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First Children's Finance

Vermont NEWSLETTER



June was a wild ride for the child care industry in Vermont, and the Business Technical Assistance Program is glad to be buckled in alongside all of you! Of course, the biggest news is how Vermont made history when the legislature signed H.217/Act 76, the child care bill, into law. And that means big changes to financial assistance reimbursement, licensing regulations, as well as changes to the STARS program that are rolling out this summer. Keep reading for more details about H.217.

The BTAP will be fully staffed this month and ready to support your childcare business. Since we launched the Business Technical Assistance Program in March, we have:

- Responded to over 100 child care businesses' requests for information or business assistance
- Conducted 10 online trainings for 134 participants and 268 PD credit hours
- Launched a pilot Business Leadership Cohort, bringing 9 child care business leaders together for 6 months of intense business planning

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these changes, and don't hesitate to email us with your questions!



Funding opportunities

Here are a few funding opportunities to be aware of. We expect to have more to share by the end of the summer, so stay tuned!

1. Vermont Afterschool's [Room for Me grant](#) can fund capacity building for afterschool and summer programs for school-aged children. Applications are due July 25.
2. It's now easier than ever to be eligible for student loan repayment assistance through VTAEYC. [Check out the new guidelines and application!](#) .And don't delay – applications are due by August 31.
3. The Child Development Division is drafting the Readiness Payment program. Look for opportunities to provide input and a funding application later this summer.

[Learn More](#)

Career opportunities

In addition to all the funding opportunities, the BTAP partners are hiring right now!

We don't want any of you to leave your child care business now, but if you know someone who you think would be a great addition to the child care ecosystem, please share these opportunities with them!

[Building BrightFutures](#)

[NorthernLights @ CCV](#)

[VermontAfterschool](#)

[VTAEYC](#)

[Learn More](#)

Act 76 (H.217) is the big news!

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the official updates, the [state's H.217 webpage](#) is the place to go!

In July, you can expect:

- more communication from the state about how all the changes will roll out
- CCFAP reimbursement at the 5 STARS rate (if your provider rate agreement allows it). [Use this training to learn more about your provider rate agreement and how to change it.](#)
- more information about the readiness payments program
- a grace period while you eliminate waitlist and application fees
- a grace period as an annual cap on tuition increases is implemented (outside of changes to CCFAP reimbursement rates)
- a change to licensing regulation reducing required program site directors time spent on-site
- the first meeting of the Pre-kindergarten Education Implementation Plan Committee
- 11 new positions posted at the Child Development Division

Later in the summer, you can expect:

- An application for the readiness payment program
- More communication from the state about how changes will roll out

In the fall, you can expect:

- Communication from the state about the 35% CCFAP reimbursement increase
- The state will distribute readiness payments to child care programs that participate in the CCFAP

The Vermont Business and Technical Assistance Program (BTAP) provides expert business training, technical assistance and consulting to help start, sustain, and grow child care businesses. The BTAP is made possible through funding by the Vermont Agency of Human Services, Department for Children and Families, Child Development Division. The Vermont BTAP is a partnership between [First Children's Finance](#) and [Let's Grow Kids](#).



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