

Update on FY2017 One-Time State Appropriation for Parent Aware

July 13, 2016

The Department of Human Services has carefully considered how this \$2 million one-time appropriation can be speedily and effectively made available to meet the intent of the statute language below and contribute to the longer-term sustainability of Parent Aware. The FY2017 state base appropriation for Parent Aware of \$2.3 million, combined with some remaining Race to the Top funds and CCDF quality funds, provide on-going support for Parent Aware this fiscal year.

Article 31. Laws 2015, First Special Session, chapter 3, article 9, section 8, subdivision 9, is amended to read:
"Subd 9. Quality Rating System. For transfer to the commissioner of human services for the purposes of expanding the Quality Rating and Improvement System under Minnesota Statutes, section 124D.142, in greater Minnesota and increasing supports for providers participating in the Quality Rating and Improvement System:

\$	1,200,000	2016
\$	2,300,000	2017
			<u>4,300,000</u>

"To the extent possible, the commissioner must direct at least \$2,000,000 of the 2017 appropriation toward increasing access and providing training assistance to providers who are located in underserved or low-income neighborhoods.

"Any balance in the first year does not cancel but is available in the second year. The base for this program in fiscal year 2018 and later is \$1,750,000.

"Effective date. This section is effective July 1, 2016."

Increasing Access to Parent Aware by Sustaining Parent Aware Quality Improvement and Building Quality Grants for Child Care Providers

The Department of Human Services plans to distribute over 40 percent of the dollars to continue support for Quality Improvement Grants to providers rated in Jan 2016 and July 2016 cohorts, and Building Quality Grants to providers in July 2016 and Jan 2017 cohorts. Without these funds, these grants to child care providers would have ended June 30, 2016.

Providing Training Assistance to Child Care Providers in Underserved or Low-Income Neighborhoods

Almost 60 percent of the one-time funding will support increased access to training for providers getting ready for or participating in Parent Aware:

- **Free training that counts for Parent Aware available.** Beginning September 1, training that counts for Parent Aware will be free for providers, including courses that count for an Infant-Toddler CDA. Child Care Aware Districts are asked to target these training opportunities to underserved or low-income neighborhoods.
- **Additional cohorts of the Minnesota Child Care Credential, Minnesota Infant Toddler Credential and the Directors credential.** Dollars will also be provided for CDA scholarships and conversion of CDA courses to Eager-to-Learn.

(over)

- **Promoting and supporting use of Develop.** We will boost our efforts to promote and help child care providers gain access to the Develop on-line tool to enroll in and track their training.
- **Support for bilingual, bicultural and other trainers.** In addition, we will offer scholarships for Parent Aware TOTs; and support adult education training so that more trainers are prepared to offer training in underserved and low-income neighborhoods.
- **One-time staffing and other support for the Minnesota Center for Professional Development.** These funds will ensure timely processing of child care provider learning records.
- **Revision of the Minnesota Child Care Credential training curriculum.** Updates will ensure that all credential courses will continue to count for Parent Aware.