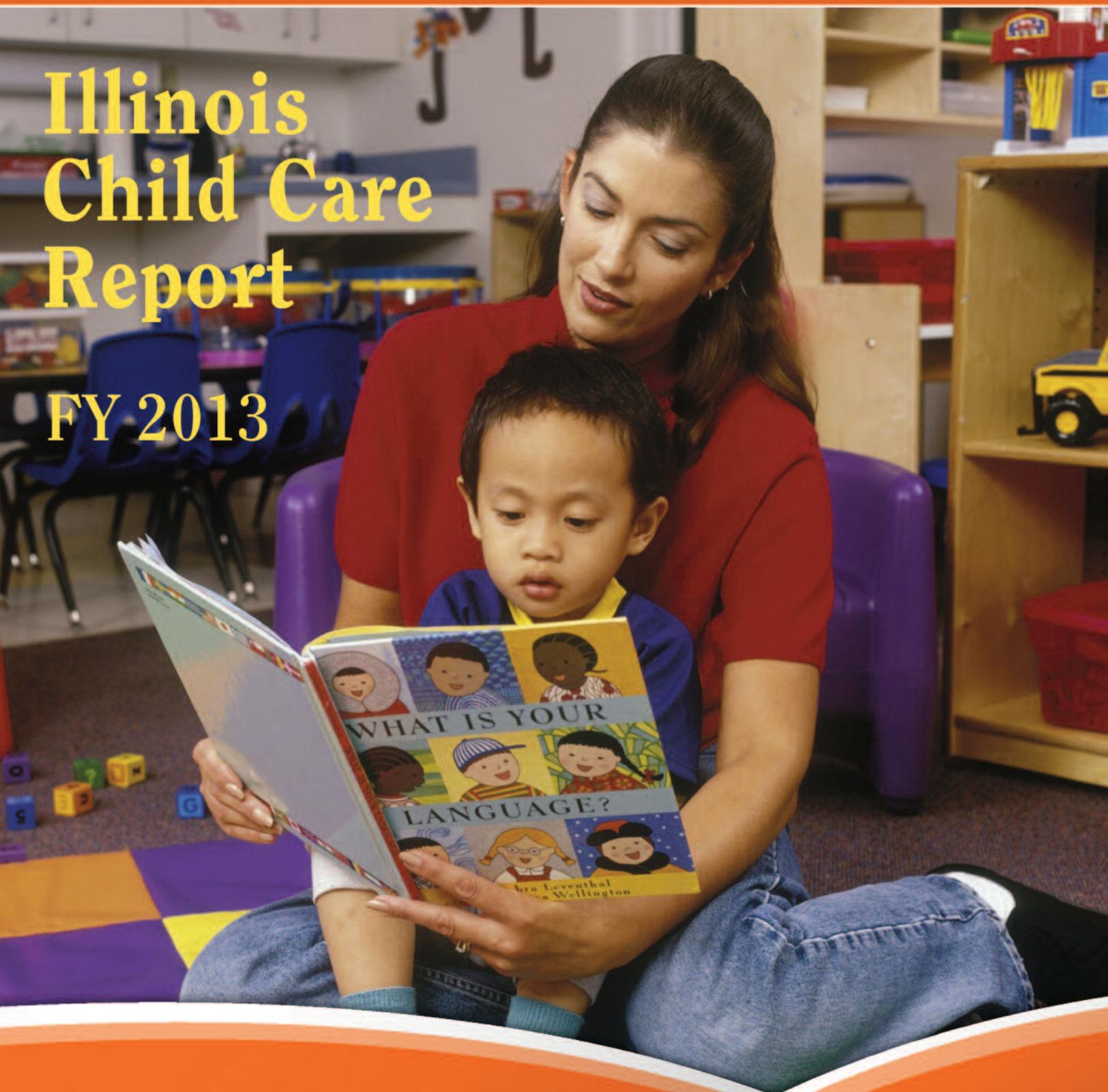




State of Illinois
Department of Human Services

Illinois Child Care Report

FY 2013





Vision for Child Care and Early Education in Illinois

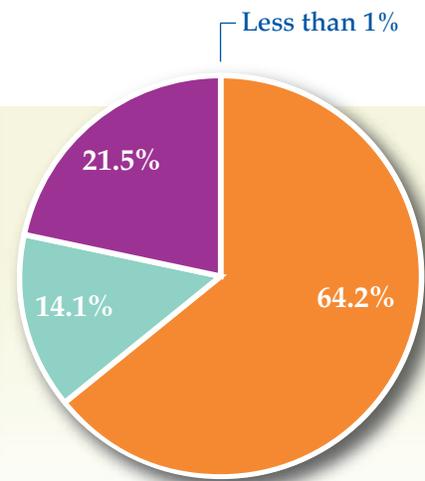
Illinois families will have multiple options for affordable quality child care and early education. All children starting at birth will be offered opportunities to grow, learn and be cared for in safe, nurturing, culturally and developmentally appropriate settings.

INTRODUCTION

As required by State Statute 20 ILCS 505/5.15, the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) submits an annual report to the Governor and Illinois General Assembly about the status of its child care programs. These programs are administered by the IDHS Bureau of Child Care and Development and include the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) and the Quality Improvement Programs. The 2013 Illinois Child Care Report includes information for the Fiscal Year 2013 (July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013). The data in this report are from: a) the Child Care Tracking System (CCTS) database for the Child Care Assistance Program; b) the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies’ aggregate database of the local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) parent customers, child care providers, and professional development; and the Gateways to Opportunity Registry. IDHS thanks the thousands of center-based agency staff, family child care providers and CCR&R staff for their support in the care and education of Illinois children.

Fiscal Year 2013 Child Care Funding Sources

Title XX	\$1,200,000	Less than 1%
State GRF	\$611,060,735	64.2%
TANF	\$134,482,223	14.1%
CCDF	\$204,509,524	21.5%
Total	\$951,252,482	100.00%



Federal Priorities

