changes:

- New language <u>added</u> to existing language
  - Family Income Eligibility, Part I, Section B.6c: At least sixty (60) percent of families enrolled must fall **at or** below seventy-five (75) percent of the state's median income level.
- New language <u>replacing</u> existing language
  - Overpayments, Part I, Section D.5h(2)(b): If it is determined that the Contractor is overpaid, at the discretion of the OEC Commissioner, the OEC may:
    - Apply a reduction to future payments under this contract;
    - Request the Contractor shall at the end of the contract period. Or earlier if the contract is terminated, return to the OEC unexpended funds within thirty (30) days; or
    - Allow the Contractor to retain refunds for recurring operation expenses reasonably attributed to the delivery of contractual services.

### **General Policy Changes**

- A-03: Addition of section, <u>Assessment of</u> <u>Children's Progress</u>
- **B-03:** Language change: "Programs shall enroll at least sixty (60) percent of families that must fall **at or below** seventy-five (75) percent of the state's median income level."
- B-04: Addition of <u>Section VI. Overpayments</u>

A summary of General Policy changes will be forthcoming



### **Program Changes for FY25**

- Monthly Reporting Submission Schedule: The Monthly Reporting Submission Schedule for all statefunded programs is now based on <u>calendar months</u>. Schedule is posted on <u>CDC provider resources website</u>.
- First Quarter Payment: Contractors paid for the full 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter payment in July and must pay subcontractors/providers the <u>full</u> 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter payment <u>not</u> based on utilization.

#### Child Day Care (CDC) Contracts Provider Resources

Child Day Care (CDC) Contracts is established in <u>Section 8-210 of the Connecticut General</u> <u>Statutes</u>. These contracts provide funding to develop and operate child care programs to serve infants, toddlers, preschool and school age children throughout Connecticut who are disadvantaged by reasons of economic, social or environmental conditions.

#### Recent webinars/presentations

NEW CDC In-Person Meeting Presentation - May 2024

#### Past webinars/presentations

- <u>CDC Orientation presentation October 2023</u>
- CDC New Contractor presentation June 2023 (English)
- <u>CDC New Contractor presentation June 2023 (Spanish)</u>
- <u>CDC New Contractor webinar June 2023</u>

#### **Reporting requirements**

All Child Day Care programs are required to submit reports and forms to OEC to support contract compliance and program monitoring.

Data Submission and Reporting Requirements are detailed in OEC General Policy A-03.

#### **Annual Forms**

Annual Forms are sent via email to CDC contractors to be completed through a Qualtrics survey. Forms that contractors may need to *resubmit* during the year due to program changes should be completed and emailed to OEC Co-Program Managers.

#### ECE Reporter

CDC programs are required to enter (or upload) child enrollment data and submit monthly reports via Early Care and Education (ECE) Reporter. CDC contractors with one or more subcontractors must review and approve all reports monthly and are responsible for monitoring the accuracy of the data submitted.

- ECE Reporter
- ECE Reporter Help Desk
- NEW Monthly Report Submission Schedule 2024-25

### **Early Start CT**

- What is Early Start CT? Early Start CT is Connecticut's new state-funded early care and education program, combining three funding streams (Child Day Care Contracts, School Readiness, and State Head Start Supplement) into a single state-funded program.
- When does Early Start CT begin? Early Start CT will launch July 1, 2025.
- What is the status of Early Start CT? OEC Staff are currently working on the Request for Applications (RFA) that will be released to state-funded programs in Fall 2024.



### **Early Start CT**

## Where can programs go to find more information about Early Start CT?

https://www.ctoec.org/early-start-ct/

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#### About Early Start CT

State-Funded Early Care and

News - Programs and Services

Education Programs

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Early Start CT (ESCT) is a new state-funded early care and education program that's launching in July 2025. It combines 3 existing programs – Child Day Care Contracts, School Readiness Grants, and State Head Start Supplement Grants – into 1 program.

This new program will make things easier for providers – with less paperwork and more predictable pay schedules. We're dedicated to reaching more families and making it easier for them to know their options for high-quality early care and education



### Save The Date!

- Our next CDC Meeting will be in person on Tuesday, October 22, 2024
  from 10am 12pm at 450 Columbus Blvd in Hartford
- Registration and agenda will be sent out early this fall





