



Improve Efficiency of Application and Enrollment Process for Providers and Families

BACKGROUND

Families and providers often interact with multiple agencies, systems, applications, and requirements when seeking or delivering early childhood services, creating unnecessary complexity and administrative burden. Differences in eligibility processes, onboarding requirements, compliance expectations, and agency procedures can delay access to services, reduce efficiency, and make it more difficult for providers and families to navigate the system. A more coordinated and streamlined approach would help create a simpler and more user-centered experience while improving consistency across programs.

This recommendation will strengthen coordination and accountability across Texas's early childhood system by aligning regulations, oversight, technology, data systems, and processes across agencies. A more unified approach will reduce duplication and inconsistencies, improve service delivery and outcomes, and ensure public resources are used effectively to support Texas children and families. Streamlined application and onboarding processes would also help providers participate more efficiently in state programs while making it easier for families to access the services they need.

PROPOSED POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

CHILDREN AT RISK proposes specific policy reforms for the 90th Texas Legislature: Streamline application and onboarding processes for providers and families by aligning eligibility requirements, administrative procedures, technology systems, and agency processes to create a more efficient, coordinated, and accountable early childhood system that improves access to services and outcomes for Texas children and families.

- **Align Eligibility and Onboarding Requirements**
 - Standardize eligibility criteria, documentation, and verification processes for providers and families across TWC, HHSC, and DFPS programs.
 - Reduce duplicate applications by allowing shared documentation across programs serving the same children and families.
 - Establish consistent onboarding timelines and requirements for new providers entering state programs.
- **Coordinate Technology and Agency Processes**
 - Align agency procedures and technology systems to reduce administrative burden and processing delays for providers and families.
 - Build on existing infrastructure to report on progress toward a more coordinated application and enrolling experience.

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT:

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