



Alternative Payment Program

Children learning, parents earning, communities growing!

April 5, 2023

Fiscal Year 2022-23 Program Update # 8- AB 179 One-Time Provider Stipends

What is happening?

The State of California has allocated funding to provide one-time provider stipends to those child care providers who accept Alternative Payment Program (APP) subsidy vouchers.

On April 3, 2023 CDA received guidance from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) on the issuance of these stipends per Child Care Bulletin (CCB) 23-08.

The one-time provider stipends are funded in part by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Public Law 117-2) Child Care Stabilization funds and are meant to help providers with hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. It is intended for providers to use the stipends for one or more of the following purposes:

- Personnel costs, benefits, premium pay, or recruitment and retention
- Rent or mortgage payments, utilities, facilities maintenance and improvements, or insurance
- Personal protective equipment, cleaning and sanitization supplies and services
- Training and professional development related to health and safety practices
- Purchases of or updates to equipment and supplies to respond to COVID-19
- Goods and services necessary to maintain or resume child care services
- Mental health supports for children and employees

Are all providers eligible for the AB 179 one-time stipend?

All child care providers who had subsidized children enrolled and received reimbursement for the month of April 2022 are eligible for the one-time stipend.

Please note:

- Licensed child care providers **MUST** currently be open and in operation, however they do not have to currently serve subsidized children to receive the one-time stipend.
- Licensed-exempt Family, Friend, or Neighbor (FNN) child care providers must be currently serving at least one subsidized child to receive the one-time stipend.

What if my child care program is permanently closed?

The ARPA stabilization funds are intended to stabilize the child care field. CDA is prohibited from distributing funds to providers who are closed and not in operation.



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How will child care providers receive the AB 179 one-time stipend?

CDA will issue a one-time lump-sum stipend payment directly to eligible child care providers via direct deposit or by check if the provider has opted out of direct deposit.

This payment will not show on the Explanation of Payment (EOP) in CareConnect Provider. Each eligible child care provider will receive a confirmation letter from CDA for their records. This letter will be available in your CareConnect Provider account under “documents.”

My child care program accepts subsidized children from multiple programs. Will CDA issue a stipend for those programs too?

CDA is authorized to distribute the one-time stipends based on our own agency’s enrollment records **ONLY**. CDA is unable to assist with any stipend information outside of our agency. If a child care provider accepts subsidy vouchers from other agencies they must contact that agency with any questions.

How much will each child care provider receive?

The one-time stipend will be calculated based on the number of children served and reimbursed in the month of April 2022 at a flat rate of \$1,442.00 per child. For example, if you provided care for and received reimbursement for 5 children in April 2022, you would receive \$7,210.

Is there a requirement to receive the one-time stipend?

Yes, providers must complete a revised American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) survey for **EACH** child care license they possess. CDA must verify each eligible child care provider has completed a survey **before payments are distributed**.

License-exempt child care providers **MUST** complete one survey.

Why is an ARPA survey required?

Federal rules require that recipients of funds appropriated for Child Care Stabilization Grants pursuant to ARPA, must provide information via a one-time survey **before payments are distributed**.

All child care providers who have received or will receive any ARPA Child Care Stabilization funds must complete the **revised** survey.

How do I complete the required ARPA survey?

The California Department of Social Services (CDSS) has created a dedicated [ARPA Survey Webpage](#) for child care providers with information and frequently asked questions regarding the survey. The ARPA survey is available on the webpage and if child care providers have not already done so, should complete the survey immediately to ensure prompt payment.



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How will I know my ARPA survey has been received by the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)?

Child care providers will receive an email confirmation for each survey completed. Child care providers are asked to save the email confirmation in the event CDA needs a copy.

When will child care providers receive the one-time stipend payments?

CDA must receive the funds from California Department of Social Services (CDSS) before any one-time stipend payments are made to providers. At this time CDSS has not indicated when the funds will be released, but CDA anticipates funds to be released in the next few weeks.

Once funds are received from CDSS, CDA will issue payments no later than forty-five (45) calendar days after CDA has confirmed that the revised ARPA survey has been completed by each eligible child care provider.

From all of us at CDA, we appreciate the important work child care providers do and acknowledge the increasing costs to run your business. We are very pleased to help increase your compensation through these reimbursements.