



Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs Slots Notice of Application

Overview

The Children & Youth with Special Health Care Needs (CYSHCN) Slots Pilot Program is a collaboration between the State of Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS) Child Care and Development Program (CCDP), Silver State Stars Quality Rating & Improvement System (QRIS), The Children's Cabinet, and Las Vegas Urban League Early Childhood Connection. The purpose of this Pilot Program is to increase the number of child care slots available in Nevada for CYSHCN, increase the quality of care provided to CYSHCN, and provide an enhanced subsidy reimbursement for providers who care for CYSHCN.

How to Participate

Licensed center-based care (including Head Start/Early Head Start), family child care (FCC), group family child care, and family, friend and neighbor (FFN) providers who are interested in participating in the CYSHCN Slots Pilot Program must complete an application. The completed application should be emailed to ccdp@dwss.nv.gov titled, 'CYSHCN Slot Application' on the subject line. All interested providers must be registered with the Las Vegas Urban League or The Children's Cabinet and meet the Eligibility Criteria listed below. If a provider needs financial assistance to either meet the Eligibility Criteria listed below or require more materials to meet the child's or youth's needs, they can apply for a CYSHCN Quality Improvement Grant by indicating the need for a grant on the CYSHCN Slot Application. Additionally, the Grant must be emailed to ccdp@dwss.nv.gov titled, 'CYSHCN Grant Application' on the subject line.

After your application is received, a validation visit will be scheduled. A Level of Care Screener will also need to be completed for any subsidy-eligible child or youth that will be occupying the slot and once completed, emailed to your local CCR&R Agency. Until the eligibility criteria can be validated, the application will remain pending and CYSHCN Slot(s) will not be awarded.

Once the Eligibility Criteria is validated, the CYSHCN Slots Pilot Program Approval Committee will review the child care provider's capacity and availability to determine the number of slots that will be allocated. Approved providers will be required to sign an amendment to their Child Care Subsidy Service Agreement from Las Vegas Urban League or The Children's Cabinet prior to being awarded the slots and/or a grant.

After the amendment is executed, child care providers will be able to start filling any awarded slot(s). The approval is until the end of the funding for this pilot program on September 30, 2024.

Eligibility Criteria

Any provider seeking to participate in the CYSHCN Slots Pilot Program must:

- Attend one of the mandatory informational webinars.
- Ensure that every child being considered for a CYSCHN slot must have a medical diagnosis.
- Ensure that every child would have to have Level of Care Screener completed by their parent/guardian:
 - Reimbursement Amount (based on level of care):
 - Tier I: \$2,500/month
 - Tier II: \$3,500/month
 - Tier III: \$4,500/month
- Ensure all slots are filled with a subsidy-eligible CYSHCN. Providers that currently serve a CYSHCN may move that child into a slot if they meet criteria (does not need to be a new child to the provider).

- ❑ CYSHCN slots are open to the following provider types:
 - a. Family, Friend, & Neighbors
 - b. Head Start/Early Head Start
 - c. Centers
 - d. Family Child Care
 - e. Group Family Child Care
- ❑ Applicants must be in good standing with all partners:
 - a. The Child Care & Development Program
 - b. The Children’s Cabinet/Las Vegas Urban League
 - c. Licensing (if applicable)
 - d. QRIS (if applicable)
- ❑ Applicants must provide a Developmental Screening with a Social/Emotional component to all children in their care and provide referrals when a children fall below cut-off scores.
- ❑ All teachers/staff working with the CYSHCN have an active Pediatric CPR/First Aid Certification.
- ❑ The following trainings that have to be taken within the past twelve (12) months from application date for all teachers/staff working with the child or youth with special healthcare needs:
 - a. Safe Sleep;
 - b. Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS); and
 - c. Medication Administration/Storage.
- ❑ Ensure that a Professional Development Training Plan for all Teachers/Staff working with the child or youth with special needs must be developed after being awarded slot(s) for the teachers working with this population within 60 calendar days.
 - a. Teachers/Staff working with population to be given a 12-month access to ContinuED (a training website that has 600+ trainings specific to special healthcare needs)
 - b. Teachers/Staff working with CYSHCNs will be supported by Early Childhood Community Health Workers to develop training plan and work with them to ensure that it is followed.
 - c. Should the training plan not be followed, the slot(s) awarded may be at risk of being rescinded.
- ❑ Have adequate storage space to store child’s/children’s medical equipment without damage.
- ❑ Maintain adequate group size and ratio requirement to meet the individual needs of the child.
 - a. Tier I: NAEYC Standards for group size and ratio for the child’s age.
 - b. Tier II: 50% fewer children than NAEYC group size and ratio standards for the child’s age.
 - c. Tier III: 1:1 ratio.
- ❑ The provider must agree to work with Wrap-Around Services (both provider and parent/guardian)
 - a. IDEA Part C – Provider must confirm that family is receiving Part C or Part B (ages 3-5) services, if not the provider will provide referral to the appropriate entity.
 - b. EC-CHW – The provider will work with Early Childhood Community Health Workers to ensure their staff and the families they serve have the resources they need.
- ❑ Ensure that a Care Plan for Child with Special Healthcare Needs is Obtained or Created
 - a. Parent must sign release to share the child’s IFSP/IEP with the child care provider.
 - b. If they do not have an IFSP/IEP, a comparable Care Plan for the child must be developed with the child’s parent/guardian.
 - i. This would be a special consideration request completed through your CCR&R Agency.
- ❑ Ensure that Bonuses are given to Teachers/Staff working with CYSHCN Population
 - a. 20% of monthly amount of prorated slot reimbursement to be given as a bonus to teachers/staff working with special healthcare needs child/youth.
 - i. Tier I: \$500*
 - ii. Tier II: \$700*
 - iii. Tier III: \$900*

*If there are multiple teachers that work with the child or youth, the designated bonus amount it to be split equally among them.

- b. For the purposes of this pilot program, “teacher” is defined as a child care staff member who consistently engages with a child or youth possessing special health care needs. This individual is engaged in a minimum of fifty (50) percent of the child or youth’s daily schedule in the care program to foster their well-being and development. This involves actively participating in the child or youth’s personal care routines, interactions, educational activities, and any accommodations essential to cater to their developmental needs. This role entails a regular and committed involvement with the child or youth to ensure their holistic care and successful integration into the child care environment.
- c. Teacher(s) as defined above will have to sign the Bonus Acknowledgement form at the end of the Level of Care Screener.