Information Session

Aug. 23, 2022
Welcome DC early childhood educators!
Zoom Engagement

Submit your questions using the **Q&A feature**.

Need to leave early? Click the **Leave Meeting** button at anytime.

Additional **information** and **links to materials** will be shared here.

Listen to the meeting in the language of your choice. Click here to **access** Amharic or **Spanish interpretation**.
Live Questions and Answers

Type your question here and click Submit
Meet Today’s Speakers

• Sara Mead, Deputy Superintendent for Early Learning, OSSE
• Katrina Van Gasse, CEO, AidKit
• Ruthie Tesfaye, Senior Program Manager, AidKit
Meeting Objectives

- Introduce the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund and how it will work in fiscal year 2022 (FY22) and beyond
- Explain the application process for FY22, including eligibility requirements, timeline to apply and available technical assistance
Agenda

1. An Introduction to the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund
2. Nuts & Bolts: Applying for a Supplemental Payment
3. Closing & Next Steps
Have you completed your application for the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund?

Please respond to the Zoom poll on screen
An Introduction to the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund
How We Got Here

- The Early Childhood Educator Equitable Compensation Task Force Temporary Amendment Act authorized OSSE to disburse pay equity funds to support pay parity for early childhood educators in accordance with the recommendations of the Early Childhood Educator Equitable Compensation Task Force.

- The task force recommended that OSSE partner with an intermediary organization to distribute one-time pay supplements to eligible early childhood educators in FY22.

- OSSE selected AidKit to administer the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund.
FY22 Payments are the Start of a Longterm Effort to Increase Early Childhood Educator Pay

FY22 (Oct. 1, 2021-Sept. 30, 2022)

FY23 (Oct. 1, 2022-Sept. 30, 2023)

FY24 (Oct. 1, 2023-Sept. 30, 2024)
What We’ve Been Working On

• Establishing eligibility and payment policies
• Building the application
• Establishing payment methods for individuals who do and do not have bank accounts
• Developing and translating informational materials
• Supporting child development facilities to update staff information in the Division of Early Learning Licensing Tool (DELLT) to ensure information is up to date and accurate
• Training support specialists to assist early childhood educators to complete their applications
• Partnering with DC early childhood education stakeholders to help spread the word about the launch of the program
• Planning for distribution in FY23 and beyond!
Eligibility Policy

In order to be eligible to receive a supplemental payment distribution from the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund for FY22, an individual must meet the following requirements:

1. Be currently **employed in a child development facility licensed by OSSE**.
2. Be employed in an **eligible role**.
3. Submit a **supplemental payment request** to AidKit.
1. Employed in a child development facility licensed by OSSE

In order to be considered employed in a child development facility licensed by OSSE, an applicant must meet the following criteria:

Employed in a child development facility licensed by OSSE:
- on or before May 16, 2022;
- at the time they submit their application; and
- at the time funds are disbursed.

Note: Staff in facilities not licensed by OSSE are not eligible for these funds.
2. Employed in an eligible role

To be employed in an eligible role, an applicant's "Staff Type" in DELLT must be one of the following:

- Teacher
- Assistant Teacher
- Associate Caregiver
- Expanded Home Provider
- Home Provider
- Montessori Assistant Teacher
- Montessori Teacher

The following "Staff Types" are not eligible:

- Directors
- Lead Teachers in Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion Program (PKEEP) classrooms
- Out of School Time Program Group Leaders and Assistants
- Aides and Substitutes
- Teachers in District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) and public charter schools

Eligibility is based on "Staff Type" in DELLT regardless of what you may be called at work.
## Payment Amount

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<th>Staff Type</th>
<th>Time Status</th>
<th>Full-Time</th>
<th>Part-Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Assistant Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Associate Caregiver</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Montessori Assistant Teacher</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ECE II:</strong></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>• Teacher</td>
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<td>$14,000</td>
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<tr>
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<td>• Home Provider</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Montessori Teacher</td>
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How Supplemental Payments Will Work in FY22

How will early childhood educators get their supplemental payment?

AidKit sends a link to the application for early childhood educators to apply. The link can also be found on the OSSE website.

Early childhood educators apply for funds through the AidKit platform.

AidKit will use OSSE licensing data to confirm your eligibility.

Approved applicants will receive funds in three to four weeks.

Applicants who cannot be confirmed will receive directions on next steps.

Two Ways to Receive Funds

Direct deposit to your bank account.

Debit card by mail or to pick up.
Payments Will Continue in FY23 and Beyond

FY22 (Oct. 1, 2021-Sept. 30, 2022)

FY23 (Oct. 1, 2022-Sept. 30, 2023)

FY24 (Oct. 1, 2023-Sept. 30, 2024)
Q&A
Nuts & Bolts: Applying for a Supplemental Payment
“Receiving this grant made me feel seen, that I mattered. That finally, for the first time, I was recognized in this country.”