The IDHS Bureau of Child Care and Development sets policy and develops programs consistent with the federal Administration for Children and Families (ACF) Office of Child Care’s philosophy and with the Bureau’s vision. ACF’s overall goal is “healthy, happy and successful children.” Its philosophy includes a focus on the continuum of high quality care for children from birth to age 13 and partnerships across child care, education, Head Start, and health for a broader delivery system that expands family choices.

This report is designed to show how Illinois is addressing the federal theme of, “Pathways and Partnerships for Child Care Excellence,” which includes the following components:

- Pathways to Stronger Policies and Accountability with a child care system that:
 - supports child development
 - removes access barriers for families
 - improves processes for providers
- Pathways to Excellence for Child Care Programs by:
 - ensuring the health and safety of children in child care
 - building Quality Rating and Improvement Systems
- Pathways to Excellence for Child Care Professionals by:
 - building strong professional development and supportive workforce initiatives



"I am very happy to have a program that helps me get my kids quality care."

- Parent

CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The IDHS works with local Illinois communities to provide low-income working families with access to affordable, quality child care. The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) has two primary goals:

- To support qualifying low-income families by providing child care subsidies. This allows parents to maintain employment or further their education, thereby decreasing dependence on public assistance.
- To allow families access to multiple options for affordable, quality child care, early education, and after school programs that offer children the opportunity to grow, learn and be cared for in safe, nurturing settings that are culturally and developmentally appropriate.

Fiscal Year 2013 CCAP Enrollment

CCAP served a total of 259,493 children from 149,699 families between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. The monthly average for FY2013 was 163,250 children and 87,700 families.

