

Lincoln Littles Provider Eligibility

Lincoln Littles: An early childhood education initiative, is intended to support working families in meeting the high cost of quality care for children birth through age 6 in full day/full year settings.

Eligibility for Child Care Center and Family Child Care Homes:

Childcare providers in Lincoln interested in participating in the Lincoln Littles Initiative must meet the following qualifications:

- Licensed and in good standing.
- Rating of 2 or higher in Step up to Quality, or nationally accredited.
- Offer full-time, year-round services.
- Programs must have a contract with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to provide care for families on child care subsidy and must be serving at least one child on subsidy.
- Programs must have a process in place to assure that potentially eligible families are receiving state subsidized dollars before a private scholarship is awarded.

Provider agrees to have the staff resources to provide aggregated data and information regarding:

- Numbers of low-income children served full-time (break out by ages served)
 - Retention of children in the program
 - Exit information on reason for leaving program
 - Parent satisfaction survey annually
- Race and ethnicity of children served
- Funding allocated per eligible child
- Kindergarten readiness/individual children's development and growth. A common readiness assessment will be developed in partnership with state leaders.
- Level of quality as measured by Step Up to Quality
- Teacher pay and benefits
- Teacher education and training levels
- Teacher retention
 - Exit information
 - Satisfaction survey annually

Provider must agree that funding from the LLL Initiative will only be used for low-income children served by their program on a full-time basis and to continue improving the quality of their program per the Step Up to Quality standards.

Providers that qualify are welcome to submit a letter of commitment at any time to Lincoln Community Foundation. Contact Michelle Paulk at michellep@lcf.org or call 402-47-2345 for more information.