

Child Care WAGES[®] Program

Supplement Levels

Effective July 2021

Level	Education Required	Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All hours are semester hours. Birth-5 focused semester hours are noted as "B-5 hours." 			
13	Doctorate Degree plus or including at least 18 B-5 hours	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$6,250
12 12	Doctorate Degree plus or including at least 12 B-5 hours or Master's Degree plus or including at least 18 B-5 hours	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$6,250
11 11	Master's Degree plus or including at least 12 B-5 hours or Bachelor's Degree plus or including at least 18 B-5 hours	\$3,000	\$4,000	\$6,250
10 10	Bachelor's Degree plus or including at least 12 B-5 hours or 90 hours toward a Bachelor's Degree including at least 18 B-5 hours	\$2,250	\$3,000	\$4,500
9 9 9	Doctorate Degree plus or including at least 6 B-5 hours or Master's Degree plus or including at least 6 B-5 hours or Bachelor's Degree plus or including at least 6 B-5 hours	\$1,875	\$2,500	\$4,000
8 8*	Associate Degree plus or including at least 24 B-5 hours or Doctorate, Master's, or Bachelor's Degree (less than 6 B-5 hours)	\$1,500	\$2,000	\$3,500
7* 7*	Associate Degree plus or including at least 18 B-5 hours or 57 hours of general education including at least 24 B-5 hours	\$1,325	\$1,750	\$2,875
6* 6*	Associate Degree plus or including at least 12 B-5 hours or 45 hours of general education including at least 18 B-5 hours	\$1,125	\$1,500	\$2,250
5* 5*	Associate Degree plus or including at least 6 B-5 hours or 70 hours of general education including at least 6 B-5 hours	\$950	\$1,250	\$2,025
4* 4* 4*	36 hours of general education including at least 12 B-5 hours or Associate Degree (less than 6 hours) or 70 semester hours of general education (less than 6 B-5 hours)	\$750	\$1,000	\$1,800
3*	24 hours of general education including at least 6 B-5 hours	\$600	\$800	\$1,200
2* 2* 2* 2*	18 hours of general education including at least 4 B-5 hours or Early Childhood Certificate or CDA Credential (Child Development Associate Credential) earned for at least 12 semester hours or 12 birth to five focused semester hours	\$450	\$600	\$600
1 1 1	6 birth to five focused semester hours or Completion of NC Early Childhood Credential coursework or Completion of NC Family Child Care Credential Coursework (for family child care only)	NA	NA	NA

To be eligible for at least one six month payment during the fiscal year, applicants must:

- work in a county that uses Smart Start funds to support the Child Care WAGES[®] Program
- work in a licensed child care program (center, home or public school site)
- earn below the income caps selected by the funding partnership
- have one of the education levels listed here (from regionally accredited schools)
- work at least six months in the same child care program
- be employed at this same child care program when funding is available and a final confirmation has been completed

Supplement totals shown represent annual awards for full-time eligibility.

* Temporary levels of education. Teachers and directors awarded at one of these levels must move up to a higher level within two years to retain eligibility. Deadlines will be reestablished at each temporary level. Family child care providers have three years to achieve the education needed to move up.

The following notes apply to multiple levels throughout the scale:

- "Focus" generally means coursework with extensive content related to children ages birth to five
- General education, such as English, Math and Science, is coursework earned toward a two or four year degree

The supplement tier for each funding year is determined by the local Smart Start Partnership for each county. To learn the tier currently being supported in your county, or for additional information, call **919-967-3272** or visit us on the web at www.childcareservices.org.

Child Care WAGES[®] Program
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