



# Child Care Quality Improvement Support

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Learning Community Frequently Asked Questions

- What are Learning Community Meetings? It is a peer support network of early childhood professionals and Regional Community consultants that meet monthly to work collectively towards shared goals. Meetings help professionals connect and share concerns and work towards solutions together.
- Do I have to attend a Learning Community Meeting every month? We do encourage you to attend as many meetings as you can, but we also recognize that other things will come up and you may not be able to attend. If you can't make it to a meeting, your Regional Community Consultant can share information from the meeting with you.
- Do we get KDHE credit for attending? We don't award KDHE in-service credit for providers that attend Learning Community Meetings.

### Child Care Management Systems Frequently Asked Questions

- If I already have a subscription to Brightwheel/Playground that I am paying for, am I still eligible for Child Care Aware of Kansas to pay for my subscription? Yes. Child Care Aware of Kansas will work with the vendor of your choice to take over subscription payments for 14 months.
- How much will the subscription cost when Child Care Aware of Kansas stops paying for it? Subscription costs will vary depending upon the vendor that you are using and the type of program that you have. For specific cost, please contact either Brightwheel or Playground.
- If I am using one CCMS and would like to switch to another will Child Care Aware of Kansas pay for the one that I am currently using and then pay for the other CCMS when I switch? Child Care Aware of Kansas will only pay for a provider to use 1 Child Care Management System for 14 months. We are not able to switch subscription billing during the 14 months.
- If I have a temporary license am I eligible for Child Care Management System? To participate and have your subscription paid for you must have a permanent license.
- How do I decide which CCMS is best for my program? Child Care Aware of Kansas has a comparison that is available to see which program would work best for you (<https://ks.childcareaware.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/CCMS-Comparison-1.pdf>)
- What costs is there for families? There is no cost for parents to use the app. There is a service fee for families that choose to make payments through the app. That fee varies depending upon how families pay and the program. As a provider you can choose to pay the fee or pass it on to families.

Child Care Aware of Kansas, in partnership with DCF, is offering a paid 14 month subscription to one of two Child Care Management Systems for licensed child care providers in the state of Kansas. If you'd like more information about your options and to decide which would be the best option for your programs, Brightwheel or playground, check out this recording <https://youtu.be/BnGDB0w4qyE>.

## Shared Services Network Frequently Asked Questions

- What is Shared Services? Shared Services offers childcare providers the opportunity to strengthen and enhance their business practices while focusing on the children.
- What is a Network Hub? A Network Hub is either a single organization or collaborating organizations that act as the hub of operations for one or more new early care and education shared services network(s) in Kansas.
- What kind of services will be offered? Services that are offered by each Network Hub will vary based upon the needs of the providers in their area. Network hubs will work closely with providers to determine what is needed.
- Do I have to use all of the services, or can I just choose what I want? Providers will be able to choose services that they need for their program. There is not a requirement to participate in all of the services, or a specific number of services in order to be eligible.

