



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF

EDUCATION

TO: Current child development providers with a contract for subsidized child care

FROM: Sara Mead
Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning

RE: Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate

DATE: Jan. 15, 2021

I. Background

On Dec. 18, 2020, Mayor Muriel Bowser announced that the Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) put forward emergency and proposed regulations establishing a Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate for child care providers, which were published in the DC Register on Jan. 15, 2021.

The Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate temporarily increases subsidy reimbursement rates for licensed child development facilities participating in the District's child care subsidy program, in order to partially offset the effects of increased costs and/or reduced revenues that subsidy child care providers may experience due to the public health emergency resulting from the coronavirus (COVID-19). The rate is designed to ensure that reductions in subsidy payments that would otherwise result from reduced attendance in child care facilities during the public health emergency are instead reinvested in increased payment rates for child care providers.

The Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate is one of multiple strategies that the District of Columbia is implementing to support child care providers' continued ability to operate during a time when the impacts of COVID-19 are affecting all child care facilities' operating capacity, costs, and children's attendance in child care. It is intended to complement other strategies, including:

- Emergency and relief grants to both subsidy and non-subsidy child care providers;
- Changes in attendance payment policies that increase the number of days of a child's unexcused absences for which child care providers participating in the subsidy program may be paid each month, as well as allowances for COVID-related absences to be considered excused;
- Full time payment for school age children receiving full time care while their LEA is in a virtual posture; and
- Continued subsidy eligibility for families during the public health emergency.

II. Process for Calculating the Public Subsidy Rate

As defined in the regulations creating the Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate, the Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate is a *percentage increase* in the subsidy rates defined in [DCMRA 5-A203](#).

The percentage increase is calculated by a mathematical formula based on the following steps:

1. Calculating the difference between subsidy payments for the most recent month based on standard subsidy rates (i.e., November 2020 payments) and the subsidy payments made in the month before the start of the public health emergency (which for current public health emergency means February 2020),
2. Dividing this difference by the total subsidy payments made in the month before the Mayor first declared the public health emergency (i.e., February 2020)

Under the emergency and proposed regulations, the Public Health Emergency rate is to be updated every 90 days during the Public Health Emergency. Setting the rate in three-month increments provides some predictability for child care providers, while allowing the rate to be updated if attendance in child care facilities changes in response to public health or other conditions.

For the months of December 2020 through February 2021, the percentage increase of the public health emergency is calculated as follows:

- The total monthly subsidy payment in November 2020 was \$6,203,288.74
- The total monthly subsidy payment in February 2020 was \$9,219,812.75
- The difference between \$9,219,812.75 and \$6,203,288.74 is \$3,016,524.01
- \$3,016,524.01 is 32.72% of \$9,219,812.75
- As a result of the implementation of the Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate, **all subsidy rates will increase by 32.72 percent for the months from December 2020 through February 2021**

The full table of rates for each provider type and Capital Quality Rating appears at the end of this document.

In March 2021, OSSE will update this document and the accompanying rate table to inform providers of the Public Health Emergency rate in effect from March-May 2021, using subsidy attendance data from February 2021 to project what the February 2021 subsidy payment would have been, had standard payment rates been in effect, and calculate the percentage difference between that payment and the February 2020 payment, as described above.

OSSE will continue to update this document every three months thereafter until either the termination of the public health emergency, or until there are no longer funds available to cover the costs of the Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate.

III. Accessing the Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rates

Child care providers who participate in the District’s child care subsidy system and submit attendance to OSSE do not need to take any additional action to receive the Public Health Emergency Subsidy rate. The Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate will be automatically applied to the provider’s payment based on reported attendance of children receiving subsidy.

IV. Questions and Public Comment

Child care providers with questions about the Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate should contact Rebecca Shaw at Rebecca.Shaw@dc.gov.

Providers, members of the public, or other individuals who wish to provide public comment on the Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate should file comments in writing no later than **Feb. 15, 2021**, via an email addressed to ossecomments.proposedregulations@dc.gov; or by mail or hand delivery to the Office of the State Superintendent of Education, Attn: Renee Lee re: Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rate, 1050 First St. NE, Third Floor, Washington, DC 20002.

V. Public Health Emergency Subsidy Rates Table

Developing – Center						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$86.84	\$52.11	\$95.52	\$60.79	\$108.55	\$65.13
Infant and Toddler Special Needs	\$103.23	\$61.58	-	-	-	-
Pre-school	\$64.86	\$38.91	\$71.35	\$45.40	\$81.08	\$48.64
Pre-school Before and After	\$64.86	\$38.91	\$71.35	\$45.40	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$47.86	\$28.72	\$52.65	\$33.50	\$59.83	\$35.90
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$47.86	\$23.93	-	-	-	-
Pre-school and School-Age Special Needs	\$81.61	\$48.68	-	-	-	-

Developing - Child Development Home and Expanded Home						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$66.97	\$40.19	\$73.67	\$46.88	\$83.72	\$50.23
Pre-school	\$40.93	\$24.57	\$45.03	\$28.65	\$51.16	\$30.70
Pre-school Before and After	\$40.93	\$24.57	\$45.03	\$28.65	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$37.16	\$22.30	\$40.88	\$26.01	\$46.45	\$27.87
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$37.16	\$18.58	-	-	-	-