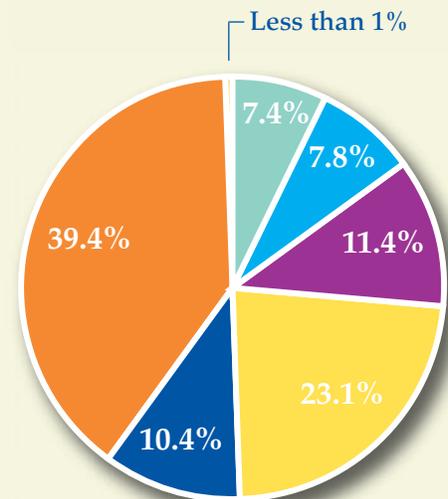
The Illinois CCAP is CHILD-FOCUSED

*Profile of Children Participating in CCAP in March 2013**

- 63.6% of children were served in licensed care
- 24.2% of children were cared for by relatives
- Children under one year of age were in child care an average of 142 hours per month
- School-age children (ages six and older) represent 39.4% of all children served

Number of Children by Age Participating in CCAP in March 2013

Child's Age	Number Enrolled in CCAP	% of Total
0 - 11 Months	12,151	7.4%
12 - 23 months	12,767	7.8%
2 Years	18,541	11.4%
3 - 4 Years	37,768	23.1%
5 Years	16,898	10.4%
6 - 12 Years	64,274	39.4%
13 Years and Over	815	0.5%
Total	163,214	100%



**March data is used because March gives the most typical picture of the CCAP. It is the one month of the school year with no major holidays and 21-23 regular business days*



"Affordable child care is so hard to find. How can a single [parent] work and pay for child care expenses? Without the child care assistance I could never have worked."

- Single Father

The Illinois CCAP is FAMILY-FRIENDLY

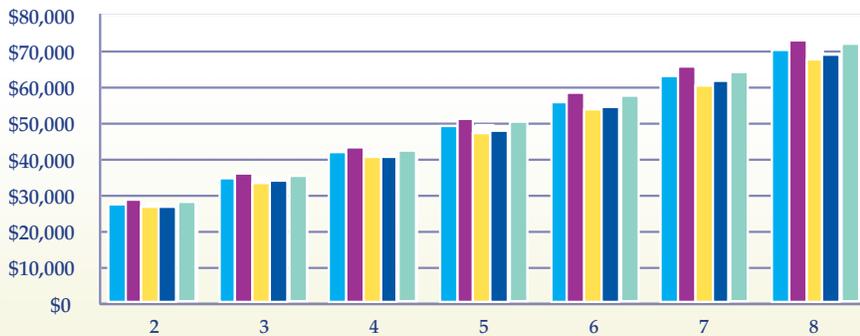
Profile of families participating in the CCAP in March 2013

- 94.8% of families were headed by a single parent
- 8.4% of families listed TANF as a source of income
- The average number of children served per family was 1.7
- 89,130 families were working and/or pursuing training/education
- 99.4% of families had co-payments, at an average 4.6% of the family's income

CCR&R Services to All Illinois Families, not just those participating in CCAP

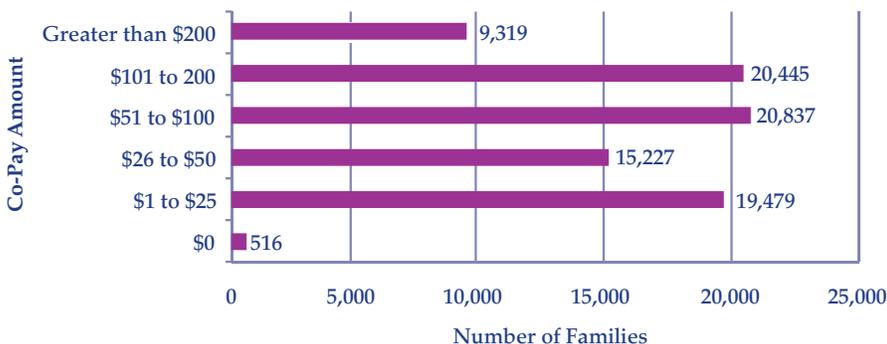
- Referral to child care settings according to the family preferences
- Referral to CCAP, other IDHS programs and community services
- Consumer education on legal and quality child care
- Toll-free number, in English and Spanish, that connects parents and child care providers to local CCR&Rs

