

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.315

Child Care CARES Act

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Child Care CARES Act

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Early Learning & Early Literacy

1b. What does this program do?

DESE received funding through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act to prevent, prepare for, and respond to the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), and expanded flexibility to provide child care assistance to families and children. With the expanded flexibility, temporary changes to the Child Care subsidy program makes it possible for additional low-income families to qualify for child care assistance. The Child Care CARES Act Plan also provides special assistance to child care providers who continue to support the needs of working families during COVID-19.

The Child Care CARES Act plan provides assistance to low-income families and child care providers to mitigate the effects of the pandemic. The Child Care plan includes:

- Temporary child care subsidy benefit (up to 90 days) for families who became unemployed due to COVID-19. Families must be actively looking for work to receive the benefit. Benefit was available through December 2020.
- Temporary transitional child care subsidy benefit available to families with income between 138 to 215% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL), does not matter if they previously did not qualify for a child care subsidy.
- Increased transitional child care subsidy benefit to 80 percent subsidy benefit for families with income between 138 to 176% of the FPL or 60% percent subsidy benefit for income between 177 to 215% of the FPL.
- One-time payment to child care providers remaining open to provide child care services to essential personnel. Payment is based on the capacity of the child care provider.
- Monthly stipend of \$100 per child care slot to licensed or licensed-exempt child care providers operating non-traditional hours (7 a.m. to 6 p.m.) seven days a week. The stipend was available for the months of April, May, and June.
- Payments to child care subsidy providers based on authorized care instead of actual attendance. The authorized payments were available for the service months of April, May, and June.
- One-time grants to higher education institutions to establish on-campus child care programs that include slots for child care subsidy families.
- Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

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2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.

In FY 2022, 280 providers received PPP payments totaling \$8,486,400.

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

In FY 2022, 145 providers became licensed.

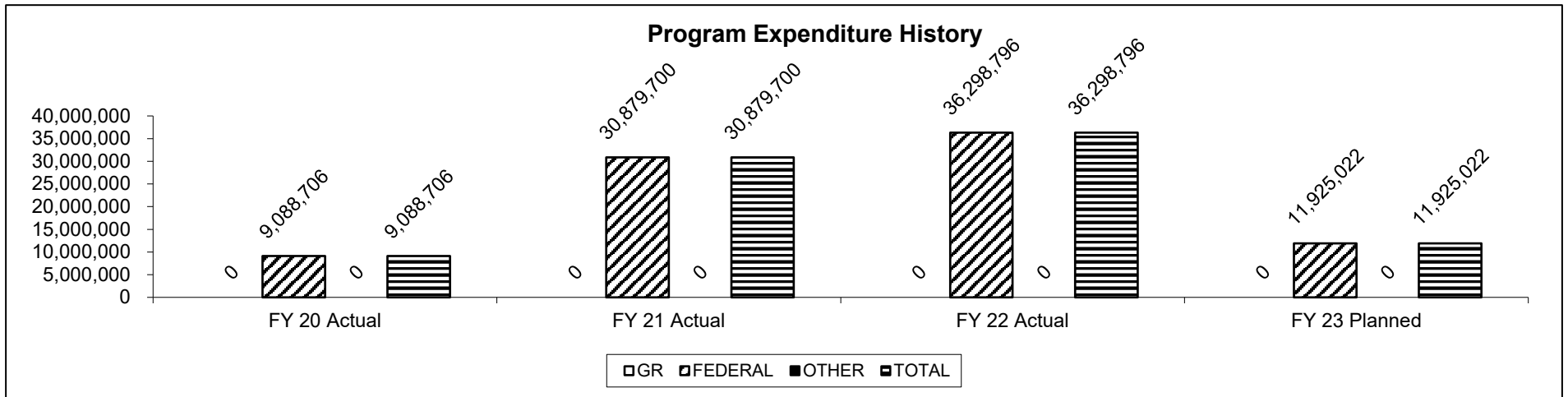
2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

In FY 2022, DESE processed 289 payments for providers providing child care during non-traditional hours and \$1,084,358.60 in payments for one-time grants to higher education institutions to establish on-campus child care programs that include slots for child care subsidy families.

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

In FY 2022, DESE processed 100% of provider payments utilizing CARES funding within 14 days.

3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



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4. What are the sources of the "Other " funds?

N/A

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e., federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act (P.L. 116-136); 42 U.S.C. 9857; 45 CFR Parts 98 and 99.

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

N/A

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

No.