Recently unemployed, undocumented worker, who received a grant from left behind workers fund via AidKit.
Programs Served by AidKit

- Left Behind Workers Fund Direct Cash Aid
- Left Behind Workers Fund Rental Aid
- Mile High United Way Direct Aid for Child Care Providers
- Utah Left Behind Workers Fund Direct Cash
- Adams County Low Income COVID Positive Aid
- Adams County Vaccine Equity Fund
- Miracle Money
- Grand Lake Business Relief Fund
- Denver Basic Income Project

- Excluded New Jerseyans Fund
- In Her Hands Guaranteed Income Project Refugee Cash Assistance Colorado
- Chicago Resilient Communities
- DC Early Childhood Educators Pay Equity Fund
Closed-Loop Integrated System

Scalable and vertically integrated infrastructure for end-to-end tracking

Outreach - Integrated Surveys
Application - Data Management
Verification - Funds Tracking
Notifications - Payment Disbursement
Balancing Inclusion with Integrity

Inclusion
- Ensures cash assistance reaches people who are typically excluded

Integrity
- Integrated fraud protection and real-time validation

Foundation of Trust
How to Apply

• Two methods to submit an application:
  • Invite link: AidKit sent an invite link (via text and/or email) to eligible early childhood educators in the OSSE licensing database on Aug. 15, 2022.
    • Note: The email notification that includes the link was sent from outreach@ecepayequity.aidkit.org
  • OSSE website: The application link is hosted at www.osse.dc.gov/ecepayequity for individuals to apply if their contact information is not up to date in the licensing database or if they missed the invite link.

• The application can be completed using a computer or a mobile device.

• The application is available in English, Amharic and Spanish.

• Applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. on Sept. 20, 2022.
How to Access the Application in Different Languages
Required Documents

• Government-issued photo ID (US or foreign)
  • Note: Expired IDs are accepted
• Headshot/selfie
• Child development facility license number
• Bank payment information if you prefer to receive your payment via direct bank deposit (name on bank account/account number/routing number)
• Social Security Number (SSN)/Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN)
• A complete and signed W-9 form (a link to the form is provided in the application)
Application Demo

Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund Application

Welcome! Thank you for your interest in the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund. The fund supports pay parity for early childhood educators working in the District following the recommendations of the Early Childhood Educator Equitable Compensation Task Force. To administer the fund, the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is partnering with AidKit, a social impact company specializing in administering efficient and secure direct cash assistance programs at scale. In fiscal year 2022 (FY22), this initiative will provide one-time cash payments of between $5,000 - $10,000 to eligible early childhood educators. The amount an educator receives through the fund depends on their staff type and if they are a full- or part-time employee. There are no restrictions on how recipients spend the money. Early childhood educators may decide how to use their payment to best meet their financial needs and goals.

Eligibility and payment amount are based on the early childhood educator’s information in OSSE’s child care licensing data system.
What Happens After I Submit My Application?

• After you submit your application, you will receive a confirmation text and/or email.

• AidKit will review your application for completeness and to verify your eligibility.
  • If we are able to verify your information, we will notify you within 10 days that your application has been approved for payment.
  • Applicants whose information cannot be verified in the licensing database will receive additional information on what to do next through the application process.

• Approved applicants can expect to receive their supplemental payment in three to four weeks after their application is approved.
Technical Assistance

• Applicant support specialists are available to support you during any stage of the application process. There are two options to request support:
  • Email: support@ecepayequity.aidkit.org
  • Phone: call (202) 831-9298 and leave a voicemail
    • Please provide your name, contact information and details about the assistance you need when requesting support. Please note, all calls go directly to voicemail and your call will be returned in the order in which it was received.

• Support specialists are equipped to provide support in multiple languages, including English, Spanish and Amharic.
Q&A
Closing & Next Steps
Next Steps

1. Gather the following information so you’re prepared to complete your application:
   a. Government issued-photo ID
   b. Headshot/selfie
   c. Child development facility license number
   d. Payment information (e.g., banking information if you’d like to receive your supplemental payment via direct bank deposit)
   e. SSN or ITIN

2. Visit the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund webpage to find a link to the application:  
   www.osse.dc.gov/ecepayequity

3. Send questions or request support:
   a. Email: support@ecepayequity.aidkit.org
   b. Phone: call (202) 831-9298 and leave a voicemail

4. Complete and submit your application!
How are you feeling about the application process after today’s information session?

Please respond to the Zoom poll on screen
Thank you for attending today’s information session!

For more information on the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund and to locate the application, please visit: www.osse.dc.gov/ecepayequity.

Resources:
• Application check list
• Eligibility and payment policy
• Frequently Asked Questions

For questions about the Early Childhood Educator Pay Equity Fund, please email OSSE.DELCommunications@dc.gov.