



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Action for Children Announces Signing Bonuses for 500 Child Care Professionals

Collaboration leverages funding from City of Columbus to bring more talent to child care programs for the benefit of children, families and the community

Columbus, Ohio (February 23, 2022) — As the first step of a newly launched program, Action for Children is offering 500 individual \$1,000 signing bonuses for eligible open child care positions in Franklin County, thanks to funding from the City of Columbus. Signing bonuses are available to eligible child care professionals who apply for and secure positions through participating child care programs in Franklin County. Child care programs will apply for funding through Action for Children to pay out bonuses for up to six new employees.

“Working families across Columbus, like much of the nation, still face significant hurdles when reentering the workforce, especially when trying to secure affordable, reliable child care,” said City of Columbus Mayor Andrew J. Ginther. “By dedicating these resources to reduce their costs, as well as help the industry increase capacity to meet demand, we are providing vital relief to individuals and families doing their best to lead happy, healthy and productive lives during what remains a very challenging and uncertain time.”

The program will also offer scholarships for families to help offset the cost of child care. Details will be announced in the coming month for this additional benefit of the program, focusing on parents and guardians of Franklin County children who meet eligibility criteria.

“We are activating this program to uplift child care professionals and the families they serve,” said Action for Children CEO Eric Karolak. “Child care is not babysitting—it’s brain building—and these professionals deserve our recognition, reward and respect.”

Child care is important for many families and provides tools that prepare children for success. Early child care educators have the unique opportunity to make a powerful impact in their communities by helping families and supporting children. Working in child care offers:

- + Full-time and part-time schedule options
- + Tuition assistance for child care
- + Career growth potential
- + Opportunity to make a difference for children and families

Signing bonuses are available through licensed child care programs in Franklin County on a first-come-first-serve basis. To be eligible, new employees must not have worked in a licensed child care program within 30 days of hire. When candidates apply for an eligible full-time position, they will automatically be considered for the signing bonus. The first \$250 will be paid with the hired employee’s first paycheck, and the remaining \$750 will come with the employee’s paycheck following 90 days of employment.

- + **Child care programs** that wish to apply for signing bonus funding can learn more [here](#).
- + **Child care educators** can learn more and search for jobs eligible for bonuses [here](#), or ask any Franklin County child care program if they’re offering signing bonuses for specific positions.



About Action for Children

Action for Children is the local child care resource and referral agency for Central Ohio, and is committed to assuring quality early learning experiences for all children. Our services focus on transforming the lives of children by supporting the everyday heroes who most influence our children's early growth; care givers, educators, parents and guardians.

To learn more, visit www.actionforchildren.org.

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