Progressing - Child Development Center						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$90.67	\$54.40	\$99.74	\$63.47	\$113.34	\$68.01
Infant and Toddler Special Needs	\$103.23	\$61.58	-	-	-	-
Pre-school	\$67.63	\$40.59	\$74.40	\$47.34	\$84.54	\$50.73
Pre-school Before and After	\$67.63	\$40.59	\$74.40	\$47.34	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$47.86	\$28.72	\$52.65	\$33.50	\$59.83	\$35.90
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$47.86	\$23.93	-	-	-	-
Pre-school and School-Age Special Needs	\$81.61	\$48.68	-	-	-	-

Progressing - Child Development Home and Expanded Home						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$73.02	\$43.81	\$80.32	\$51.11	\$91.28	\$54.77
Pre-school	\$45.58	\$27.35	\$50.14	\$31.91	\$56.98	\$34.19
Pre-school Before and After	\$45.58	\$27.35	\$50.14	\$31.91	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$37.16	\$22.30	\$40.88	\$26.01	\$46.45	\$27.87
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$37.16	\$18.58	-	-	-	-

Quality - Child Development Center						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$101.90	\$61.14	\$112.10	\$71.34	\$127.38	\$76.43
Infant and Toddler Special Needs	\$103.23	\$61.58	-	-	-	-
Pre-school	\$75.72	\$45.43	\$83.30	\$53.01	\$94.64	\$56.79
Pre-school Before and After	\$75.72	\$45.43	\$83.30	\$53.01	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$47.86	\$28.72	\$52.65	\$33.50	\$59.83	\$35.90

School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$47.86	\$23.93	-	-	-	-
Pre-school and School-Age Special Needs	\$81.61	\$48.68	-	-	-	-

Quality - Child Development Home and Expanded Home						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$79.34	\$47.61	\$87.28	\$55.54	\$99.18	\$59.51
Pre-school	\$52.03	\$31.22	\$57.23	\$36.42	\$65.03	\$39.02
Pre-school Before and After	\$52.03	\$31.22	\$57.23	\$36.42	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$37.16	\$22.30	\$40.88	\$26.01	\$46.45	\$27.87
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$37.16	\$18.58	-	-	-	-

High-Quality - Child Development Center						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$124.64	\$74.79	\$137.10	\$87.25	\$155.80	\$93.47
Infant and Toddler Special Needs	\$103.23	\$61.58	-	-	-	-
Pre-school	\$81.61	\$48.96	\$89.77	\$57.12	\$102.01	\$61.21
Pre-school Before and After	\$81.61	\$48.96	\$89.77	\$57.12	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$47.86	\$28.72	\$52.65	\$33.50	\$59.83	\$35.90
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$47.86	\$23.93	-	-	-	-
Pre-school and School-Age Special Needs	\$81.61	\$48.68	-	-	-	-

High-Quality - Child Development Home and Expanded Home						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$92.61	\$55.45	\$101.88	\$64.83	\$115.77	\$69.47
Pre-school	\$57.31	\$34.39	\$63.04	\$40.12	\$71.64	\$42.99
Pre-school Before and After	\$57.31	\$34.39	\$63.04	\$40.12	\$71.64	\$42.99

School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$37.16	\$22.30	\$40.88	\$26.01	\$46.45	\$27.87
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$37.16	\$18.58	-	-	-	-

Preliminary - Child Development Center						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$86.84	\$52.11	\$95.52	\$60.79	\$108.55	\$65.13
Infant and Toddler Special Needs	\$103.23	\$61.58	-	-	-	-
Pre-school	\$64.86	\$38.91	\$71.35	\$45.40	\$81.08	\$48.64
Pre-school Before and After	\$64.86	\$38.91	\$71.35	\$45.40	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$47.86	\$28.72	\$52.65	\$33.50	\$59.83	\$35.90
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$47.86	\$23.93	-	-	-	-
Pre-school and School-Age Special Needs	\$81.61	\$48.68	-	-	-	-

Preliminary - Child Development Home and Expanded Home						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$66.97	\$40.19	\$73.67	\$46.88	\$83.72	\$50.23
Pre-school	\$40.93	\$24.57	\$45.03	\$28.65	\$51.16	\$30.70
Pre-school Before and After	\$40.93	\$24.57	\$45.03	\$28.65	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$37.16	\$22.30	\$40.88	\$26.01	\$46.45	\$27.87
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$37.16	\$18.58	-	-	-	-

Relative Child Care Rates						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$32.09	\$19.24	\$35.30	\$22.47	\$40.12	\$24.08
Pre-school	\$19.02	\$11.41	-	-	-	-
Pre-school Before and After	\$19.02	\$11.41	-	-	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$18.47	\$11.08	\$20.32	\$12.93	\$23.09	\$13.86
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$18.47	\$5.55	-	-	-	-

In-Home Child Care Rates						
	Traditional		Extended Day		Nontraditional	
	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time	Full-Time	Part-Time
Infant and Toddler	\$18.82	\$11.29	\$20.70	\$13.18	\$23.53	\$14.12
Pre-School	\$11.55	\$6.93	\$12.70	\$8.08	\$14.44	\$8.67
Pre-school Before and After	\$11.55	\$6.93	\$12.70	\$8.08	-	-
School-Age Before <i>and</i> After	\$10.01	\$6.00	\$11.00	\$7.01	\$12.52	\$7.51
School-Age Before <i>or</i> After	\$10.01	\$5.49	-	-	-	-