
By: **Chairman, Appropriations Committee (Departmental - Human Resources)**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2002

Assigned to: Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Child Care Quality Incentive Grant Program**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a Child Care Quality Incentive Grant Program in the
4 Department of Human Resources; authorizing the Department to award grants
5 as an incentive for child care providers to improve the quality of care being
6 provided to children through the purchase of supplies, materials, and
7 equipment; establishing eligibility and application requirements; authorizing
8 the Department to set the terms and conditions for direct incentive grants and
9 to establish certain priorities; making it a misdemeanor, subject to certain
10 penalties, to make or cause certain false statements; defining certain terms; and
11 generally relating to the Child Care Quality Incentive Grant Program.

12 BY adding to

13 Article - Family Law

14 Section 5-594 through 5-594.8, inclusive, to be under the new part "Part X.

15 Child Care Quality Incentive Grant Program"

16 Annotated Code of Maryland

17 (1999 Replacement Volume and 2001 Supplement)

18 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

19 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

20 **Article - Family Law**

21 **PART X. CHILD CARE QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM.**

22 5-594.

23 (A) IN THIS PART THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

24 (B) "CHILD CARE CENTER" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-570 OF THIS

25 SUBTITLE.

1 (C) "CHILD CARE PROVIDER" MEANS A DAY CARE PROVIDER OR A CHILD CARE
2 CENTER.

3 (D) "DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANT" MEANS A GRANT AWARDED UNDER THE
4 CHILD CARE QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

5 (E) "FAMILY DAY CARE PROVIDER" HAS THE MEANING STATED IN § 5-559(D) OF
6 THIS TITLE.

7 5-594.1.

8 (A) THERE IS A CHILD CARE QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM
9 ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT.

10 (B) TO ADMINISTER DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANTS TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS,
11 THE DEPARTMENT MAY CONTRACT WITH STATE AGENCIES AND NONPROFIT
12 ORGANIZATIONS.

13 5-594.2.

14 (A) THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN RESOURCES MAY DELEGATE THE AUTHORITY
15 TO APPROVE DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANTS TO ANY BOARD THAT EXISTS OR MAY BE
16 CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT.

17 (B) A DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANT MADE UNDER THIS PART SHALL BE
18 AWARDED AS AN INCENTIVE FOR A CHILD CARE PROVIDER TO IMPROVE THE
19 QUALITY OF CARE BEING PROVIDED TO CHILDREN THROUGH THE PURCHASE OF
20 SUPPLIES, MATERIALS, AND EQUIPMENT.

21 5-594.3.

22 (A) THE GRANT FUNDS SHALL CONSIST OF:

23 (1) MONEYS SPECIFICALLY APPROPRIATED FOR THE CHILD CARE
24 QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM; AND

25 (2) ANY OTHER MONEYS MADE AVAILABLE TO THE CHILD CARE
26 QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM.

27 (B) THE CHILD CARE QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANT PROGRAM SHALL BE USED
28 TO:

29 (1) PAY ALL EXPENSES AND DISBURSEMENTS AUTHORIZED BY THE
30 DEPARTMENT FOR ADMINISTERING THE CHILD CARE QUALITY INCENTIVE GRANT
31 PROGRAM; AND

32 (2) AWARD DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANTS TO CHILD CARE PROVIDERS.

33 (C) TO BE ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE GRANTS UNDER THIS PART, A CHILD CARE
34 PROVIDER MUST:

1 (1) POSSESS A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION OR LICENSE THAT IS
2 CURRENT AND NOT SUBJECT TO ANY PENDING REGULATORY ACTION, INCLUDING
3 REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION; AND

4 (2) NOT BE IN ARREARS IN THE PAYMENT OF ANY MONEYS OWED TO
5 THE STATE, INCLUDING THE PAYMENT OF TAXES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS.

