11/28/22, 4:13 PM eAdvocate Newsletter

(https://www.actforchildren.org/champion/join-movement/e-advocate)

This Issue:



It is hard to believe we are already nearing the end of the year! In this month's issue of eAdvocate, we highlight the results of the November 3, 2020, election and provide important updates for families and providers.

2020 Election Results



We appreciate all the hard work from you and all our partners in your efforts to support and promote the Fair Tax. While the ballot measure did not pass this year, we know there will be other important opportunities to advocate for early childhood funding. On election day, several cities, counties and states across the country passed innovative laws to support early childhood education and care (https://www.newamerica.org/education-policy/edcentral/state-local-elections/?

utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Early%20%20Elementary%20Ed%20Update%20562&utm_content=Early%20%20Elementary%20Ed%20Update%20562+CID_f173ea3f8 and there is no reason Illinois cannot do the same in the future!

This is the first time Illinois voters were asked to write tax fairness into their constitution. If enacted, the Fair Tax would have cut taxes for the 97 percent of Illinoisans who make less than \$250,000 per year, required the wealthiest 3 percent of Illinois residents to pay their fair share, and raised billions of dollars to invest in schools, health care, and jobs in every part of our state. The coalition that came together around this effort will continue the fight for equity and fairness in Illinois.

Voters have chosen President-Elect Biden for the presidency with few votes yet to be counted in some states. The U.S. House will remain in control of the Democratic Party, and the U.S. Senate will remain in the hands of Republicans, for now. There are two January runoff races in Georgia that will determine control of the Senate for the next two years

Even less clear is how all the Illinois Statehouse races will end with votes left to count and margins much closer than in the Presidential race. What is certain is that the Democrats will maintain their supermajority in both the state House and Senate.

School-Age Remote Learning: Updated Attendance Rules



School-Age Remote Learning and the 50 Percent Attendance Rule have each been extended through June 30, 2021.

Return to School (School-Age Children)

Schools reopened with modified schedules that include in-person, remote, and hybrid learning models. To accommodate the needs of working parents, CCAP will pay a full-time day for school-age children if you are working or going to school five (5) or more hours during the day and your child is in the provider's care during that time through June 30, 2021. This includes time that the child is participating in their school's distance learning activities while in the provider's care. CCAP will not pay any additional fees to the provider for assisting with school activities, or any other fees beyond the approved daily rate for care. Parents should notify their provider and the CCR&R of any changes in their child's care arrangement due to school schedules.

80 Percent Attendance Rule

The 80 percent payment rule was revised to 50 percent effective July 1, 2020. Licensed and license-exempt centers and licensed home providers were paid for all approved days of care if children attend at least 50 percent of the days. The 50 perent rule has been extended through June 30, 2021. Providers may request a waiver if attendance falls below 50% or if the program is forced to close due to COVID related reasons.

All Children All Families

For the first time ever, the Sylvia Cotton Center for Research and Policy Innovation powered by Illinois Action for Children has released a proactive and aggressive policy agenda for ensuring racial, gender, and economic equity for child care and early education programs in Illinois.

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"All Children All Families (https://go.actforchildren.org/l/471011/2020-11-

18/v6c6l/471011/1605736419F89J84zr/All_Families_Report_RELEASE_web.pdf): A proactive and aggressive policy agenda for child care and early education programs in Illinois" discusses our theory of change and our approach to supporting quality. We have four policy objectives that includes many policy levers that are outlined in the report:

- Strengthen governance and funding to lay the foundation of systemic equity
- Support early childhood teachers and caregivers to support children
- Achieve program excellence for Black, Latinx, low-income, and rural children
- Expand family access and choice to excellent services.

Read the full All Children All Families (https://go.actforchildren.org/l/471011/2020-11-18/v6c6l/471011/1605736419F89J84zr/All_Families_Report_RELEASE_web.pdf) policy agenda to learn more.