

2014 -- H 7737

LC004848

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2014

A N A C T

RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - CHILD CARE - STATE SUBSIDIES

Introduced By: Representatives Williams, Cimini, Tanzi, Lima, and Almeida

Date Introduced: February 27, 2014

Referred To: House Finance

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 40-6.2-1.1 of the General Laws in Chapter 40-6.2 entitled "Child  
2 Care-State Subsidies" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **40-6.2-1.1. Rates established.** -- ~~(a) Subject~~ [\(a\)\(1\) Except as provided otherwise in](#)  
4 [subsection \(a\)\(2\) and subject](#) to the payment limitations in section (b), the maximum  
5 reimbursement rates to be paid by the departments of human services and children, youth and  
6 families for licensed child care centers and certified family-child care providers shall be based on  
7 the following schedule of the 75th percentile of the 2002 weekly market rates adjusted for the  
8 average of the 75th percentile of the 2002 and the 2004 weekly market rates:

9	LICENSED	75th
10	CHILD CARE	PERCENTILE
11	CENTERS	OF WEEKLY
12		MARKET RATE
13	INFANT	\$182.00
14	PRESCHOOL	\$150.00
15	SCHOOL-AGE	\$135.00
16	CERTIFIED	75th
17	FAMILY	PERCENTILE
18	CHILD CARE	OF WEEKLY
19	PROVIDERS	MARKET RATE

1	INFANT	\$150.00
2	PRESCHOOL	\$150.00
3	SCHOOL-AGE	\$135.00

4 (2) Provided, that effective January 1, 2015, and notwithstanding any provisions to the  
5 contrary in subsections (a)(1), (b), (c), or (d), licensed child care centers, both early childhood and  
6 school age, licensed certified family child care homes, and licensed group family child care  
7 homes that have received national child care accreditation shall be financially compensated in an  
8 amount greater than the current department of human services' reimbursement rates set forth in  
9 subsection (a)(1). Such financial compensation shall be determined by the department of human  
10 services in a manner and at a rate set by the department, and shall be paid through the department  
11 of human services child care assistance program (CCAP).

12 (b) The department shall pay child care providers based on the lesser of the applicable  
13 rate specified in subsection (a), or the lowest rate actually charged by the provider to any of its  
14 public or private child care customers with respect to each of the rate categories, infant, preschool  
15 and school-age. (c) By June 30, 2004 and biennially thereafter, the department of labor and  
16 training shall conduct an independent survey or certify an independent survey of the then current  
17 weekly market rates for child care in Rhode Island and shall forward such weekly market rate  
18 survey to the department of human services. The departments of human services and labor and  
19 training will jointly determine the survey criteria including, but not limited to, rate categories and  
20 sub-categories. The 75th percentile of weekly market rates in the table in subsection (a) shall be  
21 adjusted by the surveys conducted under this subsection, beginning January 1, 2006 and for the  
22 purposes of this section, and until adjusted in accordance with this subsection, the 75th percentile  
23 of weekly market rate shall be the average of the 2002 and 2004 weekly market rate surveys. (d)  
24 In order to expand the accessibility and availability of quality child care, the department of human  
25 services is authorized to establish by regulation alternative or incentive rates of reimbursement  
26 for quality enhancements, innovative or specialized child care and alternative methodologies of  
27 child care delivery, including non-traditional delivery systems and collaborations. (e) On or  
28 before January 1, 2007, all child care providers have the option to be paid every two (2) weeks  
29 and have the option of automatic direct deposit and/or electronic funds transfer of reimbursement  
30 payments.

31 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T  
RELATING TO HUMAN SERVICES - CHILD CARE - STATE SUBSIDIES

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1           This act would provide that beginning on January 1, 2015, the department of human  
2 services would establish new increased rates of compensation for licensed child care centers, both  
3 early childhood and school age, licensed certified family child care homes, and licensed group  
4 family child care homes that have received national child care accreditation.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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