

Child Care Relief Funds for Providers Closed Due to Winter Storm Impacts Discussion Paper

1 Background

2 On May 4, 2021, the Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) three-member Commission [approved](#) the
3 use of \$775 million of Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Act (CRRSA) Child Care and
4 Development Block Grant (CCDBG) funds to implement Child Care Relief Funding (CCRF) for all Child
5 Care Development Fund (CCDF) eligible regulated providers to support the stability of the child care
6 sector. Funding was approved to support child care providers' operating costs. In order to apply, child
7 care providers must have been open and serving children by June 18, 2021.

8 Issue

9 Following the winter storm in February 2021, many child care providers were forced to close due to storm
10 damage. Child Care & Early Learning has received input from several child care providers who were
11 open prior to the storm, but who were unable to open by June 18, 2021 due to delays in completing
12 needed repairs.

13 Extending CCRF to these child care programs will help them reopen and will help rebuild child care
14 supply. The prior \$775 million approved for Relief Funding is sufficient to fund all storm impacted
15 providers.

16 TWC should consider allowing storm-impacted child care programs to access CCRF if they:

- 17 • Were open and serving children prior to the February 2021 winter storm, and were forced to
18 close as a result of the February 2021 winter storm due to facility damage
- 19 • Responded to the Child Care Regulation Winter Weather Emergency Survey (sent to all
20 regulated providers on February 19, 2021) informing CCR:
 - 21 ○ That their operation sustained damage; and,
 - 22 ○ That they were not operating as a result of the damage
- 23 • Affirm in their application that they will reopen following the completion of all needed facility
24 repairs
- 25 • Submit a CCRF application no later than October 10, 2021

26 Decision Point

27 Staff seeks direction on making CCRF available to child care providers impacted by the February 2021
28 winter storm, as described above.