Annual Income Guidelines by Family Size



■ FY08, Apr 1	\$28,008	\$35,208	\$42,408	\$49,608	\$56,808	\$64,008	\$71,208
■ FY10, Oct 1	\$29,148	\$36,624	\$44,150	\$51,588	\$59,064	\$66,540	\$74,028
■ FY11, Apr 1	\$26,964	\$33,876	\$40,850	\$47,712	\$54,636	\$61,560	\$68,472
■ FY12, Jul 1	\$27,216	\$34,284	\$41,352	\$48,420	\$55,488	\$62,556	\$69,624
■ FY13, Jul 1	\$28,704	\$36,132	\$43,472	\$51,012	\$58,452	\$65,880	\$73,320

Number of CCAP Families by Monthly Co-Payment Amount





"Because of [the Quality Counts Grants], we can serve families of all socioeconomic levels, so their children can enter kindergarten ready to learn."

- Child Care Center Director

The Illinois CCAP is FAIR TO PROVIDERS

Profile of Child Care Providers Participating in CCAP in March 2013

- 8121, or 24.5%, of the providers are licensed by DCFS
- 69.7% of the license-exempt family child care providers are caring for relatives
- 69% of providers on the Illinois CCR&R provider database will accept CCAP children

CCR&R Services for Child Care Providers Participating in CCAP

- Administration of parent applications
- Processing of Monthly Child Care Certificates
- Technical Assistance to parents and providers regarding CCAP

Number of Providers Receiving CCAP Payments in FY2013

Licensed Providers		License-Exempt Providers	
Centers	2,622	Centers	748
Family Child Care Homes	6,889	Family Child Care Homes:	
Group Child Care Homes	456	Non-relative in provider's home	9,336
Total	9,967	Relative in provider's home	21,972
		Non-relative in child's home	6,597
		Relative in child's home	14,459
		Total	53,112

Child Care Supply

The CCR&Rs support child care providers by referring families to their child care programs. The referral services are available free of charge to licensed centers, family child care homes and group child care homes listed on the provider database. License-exempt centers and homes may choose to be included on the provider database. Every provider has the option to decline referral services. The Fiscal Year 2013 provider database information is shown in the table below:

Fiscal Year 2013 Statewide Child Care Database

Type of Care	Number of Providers	Number of Spaces
Licensed Family Child Care Homes	9,480	88,225
License-Exempt Family Child Care Homes	508	1,483
Total	9,988	89,708
Type of Care	Number of Providers	Number of Spaces
Licensed Child Care Centers	3,173	243,106
License-Exempt Child Care Centers	2,521	165,507
Total	5,694	408,613



"I found the [referral] service extremely helpful and thorough."

- Parent

Child Care Demand

There are two dimensions of the “demand” for child care in any community.

1. The number of children needing child care compared to the number of child care spaces available to meet the needs, and
2. The unique requirements of families for their specific child care needs, such as the child’s age, type of care desired, parent’s work/school schedule, location, special needs of the child, and cost.

Snapshot of Families Receiving Child Care Referrals in FY2013

- 29,452 families received child care referrals by phone services or online
- 85% of families who requested referral by phone required child care due to employment
- 12,159 families used the online referral system

