

Exciting Opportunity for Child Care Professionals

First Things First Professional REWARD\$

COMING IN MAY 2010!



What is it? –

First Things First (FTF) Professional REWARD\$ is a financial incentive program that acknowledges and rewards progressive education, educational attainment and commitment to continuous employment at a child care center, group or family child care home offering services to children birth through age 5 and is regulated by a Federal, State or Tribal authority.

Eligibility Requirements

Child care center teachers, directors and family child care home providers may be eligible if they:

- Are at least 18 years of age
- Have a high school diploma or GED
- Currently work 30 hours per week with children, ages birth through 5 years
- Earn \$15.00 or less per hour
- Have completed a minimum of 6 credit hours of college coursework in Early Childhood Education, Early Childhood Special Education or Child Development with a grade of C or better, and
- Have worked a minimum of 1 year of continuous employment at their current place of employment

Place of Employment

The child care center or family child care home must:

- Be regulated by a Federal, State or Tribal authority
- Provide services to children, ages birth through 5 years
- Be in good standing with regulatory agencies, and
- Demonstrate a commitment to quality by either (1) being an enrolled Quality First participant program, or (2) submitting an application to be rated on the Quality First Rating Scale and committed to being rated, or (3) being accredited by a national organization at a level which equals a 3 – 5 star rating in Quality First, or (4) currently awaiting selection for Quality First participation

Keep a look out!

More information available in April 2010.

Enrollment for FTF Professional REWARD\$ program begins May 2010.

Participating Regions – Eligible child care centers and family child care homes must be in one of the following regions. To learn more about the specific regions, visit www.azftf.gov/regionalcouncils.

Coconino, San Carlos Apache Tribe, Central Maricopa, Southeast Maricopa, Central Phoenix, North Phoenix, Central Pima, North Pima, South Pima, Pinal and Navajo Nation

Questions – please contact the FTF Professional REWARD\$ program at 602.240.6327 or azftfwards@vsuw.org

Website – www.azftfwards.org is currently under construction and will be available in May.



Administered by:

