
New Research and Administrator Perspectives
on the Characteristics and experiences of
Providers in the Subsidy System;
New Jersey's Response

State Administrator's Management Institute

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Description of Child Care Providers Supported by the CCDF

- 90% of licensed/registered providers in NJ accept vouchers
 - Providers may choose to charge the difference between the subsidy rate, parent copy fee and their own market rate
 - NJ offered an initiative designed to encourage and support informal caregivers to become registered; and provided home visits, enhanced training and technical assistance and free books to promote early literacy
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Description of Child Care Providers Supported by the CCDF

continued

- Other projects designed to promote professional development and enhance quality include the Accreditation Facilitation Project, the Directors Academy and CDA and College Scholarships
 - Low wages and lack of benefits are a reflection of low subsidy rates; however Abbott contracted centers are required to offer salaries and benefits that are comparable to those offered by the local school district
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Policies and Practices Affecting Providers

- NJ's voucher subsidy programs are administered via two separate systems:
 - On Line Management for Economic Goal Achievement (OMEGA); a retrospective payment system
 - Child Care Automated Resource and Eligibility System (CARES); a prospective payment system
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Policies and Practices Affecting Providers

continued

- Both systems calculate payments based upon 80% level of service
 - Providers enter attendance as:
 - P resent
 - A bsent
 - S ick
 - H oliday
 - E mergency
- A's are used to reduce the level of service
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Policies and Practices Affecting Providers

continued

- Recognizing the extent to which providers often offer family supports services, a partnership has been developed to establish a Strengthening Families through Early Care and Education Institute within each county CCR&R to provide training to child care providers on child welfare support systems, identifying and supporting families strengths and working with community resources
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Policies and Practices Affecting Providers

continued

- New dispute resolution procedures are being developed for all providers as a result of recent discussions with union representatives
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