Schedules Requested for Children and Offered by Providers

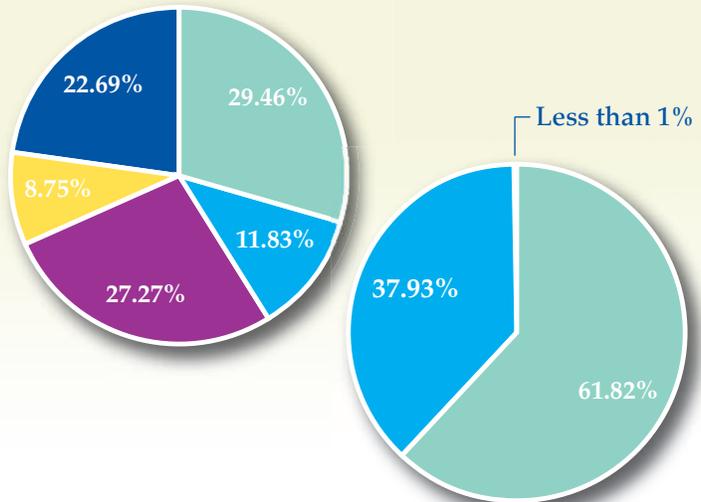
Schedule	Requested for Children	Offered by Family Child Care Homes	Offered by Child Care Centers	Offered by Providers Total
Standard Hours*	20,964	8,862	2,872	11,734
Evening	3,906	4,384	132	4,516
Weekend	2,793	1,437	53	1,490
Overnight	1,176	3,165	56	3,221
Rotating	1,142	3,806	839	4,645
Temp/Emergency	401	4,709	821	5,530
Drop In	346	4,385	870	5,255

*A standard schedule is full-time care offered during traditional day time work hours.

Number of Children for Whom Child Care was Requested by Age and Type of Care

Requests by Age of Child	Number of Requests	
■ Infants & Toddlers	7,393	29.46%
■ Two Year Old Children	2,969	11.83%
■ Three-Four Year Old Children	6,843	27.27%
■ Five Year Olds/Kindergarteners	2,196	8.75%
■ School Age Children	5,697	22.69%
Total	25,098	100%

Requests by Type of Care	Number of Requests	
■ Child Care Center	29,826	61.82%
■ Family Child Care Home	18,300	37.93%
■ In-Home Care	118	.024%
Total	48,244	99.99%



DATA CONTEXT FOR PAGES 9 and 11

Much of the data contained on pages 9 and 11 are from the parent, customer, and child care provider databases compiled by the local CCR&Rs. Therefore, data presented does not include all families and children requiring child care service in Illinois. Most families do not receive child care assistance and many families find child care services through friends, family, advertisements and other means. Additionally, many license-exempt child care programs are not listed on the provider database. Because of these factors, it is important to note that this report is only one means of examining the larger child care supply and demand picture in Illinois.



"Participating in QRS has enabled our program and staff to recognize our achievements and bolster our commitment to professionalism and continued improvement."

- Child Care Center

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMS

The federal Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) requires at least four percent of federal funds be allocated for the improvement of child care quality. These funds are used to support the IDHS Bureau of Child Care and Development's Quality Improvement Programs, the overall goal of which is to increase the quality of child care available to all Illinois families. This goal is addressed with a multi-faceted approach that works to meet the individual needs of children, families, child care providers and communities. In Fiscal Year 2013, IDHS contracted with 16 CCR&R agencies, the Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (INCCRRA) and four quality discretionary grantees to implement the quality services described on the following pages.

Pathways to Excellence for Child Care Programs

Building Quality Rating and Improvement Systems

The Illinois Quality Counts Quality Rating System (QRS) assists Illinois child care programs in providing quality care for children and their families. The Quality Counts QRS sets standards, which providers can achieve depending on the type of care they provide. QRS certification recognizes a provider for meeting specific indicators of quality, such as, learning environment, program administration, staff qualifications and training. This voluntary system is available to license-exempt family child care providers, licensed family child care homes and licensed child care centers.

