



Informational Session: Emergency Funding Assistance for Early Learning/ Child Care Providers



WELCOME

A string of seven small, rectangular paper cards is hanging from a thin, light-colored twine. Each card is a different color: yellow, light green, light blue, light blue, yellow, light green, and yellow. The word 'WELCOME' is written in blue ink on each card, with one letter per card. The cards are held in place by small, light-colored wooden clothespins. The background is a dark, textured wooden surface with horizontal planks. A solid teal horizontal bar is at the bottom of the image.

Emergency Funding Assistance for Early Learning/Child Care Providers: American Recovery Plan (ARP) Act

Over \$2,000,000 Invested to Build a
World CLASS Workforce and Strengthen
Adult Child Interactions

- Recruit and Train New Teachers/Directors Grant
- Child Success and CLASS Observer Grant
- Continuous Quality Improvement Grant
- Workforce Initiatives



Background

- Investments in high quality early care and education have an estimated return on investment (ROI) of 13.7 percent (This surpasses investments in K12 and higher education.)¹
- Positive interactions are the cornerstone of quality in early care and education
- FY2022-23 the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS®) for program assessment has expanded from SR programs to include all VPK classrooms.
- DEL prioritized investments that will build the knowledge and skills that drive high-quality adult-child interactions.
- DEL's focus is on training the current workforce and building training and coaching capacity to ensure that efforts to upskill Florida's early care and education workforce will be sustained.

¹ https://heckmanequation.org/www/assets/2020/06/F_Heckman_Sharegraphic_ROIChart_2019-1.jpg. University of Chicago Professor and Nobel Laureate, James Heckman, estimates a rate of return of 13.7% for investments in high quality early care and education. Thus, every dollar invested yields a return of 7.3 dollars. See Jorge Luis García, James J. Heckman, Duncan Ermini Leaf and María José Prados, Quantifying the Life-Cycle Benefits of an Influential Early Childhood Program, Journal of Political Economy 128 no.7 (July 2020) pp2502-2541: <https://www.journals.uchicago.edu/doi/10.1086/705718>

Recruit and Train New Teachers

ALL early learning/child care providers may apply.

This includes Family Childcare Homes, directors, preschool and infant toddler teachers, assistants, before and after school teachers and substitutes. They must be hired on or after July 1, 2022

- **Recruitment Bonus \$500** – Must have background screening and have worked 120 hours
- **Health and Safety Bonus \$700** – Upon completion of DCF mandated 45 hours of courses
- **CLASS Bonus for Preschool \$600**
- **CLASS Bonus for Infant Toddler \$600**



CLASS® Bonus Infant Toddler - \$600

23.5 hours of Training:

- CLASS® Primer for Infant/Toddler Teachers Online Course
- Thinking and Thriving: Interactions for Early Learning, Virtual Training
- Interactions of the Heart of Healing: Trauma-Informed Online Course
- Introduction to the CLASS Tool training Virtual Training
- My Teachstone learn about CLASS® Videos
- Strategy Cards and Dictionary Set for Infants and Toddlers

Eligible for educators hired on or after July 1, 2022, to the end of funding availability and/or application deadlines.



CLASS® Bonus Preschool - \$600

23.5 hours of Training:

- CLASS® Foundations for Teachers Online Course
- MyTeachstone Learn About CLASS® Videos
- Strategy Cards and Dictionary Set for Preschool

Eligible for educators hired on or after July 1, 2022, to the end of funding availability and/or application deadlines.



Upskill Directors Grant

- ALL new early learning directors (ELDs) may participate.
- ELDs completing 29 hours of CLASS® foundational content may apply for a \$750 bonus.
- Eligible for directors hired on or after July 1, 2022, to the end of funding availability and/or application deadlines.
- ELDs employed by providers participating in the Child Success Grants are ineligible for this bonus.

