



Child Care Counts: Stabilization Payment Program Round 4 Feedback Questions

This is the sample text that you will see in the Provider Portal when you log in to complete your initial application for the Child Care Counts: Stabilization Payment Program Round 4.

Please complete the questions below before proceeding with the application. This information will be used by DCF to understand the amount of unfilled enrollment spots in child care programs statewide and identify potential causes, as well as impacts on families and communities. This is also an opportunity for you to provide information to help inform potential future programs to support child care providers and strengthen their child care programs. Results will not be published with your facility name, nor with any identifying information related to your child care program.

Thank you for providing this vital information, which will be shared with DCF leadership, the provider community, policymakers, and other early childhood stakeholders. Please visit the Child Care Counts webpage for more information.

Section 1: Enrollment and Capacity

Please think about your site's *overall* enrollment and capacity.

The first questions ask about "**unfilled spots**," which is the number of additional children you could serve full-time while maintaining compliance with your program's maximum capacity as determined by your regulatory rules. For example, if you have a closed classroom, the number of children who could have been served in that classroom. Or if only one teacher is currently working in a classroom designed for two teachers, the number of additional children who could have been served with two teachers.

Q1. Currently, does your site have any "unfilled spots" that you could potentially use to serve more children?

- Yes
- No (If no, skip to Q4)
- Don't Know (If don't know, skip to Q4)

Q2. Which of the following are reasons why your site has unfilled spots?

Does your site have unfilled spots because...	Yes	No
...your site does not have enough qualified child care staff?		
...there are not enough families interested in child care?		
...your site does not want to operate at full or peak capacity; that is, you are serving the number of children you want to?		
Another reason, please tell us: _____		

Q3. Currently, if all the issues in the previous question were addressed, how many more children in each of the following age groups could you serve at your site? Your best estimate is fine. If the unfilled spot could be filled by children of multiple ages, only include the spot once. For example, if the spot could be filled by a 2-year-old or a 3-year-old, include it in either category, but not both.

Age of Child	Additional Children You Could Serve
Infants, age 0-11 months	
Toddlers, age 12-23 months	
2-year-olds	
3-year-olds	
4- or 5-year-olds not yet enrolled in kindergarten	
School-age children, kindergarten and above	

Q4. Does your site currently have a waitlist?

- Yes
- No (If no, skip to Q7)
- Don't Know (If don't know, skip to Q7)

Q5. Currently, how many children from each of the following ages, are on your site's waitlist? Your best estimate is fine.

Age of Child	Number of Children
Prenatal	
Infants, age 0-11 months	
Toddlers, age 12-23 months	
2-year-olds	
3-year-olds	
4- or 5-year-olds not yet enrolled in kindergarten	
School-age children, kindergarten and above	

Q6. Which of the following are reasons why your site is unable to enroll children on the waitlist?

Are you unable to enroll additional children because your site...	Yes	No
...does not have enough physical space?		
...does not have enough staff?		
...does not have enough supplies or equipment?		
...cannot provide care for children on the waitlist with special needs or disabilities?		
...cannot provide care for families needing non-traditional hours for care?		
...cannot provide care for families who are unable to pay tuition?		
...your site is serving the number of children you want to?		
Another reason, please tell us: _____		

Q7. In a typical week, about how many inquiries asking about openings for child care does your site receive?

- None
- 1-2
- 3-5
- 6-10
- 11 or more

Section 2: Staffing

The next questions are about staffing.

Q8. Since May 2023, how challenging has it been to keep staff or fill staff vacancies at your site?

- Not at all challenging (If not at all challenging, skip to Q10)
- A little challenging
- Somewhat challenging
- Very challenging
- Extremely challenging
- Not applicable, I am the only employee at my site (If not applicable, skip to Q10)

Q9. Some sites have to make operational changes as a result of staffing challenges. Since May 2023, have staffing difficulties led to any of the following at your site?

Since May 2023, have staffing difficulties led your site to...	Yes	No
...reduce its licensed capacity?		
...serve fewer children?		
...turn families away?		
...reduce the number of classes or classrooms?		
...reduce its operating hours?		
...eliminate additional services such as transportation or meal service?		
...hire an applicant who has less experience or qualification than desired?		
...ask current staff to work more hours or take less time off		
... ask current staff to take on additional duties?		
...raise tuition		
...something else? Please tell us: _____		

Q10. What, if anything, would help you serve more children at your site?