Training Tier Levels for License-Exempt Family Child Care Homes in FY 2013

	License-exempt Family Child Care Homes	Number of CCAP Children Enrolled by Training Tier Level
Training Tier 1	237	450
Training Tier 2	114	222
Training Tier 3	165	367
Total	516	1,039
Number of non-CCAP children cared for by these providers		402
Total number of children cared for by QRS certified license-exempt family child care homes		1,441

Star Levels for Licensed Providers in FY 2013

	Licensed Centers	Number of CCAP Children Enrolled in Licensed Centers by Star Level	Licensed Family Child Care Homes	Number of CCAP Children Enrolled in Licensed Family Child Care Homes
Star Level 1	53	2,310	18	148
Star Level 2	201	9,373	37	229
Star Level 3	298	15,857	225	1,713
Star Level 4	6	382	7	36
Total	558	27,922	287	2,126
Number of non-CCAP Children cared for by QRS certified Licensed Child Care Centers		23,848	Number of non-CCAP Children cared for by QRS certified licensed Family Child Care Homes	
Total number of children cared for by QRS certified licensed Child Care Centers		51,770	Total number of children cared for by QRS certified licensed Family Child Care Homes	
			3,168	



"[It is] very important to educate ourselves to help us be better with children and their families."

- Family Child Care Practitioner

Quality Counts Child Care Grant Program

The Quality Counts Child Care (QCCC) Grant program is designed to support child care center and family child care home providers in the improvement of quality care for infants, toddlers, pre-school and school age children. Originally intended to support program improvements, the program now also assists providers in achieving and maintaining of Illinois Quality Counts QRS certification (see page 13). The program is available to any child care provider on an Illinois CCR&R provider database. Grant funds can be used for materials, equipment, minor facility improvements and on-site training and consultation.

In Fiscal Year 2013, providers were again asked to select a grant option when applying for the QCCC Grant:

- **Training Option:** Provides training on program quality improvements in a cohort model, including guidance using program assessment tools. Using assessment results, grant funding can be requested to purchase items needed.
- **Competitive Option:** Licensed providers can apply for funds through a competitive process. The applicant must show documentation that a program improvement assessment or accreditation process has been completed and used to inform the grant application.

FY 2013 QCCC Grant Uses

Grant funds were used for the following program components:

	Competitive Option		Training Option	
	# Awarded	Funding	# Awarded	Funding
Professional Resources	79	\$121,267	10	\$4,624
Program Improvement	23	\$56,719	N/A	N/A
Facility Improvement	152	\$502,799	26	\$33,039
Learning Environment	591	\$1,925,790	317	\$491,993
Parent Resources	8	\$8,707	1	\$629
Staff Training	6	\$11,318	N/A	N/A

FY 2013 QCCC Grant Reasons

Providers indicated the following as reasons for requesting grant funds.

	# Awarded
Maintain IDCFS Licensing Standards	356
Achieve a national accreditation	85
Maintain a national accreditation	125
Achieve a Quality Counts QRS Certification Level	223
Maintain a Quality Counts QRS Certification Level	203
Advance to the next Quality Counts Certification Level	160



"From the very first meeting, my Professional Development Advisor (PDA) provided information to help me accomplish my goals."

- Child Care Teacher

Pathways to Excellence for Child Care Providers

Building Strong Professional Development and Supportive Workforce Initiatives

Responsive, well-qualified practitioners are one of the most important factors in child care settings. Children of working parents spend many hours each day with their child care provider. IDHS provides a wide variety of professional development opportunities to child care providers. These services are available to child care providers listed on the statewide database, including licensed and license-exempt practitioners. The following pages give some data on these programs.

Illinois Trainers Network

The Illinois Trainers Network (ITN) provides standardized training to individual child care practitioners on topics such as program assessment, inclusion and developmentally appropriate infant toddler care. ITN trainers coordinate with the CCR&Rs to deliver training to child care practitioners statewide.

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Number of ITN Curricula offered in FY	14	12	15
Total # of times ITN curricula were offered	413	398	425
Total # of training sessions held*	997	1,282	1,391
Number of Participants	14,185	18,278	19,906
Number of training hours achieved	51,179	69,068	73,554

* Some of the ITN curricula are multi-session trainings

CCR&R Offered Training

In addition to the standardized ITN curricula, CCR&Rs offer training to child care practitioners on a variety of topics and in a variety of methods, including stand-alone workshops, workshops series, self-study materials, and webinars. Frequently requested topics include developmentally appropriate activities, health and safety, child assessment, and guidance and discipline.

