

## ECE Incentive Mini Grant Summary

### Eligibility Guidelines-

To be eligible to receive the mini-grant, early learning programs (centers) must ensure that the teacher(s) selected to receive the funding from this mini-grant is serving in at least ONE of the following priority populations:

Infants and toddlers;

Children birth-5 in a rural community; Children birth-5 experiencing a disability; and/or Children birth-5 whose home language is Spanish.

### Options-

Option 1- up to \$1500 sign on bonus for new teachers joining the program

Option 2- up to \$1500 retention bonus for existing teachers who have been employed during the pandemic

Option 3- up to \$1500 to cover the cost of child care for the teacher to return to or maintain their current work schedule

An early learning program can request funding for up to 6 teachers through this mini-grant process.

- Original # of Applications- 13 (1 certified family and 12 centers)
  - Request breakdown
    - Option 1 – 10 requests \$15,000
    - Option 2 -44 requests \$66,000
    - Option 3- 13 request \$19,500
    - TOTAL= \$100,500
  - After reviewing the applications, we identified we needed additional details to determine specific needs of the programs and to determine they met the eligibility guidelines so asked applicants to complete a finalist application including names, hire dates, time worked during the pandemic and reasoning for the funding.
- Finalist # of Applications – 9 (1 certified family and 8 centers)
  - Request breakdown
    - Option 1- 4 requests \$6,000
    - Option 2- 31 requests \$46,500
    - Option 3- 0
    - TOTAL= \$52,500 for 8 programs and 35 staff
  - We disqualified the certified family since it was only advertised to centers for this round of applicants. One program included their director which is funded at the PP hourly rate and was removed from the applicant list.
- Next steps are notifying each provider awarded and draft the contract and reporting guidelines as well as a letter to any provider that did not receive the mini grant.