



***HEART OF TEXAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD, INC.
PROPOSED POLICY***

ID NO.:	HWD 004-10	DATE ISSUED:	March 18, 2010
PROGRAM:	CCS	KEYWORD:	Child Care Rising Star Incentives

Subject: Definition and limits on incentives paid to Texas Rising Star providers achieving benchmarks within an approved plan.

Purpose: To allow the Child Care Services contractor to award incentives to providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Provider program.

References: On June 9, 2009, the Texas Workforce Commission (Commission) approved the allocation of \$32.3 million in CCDF ARRA funds to Boards to be expended on child care quality improvement activities. WD Letter 22-09 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009: Child Care Quality Improvement Activities provides guidance on allowable activities.

Discussion: The American Recovery and Re-employment Act funding provided to Texas to expand child care services also allowed TWC to allocate funds for the purpose of improving the quality of that care to the Boards. In November, 2009 the Board approved the Quality Plan for Child Care.

This policy is crafted to apply to any opportunity provided the Board to allow for similar awards if other funding sources allow for such. In every case, payments directly to directors and/or owners will be awarded only when criteria in guidelines and directives for the use of such funds are met.

Policy:

1. Incentives shall be awarded to Child Care Providers who meet the Texas Rising Star standards, or who have an application on file and have an approved plan which expressly demonstrates a schedule for meeting such standards and earning the Texas Rising Star designation.
2. The Child Care Provider shall execute an agreement promulgated by the Workforce Solutions for the Heart of Texas CCS.
3. No payment shall be authorized by the CCS contractor to any provider without having all required records and documents on file.
4. Documentation is required showing how incentives are reinvested into their business through bonuses and/or wage increases to retain qualified staff, toward

- purchase of materials and equipment, for professional development opportunities, and other quality enhancement activities.
5. Incentives paid for progress toward the staff qualification requirement require a passing grade as defined by the college.
 6. An incentive payment shall be made to providers who meet the guidelines in an amount based on the available funding and the number of successful awardees.

Public Review and Comment: The public is invited to submit comments on this proposed policy. Please submit comments in writing to Julie Talbert at 801 Washington Ave, Suite 700, Waco, TX 76701 or Julie.Talbert@hotworkforce.com by noon on March 12, 2010.

Effective Date: March 18, 2010