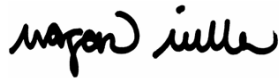


TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION
Workforce Development Letter

ID/No:	WD 09-23
Date:	June 12, 2023
Keyword:	Child Care
Effective:	Immediately

To: Local Workforce Development Board Executive Directors
Commission Executive Offices
Integrated Service Area Managers



From: Reagan Miller, Director, Child Care & Early Learning Division

Subject: **Texas School Ready™ Comprehensive Program**

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this WD Letter is to provide Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with guidance on the [Texas School Ready™ \(TSR\) Comprehensive](#) program and enhanced reimbursement rates for licensed child care programs that participate in the TSR program.

RESCISSIONS:

WD Letter 55-07

BACKGROUND:

Texas Education Code §29.161 requires the State Center for Early Childhood Development, identified as Children’s Learning Institute (CLI), to establish a school readiness program for child care programs. TSR is a comprehensive early childhood teacher training program that combines a research-based, state-adopted curriculum with ongoing professional development and progress monitoring tools.

Since its inception, TSR has provided training for prekindergarten teachers of three- and four-year-old children. Early learning programs that participate in TSR qualify for enhanced Child Care Services (CCS) payment rates for CCS children in age groups served.

TSR Comprehensive coaches began delivering infant-toddler coaching services to teachers at participating programs in Fall 2020. In Fall 2022, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) amended TWC Chapter 809 Child Care Services rule §809.20(b)(2) to include enhanced CCS rates for infants and toddlers being served through TSR.

PROCEDURES:

No Local Flexibility (NLF): This rating indicates that Boards must comply with the federal and state laws, rules, policies, and required procedures set forth in this WD Letter

and have no local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to comply. All information with an NLF rating is indicated by “must.”

Local Flexibility (LF): This rating indicates that Boards have local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to implement guidance or recommended practices set forth in this WD Letter. All information with an LF rating is indicated by “may” or “recommend.”

NLF: Boards must:

- establish enhanced reimbursement rates for infants, toddlers, and preschool children enrolled in child care programs participating in TSR; and
- ensure that the enhanced reimbursement rates for TSR child care programs are at least equal to the Texas Rising Star Two-Star reimbursement rates.

NLF: Boards must be aware that TWC sends a monthly TSR report to the Boards that shows active and inactive statuses for child care program participation in the TSR program. Boards must review the report and take applicable action based on guidance provided by TWC within that report email.

NLF: Boards must be aware that TSR participation is valid for three full academic years, September through August, per participating classroom. A child care program is eligible to enroll in TSR at any point during the academic year, and formal program implementation will follow the academic calendar. A child care program may be determined as inactive at any time during the academic year.

NLF: Boards must provide information about TSR to all child care programs caring for children receiving CCS and encourage those programs to apply for TSR participation.

INQUIRIES:

Send inquiries regarding this WD Letter to childcare.programassistance@twc.texas.gov.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: TSR Eligibility and Application Procedures

REFERENCES:

[Texas Education Code §29.161](#)

[Child Care Services Guide](#), Sections B-703 and H-104