6 (D) IN MAKING GRANTS UNDER THIS PART, CONSIDERATION SHALL BE GIVEN
7 TO:

8 (1) CHILD CARE CENTERS LOCATED IN TITLE I COMMUNITIES;

9 (2) CHILD CARE CENTERS WHERE AT LEAST 25% OF THE CHILDREN
10 ENROLLED RECEIVE SUBSIDIES THROUGH THE PURCHASE OF THE CARE PROGRAM;
11 AND

12 (3) FAMILY DAY CARE HOMES THAT SERVE CHILDREN WHO RECEIVE
13 CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES THROUGH THE PURCHASE OF THE CARE PROGRAM.

14 5-594.4.

15 THE DEPARTMENT MAY AWARD A DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANT TO AN APPLICANT
16 ONLY IF:

17 (1) THE APPLICANT MEETS THE QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED BY THIS
18 SUBTITLE;

19 (2) THE DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANT DOES NOT EXCEED \$2,500; AND

20 (3) FEDERAL FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE TO COVER THE COST OF THE
21 GRANT.

22 5-594.5.

23 (A) TO APPLY FOR A DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANT, AN APPLICANT SHALL
24 SUBMIT TO THE DEPARTMENT AN APPLICATION ON THE FORM THAT THE
25 DEPARTMENT REQUIRES.

26 (B) THE APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE:

27 (1) THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE CHILD CARE PROVIDER;

28 (2) AN ITEMIZATION OF KNOWN AND ESTIMATED COSTS INCLUDING A
29 STATEMENT FROM THE CHILD CARE PROVIDER AS TO HOW THE GRANT FUNDS WILL
30 BE USED;

31 (3) THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF FUNDS REQUIRED BY THE PROVIDER TO
32 PURCHASE SUPPLIES, MATERIAL, AND EQUIPMENT;

33 (4) THE FUNDS AVAILABLE TO THE APPLICANT TO PURCHASE SUPPLIES,
34 MATERIAL, AND EQUIPMENT;

1 (5) THE AMOUNT OF DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANT FUNDS SOUGHT FROM
2 THE DEPARTMENT;

3 (6) THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN THAT THE CHILD CARE PROVIDER
4 SERVES WHO RECEIVE CHILD CARE SUBSIDIES THROUGH THE PURCHASE OF CARE
5 PROGRAM; AND

6 (7) ANY OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION THAT THE DEPARTMENT
7 REQUESTS.

8 5-594.6.

9 (A) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS PART, THE DEPARTMENT MAY
10 SET THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANTS.

11 (B) ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, THE DEPARTMENT MAY ESTABLISH PRIORITIES
12 FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANTS BASED ON THE CATEGORIES
13 OF CHILDREN CHILD CARE PROVIDERS SERVE, INCLUDING INFANTS, TODDLERS, AND
14 PRESCHOOL AND SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN.

15 5-594.7.

16 (A) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY MAKE OR CAUSE ANY FALSE STATEMENT
17 OR REPORT TO BE MADE IN ANY APPLICATION OR IN ANY DOCUMENT FURNISHED TO
18 THE DEPARTMENT UNDER THIS PART.

19 (B) A PERSON MAY NOT KNOWINGLY MAKE OR CAUSE ANY FALSE STATEMENT
20 OR REPORT TO BE MADE FOR THE PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING THE ACTION OF THE
21 DEPARTMENT ON AN APPLICATION FOR A DIRECT INCENTIVE GRANT OR FOR THE
22 PURPOSE OF INFLUENCING ANY ACTION OF THE DEPARTMENT AFFECTING A DIRECT
23 INCENTIVE GRANT WHETHER OR NOT SUCH A GRANT MAY HAVE ALREADY BEEN
24 AWARDED.

25 (C) ANY PERSON OR ANY AIDER OR ABETTOR WHO VIOLATES ANY PROVISION
26 OF THIS PART IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR, AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A
27 FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$1,000 OR IMPRISONMENT IN THE PENITENTIARY NOT
28 EXCEEDING 1 YEAR OR BOTH.

29 5-594.8.

30 THE SECRETARY OF HUMAN RESOURCES SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS
31 NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSES OF THIS PART.

32 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
33 October 1, 2002.