



**Mohammed Choudhury**  
State Superintendent of Schools

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**TO:** Members of the State Board of Education  
**FROM:** Mohammed Choudhury  
**DATE:** April 26, 2022  
**SUBJECT:** 2022 Legislative Session Review

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**PURPOSE:**

The purpose of this item is to provide a review on the 2022 Legislative Session and the Child Care related bills that have passed the Maryland General Assembly.

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

Members of the State Board of Education will receive a high level overview on four pieces of legislation that passed the Maryland General Assembly related to Child Care.

**ACTION:**

For information only. No action required.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

2022 Legislative Session – Review PowerPoint

# 2022 Legislative Session - Review

MARYLAND STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION | April 26, 2022

Presented By | Ary Amerikaner



# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- **Legislative Session - By the Numbers**
- **Child Care Package**
  - HB 89 / SB 480 - State Department of Education - Stabilization Grants
  - HB 993 / SB 919- Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund -Established
  - HB 995 / SB 920 - Early Childhood Development - Child Care Scholarship Program - Alterations and Study
  - HB 1100 - Child Care Providers and Employees - Bonuses

# Legislation Session – By The Numbers

*Overview of Statistics from Legislative Session*

## Session 2022 Statistics

- **1,011** Senate bills introduced / **1,487** House bills introduced
- **261** bills tracked by MSDE, **76** of those passed
- **257** fiscal and policy notes completed, as requested by DLS
- Testimony or letters of information submitted on **61** bills



# Child Care Package

1. House Bill 89/Senate Bill 480 - State Department of Education - Stabilization Grants
2. House Bill 1100 - Child Care Providers and Employees - Bonuses
3. House Bill 993/Senate Bill 919- Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund – Established
4. House Bill 995/Senate Bill 920 - Early Childhood Development - Child Care Scholarship Program - Alterations and Study

*Legislative Review of the Passed Child Care Package*

# House Bill 89/Senate Bill 480 - State Department of Education - Stabilization Grants

- The bill requires that MSDE distribute the **\$50 million** for child care stabilization grants allocated by the Governor in the FY 2023 budget to child care providers that faced financial hardship during COVID-19.
- Providers who demonstrate a financial hardship, have not received stabilization grants, and are participants in the Child Care Scholarship Program shall be given initial preference.
- From there, MSDE must give preference for grants to providers that serve low-income families, students with disabilities, and areas identified as child care deserts.

# House Bill 1100 - Child Care Providers and Employees - Bonuses

- In FY 2023, MSDE must distribute **\$16 million** in bonuses to child care providers and their employees.
  - **\$10 million** for retention bonuses
  - **\$4 million** for new hire bonuses
  - **\$2 million** for hiring assistance bonuses to providers
- Funding allocated for the bonuses is **one-time**, but the program can continue with available funds.
- Some criteria is set in the bill in order to receive a bonus (e.g. employee must work an average of 20 hours a week).

# House Bill 1100 - Child Care Providers and Employees - Bonuses

Award	Retention Bonus	New Hire Bonus	Hiring Assistance Bonus
<b>Amount</b>	\$1,000	Up to \$1,000 total (two separate \$500 awards)	\$500 for each employee hired by a provider in FY 23 to work at least 30 hours for three months
<b>Criteria to Receive</b> <i>(not all inclusive)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Must be employed by a provider on June 30, 2022</li> <li>- Work 20 hours a week</li> <li>- Hold a child care credential or;</li> <li>- Earn a child care credential during FY 23</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- \$500 for individuals beginning work with a provider for 20 hours a week for 3 months</li> <li>- Additional \$500 for initial recipients who remain with the provider for 6 months or provide proof of the attainment of a child care credential</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A child care provider may use funds received:</li> <li>- to advertise a position</li> <li>- for licensure or certification costs</li> <li>- to cover background check fees</li> <li>- to pay the first month of salary to a new employee</li> </ul>

# House Bill 993/Senate Bill 919- Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund - Established

- **Establishes a Child Care Capital Support Revolving Loan Fund for the purpose of providing no-interest loans for capital expenses to child care providers who already participate in the Child Care Scholarship Program.**
  - Administered by the Department of Commerce, with support from MSDE.
- **The Revolving Loan Fund must give priority to child care providers in the following order:**
  - Located in underserved communities or areas lacking child care slots;
  - are located in rural communities;
  - serve primarily low-income populations in areas of high poverty;
  - serve children with special needs; and
  - serve children ages 2 and younger.
- **The Governor must include a total appropriation of \$30 million in general funds from FY23-FY25 to support the Revolving Loan Fund.**

# House Bill 995/Senate Bill 920 - Early Childhood Development - Child Care Scholarship Program - Alterations and Study

- **Presumptive eligibility:**
  - All applicants shall receive a minimum of 60 days of child care subsidy for a period beginning on the day on which the individual submits a form;
- **Process for presumptive eligibility:**
  - MSDE to conduct a study with stakeholders and national recognized experts, and report the results of the study to the Governor and General Assembly by December 1st, 2022;
  - MSDE will establish and implement a process that grants presumptive eligibility for a subsidy by **July 1st, 2023**.
  - The program will be funded by a **new Child Care Scholarship Presumptive Eligibility Fund**, which shall be included in the budget beginning in Fiscal Year 2024

# Child Care Scholarship Program Updates, cont'd

- New alterations in the payment **timeline**. MSDE must complete its processes within 10 days, and the comptroller within 5 days.
- **Copays** will now be waived for applicants participating in certain programs by July 1st, 2022.
  - Federal Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children;
  - Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program;
  - Federal Housing Act Housing Voucher Program;
  - Supplemental Security Income Benefits;
  - Temporary Cash Assistance; and
  - Employment or enrollment in an education or career training program.