

300 East Main Preschool

A Durham County Early Childhood Initiative



Update on the Selection Process to Develop and Operate a Child Care Center



Downtown Durham Child Care Analysis by Child Care Services Association *June 2020*

Recommendations

- Commit to developing a model program for high quality early education services for *infants and toddlers*
- Establish an advisory group to develop and guide a Request for Application process to identify an operator
- As part of the RFA process,
 - Decide upon enrollment priorities
 - Assure high quality by requiring a 5-star rating and considering NAEYC Accreditation
 - Promote philanthropic investments by prioritizing nonprofit operator applicant
 - Provide opportunities for teacher observation, training and practicum
 - Accept children receiving public subsidies and other child care financial assistance
 - Consider income-based sliding scale tuition
 - Mandate the employment of degreed teachers
- Rent the child care space for a nominal fee to support the cost of high quality
- Grant an allowance for interior and exterior configuration costs

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TASK	TIMELINE
Research and Data Analysis	June – July 2023
Information and Advisory Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drafting RFA • Promoting the Opportunity 	August – November 2023
Distributed RFA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual Information Sessions for Promotion • Period for Questions • Virtual Help Sessions 	December 8, 2023 December – January 2024
Proposals Due	January 26, 2024
Review Committee Analysis and Scoring	February – March 2024
Committee Interviews with Finalists, Additional Review	March 2024
Notice of Final Selection	April 2024

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- RFA was Open to Any Operator - Scoring Preference Given to Non-Profit Entities
- All Licensed Operators in 9-County Area were Sent Direct Notices
- 14 Operators Submitted Applications (3 non-profit, 11 for-profit)
- Review Committee Scored Eligible Applications
- Field Has Been Narrowed to 4 Potential Operators

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- Selected Operator Will Sign a Memorandum of Understanding with CCSA to Begin Lease Negotiations with Durham County
 - Operator Must Serve Children on Financial Assistance
 - Operator Must Agree to at Least 5 Years of Technical Assistance
 - Includes assistance with lease negotiations and build out planning
 - Includes no charge professional development for staff to meet licensing standards for 18 months
 - Includes the services of a quality improvement coach for 5 years.
 - Operator Must Agree to Contract for at least one Durham PreK (DPK) classroom and meet all DPK standards
- 15-year Renewable Lease will be Negotiated with Durham County

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Minimum Standards for Applicants

- Experience Operating a 5-Star Rated Licensed Child Care Program within the Most Recent Five Years
- History of Providing Early Childhood Program Services to Low- and Middle- Income families in NC for a Minimum of 3 Years
- Eligible to Provide Subsidized Services
- Demonstrated Ability to Serve Mixed Delivery Subsidized Families and Private Fee Families
- Good Standing with the North Carolina Division of Early Education Licensing Division's Regulations and the Durham Department of Social Services
- Demonstrated Successful Start-up and Licensing of a Center
- Meet Durham PreK Standards of Operation
- Willingness to Participate in Quality Improvement Technical Assistance

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Questions/Comments



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