Director Package A: 29 hours of Training

- A CLASS® Primer for Leaders – Online Course
- Instructional Support Essentials Training for Teachers – Virtual Training
- Interactions of the Heart of Healing: Trauma-Informed Professional Development Series – Online Course
- Instructional Support Essentials Training for Coaches – Virtual Training
- Feedback Training for Coaches – Virtual Training

Director Package B: 29 hours of Training

- A CLASS® Primer for Leaders – Online Course
- CLASS® Group Coaching (MMCI) – Virtual 12 Session Virtual Training
- Interactions of the Heart of Healing: Trauma-Informed Professional Development Series – Online Course



Child Success Grant/Elevate Workforce

- Contracted SR and/or VPK providers at sites with a CLASS® composite score below a 5 on the most recent assessment or without a CLASS® composite score, may apply for a grant to reward early learning employees and ELDs for completing up to two 24-hour segments of DEL-approved trainings on adult-child interactions.
- The Director must participate in the training along with staff, so the entire program benefits from the same preparation, work with a coach, and support of weekly goals.
- All Child Success Grants are available for providers completing the requirements from July 1, 2022, until the grant expires.

Segment 1 – 24 hours

- Instructional Support Essentials Training for Teachers – Virtual Training
- Instructional Support Strategies for Coaches – Virtual Training
- Interactions of the Heart of Healing: Trauma-Informed Professional Development Series – Online Course
- Feedback Training for Coaches – Virtual Training

Directors Earn \$600, all others earn \$500



Segment 2 – 24 hours

- A CLASS® Primer for Leaders – Online Course
 - CLASS® Group Coaching (MMCI) Infant/Toddler or Preschool – Virtual Training
 - CLASS® Observation Support: Settings Serving Children with Disabilities – Online Course
- Or
- CLASS® Observation Support Setting with Dual Language Learners – Online Course

Directors Earn \$800, all others earn \$700



Performance Bonus

- Early learning employees and ELDs who receive a professional development bonus through the child success grant are eligible for a performance bonus if the provider achieves a CLASS® composite score of 5 or higher or where the CLASS® composite score improves by 0.5 or more on its next scheduled, annual assessment per Rule 6M-4.740 (SR) or 6M-8.621 (VPK).

**Early learning employees will receive a \$500 bonus
and ELDs will receive a \$600 bonus.**

CLASS Observer Grant

- Providers may apply for grants to pay VPK program directors or SR contracted directors with a CLASS® composite score below a 5, a \$1,200 bonus for completing CLASS® PreK and/or Infant/Toddler Observer trainings.
- ELDs are not required to take/pass reliability test(s) to qualify.
- All CLASS® Observer Director Training Grants are available for providers completing the requirements from July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023.
- All observer trainings must be completed by June 30, 2023, unless notified otherwise by DEL.

CLASS Observer Grant

- CLASS® Infant Observer Training - 14 hours over 2 days (virtual)
- CLASS® Toddler Observer Training - 14 hours over 2 days (virtual)
- CLASS® PreK Observer Training - 14 hours over 2 days (virtual)

Directors earns \$1200

Continuous Quality Improvement Grant

- Contracted SR and/or VPK providers with a most recent CLASS® composite score of 5 or higher may apply for a grant of up to **\$19,800** to develop/implement a program to strengthen practices that support effective interactions, strengthen business and leadership practices, support child assessment and screening with reliability, or other local priorities.
- A program must provide a minimum of 24 hours of training time including live coaching, live instruction, virtual instruction, individual and group instruction, and other competency-based skill development exercises.
- The director must participate in the training along with staff, so the entire program benefits from the same preparation, work with a coach, and support of weekly goals. Funds can be used to cover any program costs, including compensating employees for their training time. Programs must be completed by June 30, 2023, unless otherwise notified by DEL.

Continuous Quality Improvement Grant

- Nemours
- Conscious Discipline Trainings
- Teachstone Trainings
- Additional Opportunities to be Determined

(Requires a PD plan with PD consult with Dawn Espinoza.)

Applications

- Editable Applications:
 - [Early Learning Educator/Director Bonus Application](#)
 - [Early Learning/Child Care Provider Eligibility Application](#)
 - [Early Learning/Child Care Provider Child Success Grant and CLASS Observer](#)
 - [Continuous Quality Improvement Grant Provider Application](#)
- Choose training options by December 20, 2022
- Estimated Timeline for Training Launch: January 1, 2023

For ALL Grant Opportunities

- Providers must retain documentation of how funds are used and evidence of training for auditing purposes.
- For assistance please reach out to Kristen Murray at k.murray@elcph.org or Katie Dean at k.dean@elcph.org.

Contacts

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Questions and Answers



We are here to help!



Thank you for joining us!

