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MEMORANDUM

TO: Child Care Affordability Program Providers and Parents

FROM: Office of Child and Family Services

DATE: May 14, 2026

SUBJECT: CCAP Waitlist and New State Funding

The Child Care Affordability Program (CCAP) helps eligible families pay for child care so parents can work, go to school, or participate in a job training program. CCAP, which is funded by both federal Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) and State funds, works to ensure that Maine families have access to affordable, high quality child care. Due to expending all available funding, CCAP implemented a waitlist in November 2024 and since then, all eligible families were placed on the waitlist until funding became available for an award. As of this week, 653 children from 443 families remain on the waitlist.

Beginning in July 2026, the next State Fiscal Year, CCAP will receive an additional \$10 million in state funds to help address the current waitlist. Our program is actively working to remove children from the waitlist as quickly as possible using the funding currently available. As new funds are released, we will continue to provide updates regarding the status of the waitlist and to grant an award to eligible families as quickly as possible.

As a reminder, waitlist prioritization is given to:

- Children with special needs
- Children experiencing homelessness
- Children from families with incomes below 30% of the State Median Income.

If you are a family who is currently on the CCAP waitlist, you will be notified directly if and when funding is available. If you have questions, please reach out ccap.dhhs@maine.gov.

Gina Forbes
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Office of Child and Family Services