

Texas School Ready!TM certification is based on a child care provider's demonstrated ability to prepare children for kindergarten. Preschool classrooms eligible for Texas School Ready!TM certification are composed of children who will be attending kindergarten the following school year and include:

- licensed child care centers (for profit, nonprofit, and faith-based);
- school district and charter school prekindergarten; and
- Head Start.

PROCEDURES:

Boards must:

- establish enhanced reimbursement rates for infants, toddlers, and preschool children enrolled with certified Texas School Ready!TM child care providers to be effective no later than January 1, 2008;* and
- ensure that the enhanced reimbursement rates for Texas School Ready!TM child care providers are at least equal to the TRS reimbursement rates.

NLF

Boards may establish enhanced reimbursement rates for school-age children enrolled with certified Texas School Ready!TM providers.*

LF

Boards must provide information about Texas School Ready!TM certification to TRS Providers and encourage them to apply for certification.

NLF

Note: The State Center may open and close the application certification process in a given school year due to limited funding. The Commission will notify Boards when the State Center ceases or resumes accepting applications. Boards are not required to provide application information to TRS providers if the State Center is not accepting applications at that time.

Attachment 1 to this WD Letter sets out general information, eligibility requirements, and application procedures for Texas School Ready!TM certification, including how to apply online for certification. It is recommended that Boards provide this information to all licensed child care providers caring for children receiving Commission-subsidized child care services.

LF

Boards must be aware that Texas School Ready!TM certification is valid for one year, and providers must reapply each year.

NLF

Boards also must be aware that TEEM child care providers do not need to apply online for Texas School Ready!TM certification. The State Center will provide TEEM providers with application information.

NLF

*(As required by Commission rule §801.51(f) and as detailed in WD Letter 10-07, Board members must take such action in an open meeting.)

NLF

INQUIRIES:

Direct inquiries regarding this WD Letter to the assigned contract manager for your local workforce development area.

ATTACHMENT:

Attachment 1: Texas School Ready!TM Eligibility and Application Procedures