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NORTH CENTRAL TEXAS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Recommendation for Child Care Parent Share of Cost Reductions

Background:
The Texas Workforce Commission issued guidance on April 12, 2021 that allows Workforce Development Boards to reduce the Parent Share of Cost (PSoC) for customers who have children in subsidy childcare part-time and for customers who choose to enroll their children in a certified Texas Rising Star Early Learning Program.

Information:
Workforce Solutions for North Central Texas (WSNCT) assesses a parent fee for families that receive subsidized childcare and who are required to pay a Parent Share of Cost (PSoC). The PSoC is determined using a sliding scale fee and is based on the family size, gross monthly income and the number of children receiving care.

In an effort to be equitable to all customers who receive subsidy child care services, a 25% reduction of a PSoC will be applied to customers who have one or more school aged children receiving subsidy child care services. The cost of part time care is lower than full time care and reducing the PSoC by 25% aligns with supporting parents in becoming self- sufficient and reducing financial hardships. When a customer notifies us of a that a child is no longer using part time care and is now needing full time care then the reduction will be removed the following month after notification. The reduced PSoC will remain in effect during summer months and school breaks.

In addition, a 25% reduction in the PSoC will be applied to customers who chose a quality rated Texas Rising Star Early Learning Program. Research shows that all children benefit from high quality early learning programs, with low-income children and English learners benefitting most. Applying this reduction may encourage customers to choose a Texas Rising Star program, as well as encourage Early Learning Programs to apply to become Texas Rising Star certified.

Customers who qualify for both PSoC reductions will only receive one reduction.

Recommendation:
The Workforce Development Committee recommends that the North Central Texas Workforce Development Board approve the Child Care Parent Share of Cost Reductions Policy.

Effective Date: October 1, 2021

Attachment: Proposed Board Policy on Child Care Parent Share of Cost Reductions

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