MEMORANDUM

TO: Child Care Providers

FROM: Office of Child and Family Services

DATE: August 4, 2021

SUBJECT: Stipend for Newly Licensed Family Child Care Providers

Congress approved the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) (Public Law 117-2) and it was signed into law on March 11, 2021. This included $14.99 billion in supplemental Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Discretionary Funds. Maine received $45.7 million of these Federal funds. The Office of Child and Family Services (OCFS) will begin providing a one-time stipend to all newly licensed family child care providers. This initiative is in alignment with the Mills Administration’s Child Care Plan for Maine, to support Maine families’ access to child care before and during the pandemic and one of the Children’s Cabinet’s goals for increasing access to high-quality child care and expanding Maine’s child care workforce.

OCFS has obligated ARPA CCDF Discretionary funds to distribute a one-time, $2,000 stipend for any newly licensed Family Child Care (FCC) providers. Stipends will be distributed on a first come, first serve basis. These funds are available immediately and will be ongoing through 9/30/23 or as funds are available.

Newly licensed FCC providers must meet the following criteria:

- Newly licensed FCC on or after July 1, 2021; and
- Have a valid Vendor Code with OCFS
  - For information on Vendor Codes contact Vickie Bussey at (207) 624-7909 or Vickie.Bussey@maine.gov

Programs are still eligible for the current open application for the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriation Act (CRRSA) Stabilization Grants and the upcoming American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Stabilization grants.

To receive a stipend or for more information contact Kerri Wyman at Kerri.Wyman@Maine.gov or (207) 626-8660.