Minnesota MCCA 2024 Legislative Agenda

MCCA's mission is to promote the success of licensed child care centers as an integral part of Minnesota's early education system. We serve as a voice for professional, high-quality child care that is affordable, accessible, and able to meet the diverse needs of Minnesota families.

2024 Priorities to Support Children, Families, and Providers

Help Middle Income Families Afford Quality Child Care

- Provide monthly child care payments to reduce family up-front costs
- Offer eligibility up to 150% State Median Income
- Pay child care providers directly and on prospective basis
- Benefit up to 85% of Minnesota families with children ages 0-5
- Move Minnesota along path to Great Start vision of no family paying over 7% of income for quality child care

Allow Child Care Immunization Flexibility & Risk Management

- Decouple child care from public schools in current immunization statute
- Allow provider flexibility to set own immunization policies around non-medical exemptions

Adjust Great Start Compensation Payments

- Waive minimum enrollment/attendance requirement for first 6 months of new program operations
- Allow paid time off and training hours to count as eligible time
- Expand definition of eligible child-serving employees

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Ongoing Advocacy Efforts

Support Creation of Risk-Based Licensing System

- Allow low-risk items to be handled differently than high-risk items
- Ensure system is implemented ahead of full licensing standards revision

Monitor Implementation of Department of Children, Youth, and Families

- Support continued creation of Great Start Scholarships
- Ensure integration, accountability, and increased efficiency across early childhood funding streams

Include Child Care in Minnesota's Commitment to the Science of Reading

- Ensure ages 0-5 are included in overall state literacy plan
- Integrate principles across Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPS) and Parent Aware Knowledge and Competency Frameworks (KCF) for vertical alignment of literacy support and instruction
- Include child care providers in professional development and other implementation resources



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