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Number of training sessions held	2,429	2,489	2,410
Number of training participants	42,584	43,738	40,236
Number of training hours achieved	103,539	111,111	101,975

Gateways to Opportunity Professional Development System

The Gateways to Opportunity Professional Development System provides supports for professionals working with children, youth and families. These supports include Credentials, the Gateways Scholarship Program, the Great START Wage Supplement program; Professional Development Advisors; and the Gateways to Opportunity Registry.

Great START (Strategy to Attract and Retain Teachers)

Great START is a wage supplement program available to the lowest wage earners employed by licensed child care centers and family child care homes; it recognizes those who have achieved an educational level higher than is required by IDCFS Licensing and recipients must remain employed by the same program.

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
New Recipients	875	0*	258
Renewing Recipients	4,224	3,954	4,020
Total	5,099	3,954	4,278



"Since I discovered the Gateways Scholarship Program, I have been able to accomplish more than I ever thought possible."

- Child Care Center Teacher

Gateways to Opportunity Credentials

The Gateways Credentials validate an individual's educational attainment and professional experience. The Credentials are recognized by the State of Illinois in the DCFS Licensing Standards for Day Care Centers and the IDHS Great START Program. A variety of credentials are available for practitioners working with, or on behalf of, children, youth and families.

The first Illinois Director Credentials were awarded in Fiscal Year 2000, since then, additional Gateways Credentials have been developed and awarded on a continuous basis.

Credential	First Awarded in	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	Total Awarded*
ECE Credential – Level 1	FY 2006	338	446	387	1,822
ECE Credential – Levels 2-5	FY 2008	71	132	111	425
Infant Toddler Credential	FY 2009	51	83	97	311
Illinois Director Credential	FY 2000	67	88	46	578
SAYD Credential Level 1	FY 2011	30	0**	14	44
Total		557	749	655	3,180

*Includes credentials awarded prior to FY 2011

**The curriculum for the SAYD Credential Level 1 was revised and the Train the Trainer session was held during FY 2012

Gateways to Opportunity Scholarship Program

The Gateways Scholarship Program (CCDF-funded) is available to individuals employed by licensed child care centers and family child care homes. FY 2013 data also included scholarships funded by the IDHS/ARRA grant. The scholarships enable practitioners to earn degrees, certificates or credentials in early care and education and school-age child care.

	FY 2011	FY 2012	FY 2013
Family Child Care Practitioners	217	214	200
Child Care Center Staff	556	652	734
Credits Taken	5,714	6,567	6,904
Degrees Completed	39	47	35

Gateways to Opportunity Registry

The Gateways to Opportunity Registry is a resource and a tool to drive the quality and accountability of the professional development available to early learning, school-age, and youth practitioners. Anyone working with or "on behalf of" children, youth and families in Illinois can become a member of the Gateways Registry. The Gateways Registry is administered by INCCRRA. During Fiscal Year 2013, the Registry membership increased by 26,903, bringing the total membership on June 30, 2013 to 44,803 members. This growth was facilitated by a new child care licensing standard requiring registry membership for all licensed family child care home providers and the staff of all licensed child care centers. The chart below gives some information about the current jobs of the child care workforce.

TYPE OF PROGRAM & POSITION (Where Are Registry Members Working)

- Valid employment data for 32,164 current Registry members
- 6% work in Indirect Service, such as child care resource and referral, higher education, etc.
- 94% work in Direct Service
 - 81% in Licensed Centers
 - 17% in Licensed Family/Group Child Care Homes
 - 2% in License Exempt settings

IDHS Thanks

Local Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies for quotations used throughout the report.

For more detailed information about any of the programs contained in this report, visit:

www.dhs.state.il.us

www.inccrra.org

www.ilgateways.com

This publication is created to comply with State Statute 20 ILCS 505/5.15.

