

Child Care Subsidies as “Scholarships” Discussion Paper

1 Background

2 On June 24, 2021, the Texas Workforce Commission’s (TWC) three-member Commission (Commission)
3 approved the Child Care & Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan for Federal Fiscal Years 2022-2024.
4 During the Commission’s discussion, Commissioner Julian Alvarez, Commissioner Representing Labor,
5 requested that staff research recharacterizing CCDF child care subsidies as child care “scholarships” and
6 bring back ideas on how to implement this change.

7 Issue

8 Each lead CCDF state agency has flexibility to determine what to name their CCDF program. The federal
9 Office of Child Care’s (OCC) consumer education webpage, [ChildCare.gov](https://www.childcare.gov), provides state links to access
10 information on child care, and OCC uses the term:

- 11 • Financial Assistance for Families.

12 States refer to their program in a variety of ways, with the following being the most prevalent terms used
13 (see Attachment 1 for a complete list):

- 14 • Child Care Subsidy/Subsidized Services – 17 states
- 15 • Child Care Assistance – 17 states
- 16 • Child Care Financial Aid – 2 states
- 17 • Scholarship – 2 states (Montana, New Hampshire)

18 We have identified two additional states that have implemented limited “scholarship” programs which are
19 available only at quality rated programs (Arizona [QualityFirst Scholarships](#) and Minnesota [Early Learning
20 Scholarships](#)). TWC received a comment during the Child Care and Development Fund State Plan public
21 hearing from Dr. Quianta Moore regarding the Minnesota child care scholarship program

22 The Texas Workforce Commission’s (TWC) child care rules, [Chapter 809](#), are titled “Child Care
23 Services.” Currently, the term “subsidy” is also used to further describe the Child Care Services program.
24 In addition, Local Workforce Development Boards refer to the child care program in different ways (see
25 Attachment 2 for a complete list), with the following being the most prevalent:

- 26 • Child Care Services
- 27 • Child Care Assistance

28 In addition, some Boards have augmented the official name of the child care program, and are using the
29 term “scholarship” in social media and other media efforts:

- 30 • Capital Area Workforce Solutions refers to the program as “Child Care Services” on their website,
31 but use the term “scholarships” in their social media posts
32 ([Capital Area](#) social media)

- 1 • Gulf Coast Workforce Solutions refers to the program as “Finance Aid for Child Care” on their
2 website, but also uses the term “scholarships” in media interviews
3 ([Gulf Coast](#) media interview)

4 If the Commission were to modify the name of the program, they could consider several different
5 implementation strategies, which could include one or more of the following.

- 6 • Modify language throughout Ch. 809
7 • Retain the rule language, but modify how we refer to the program in parent/provider outreach
8 material

9 **Decision Point**

10 Staff seeks direction on:

- 11 • any changes to the name used for TWC’s child care program
12 • any guidance on specific implementation strategies, including
13 ○ amending TWC’s Chapter 809 Child Care Services rules; and/or
14 ○ updating guidance and public-facing materials.

State/Territory Child Care Program Names, Urban Institute CCDF Policies Database Table I.A.

https://ccdf.urban.org/sites/default/files/state_2019_ccdf_policies_dec_2020.pdf

Alabama	Child Care Subsidy Program
Alaska	Child Care Assistance Program
American Samoa	Child Care Program
Arizona	Child Care Assistance
Arkansas	Child Care Assistance Program
California	California Alternative Payment Programs
Colorado	Colorado Child Care Assistance Program
Connecticut	Care 4 Kids
Delaware	Child Care Subsidy Program
D.C.	Subsidized Child Care
Florida	School Readiness
Georgia	Childcare and Parent Services
Guam	CCDF Program
Hawaii	Child Care Connection Hawaii
Idaho	Idaho Child Care Program
Illinois	Child Care Assistance Program
Indiana	CCDF Program
Iowa	Child Care Assistance
Kansas	Child Care Program
Kentucky	Child Care Assistance Program
Louisiana	Child Care Assistance Program
Maine	DHHS Child Care Subsidy Program
Maryland	Child Care Subsidy Program
Massachusetts	Early Education and Care Financial Assistance
Michigan	Child Development and Care
Minnesota	Child Care Assistance Program
Mississippi	Child Care Payment Program
Missouri	Child Care Subsidy Program
Montana	Best Beginnings Child Care Scholarship Program
Nebraska	Child Care Subsidy Program
Nevada	Child Care and Development Program
New Hampshire	NH Child Care Scholarship
New Jersey	Child Care Subsidy Program
New Mexico	Child Care Assistance
New York	Child Care Subsidy Program
North Carolina	Subsidized Child Care Assistance (SCCA) Program
North Dakota	Child Care Assistance Program
Northern Mariana Islands	DCCA Child Care and Development Fund Program
Ohio	Publicly Funded Child Care
Oklahoma	Child Care Subsidy Program
Oregon	Employment Related Day Care

Pennsylvania	Child Care Works Subsidized Child Care
Puerto Rico	Child Care and Development Program
Rhode Island	Child Care Assistance Program
South Carolina	SC Voucher Program
South Dakota	Child Care Assistance
Tennessee	Child Care Certificate Program
Texas	Child Care Services
Utah	Child Care Assistance
Vermont	Child Care Financial Assistance Program
Virgin Islands	Subsidy, Resource, and Referral Program
Virginia	Child Care Subsidy and Services
Washington	Working Connections Child Care
West Virginia	Child Care
Wisconsin	Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy Program
Wyoming	Child Care Subsidy Program

Local Workforce Development Board Websites for Child Care

Child Care Services (CCS)

- [South Plains](#)
- [North Texas](#)
- [North Central Texas](#)
- [Northeast](#)
- [East Texas](#)
- [West Central](#)
- [Borderplex](#)
- [Permian Basin](#)
- [Concho Valley](#)
- [Heart of Texas](#)
- [Capital Area,](#)
- [Rural Capital](#)
- [Brazos](#)
- [Deep East](#)
- [Alamo](#)
- [South Texas](#)
- [Golden Crescent](#)
- [Coastal Bend](#)
- [Cameron County](#)
- [Texoma](#)
- [Central Texas](#)
- [Middle Rio](#)

Child Care Assistance

- [Panhandle](#)
- [Dallas](#)
- [Lower Rio](#)

Child Care Management Services (CCMS)

- [Tarrant](#)

Child Care Contractor Services (CCCS)

- [Southeast](#)

Financial Aid

- [Gulf Coast](#)