# THE IMPACT OF SC BOOST



# **Overview**

Launched in 2024, SC BOO\$T is a pilot program designed to deliver one-time wage supplements directly to early childhood professionals in South Carolina. The program is created in response to data revealing low wages for the early childhood workforce. Amounts were distributed per the SC Endeavors Registry Career Ladder level and were divided between two 6-month payments. SC BOO\$T is administered by the South Carolina Department of Social Services' SC Endeavors program and is federally-funded through the American Rescue Plan Act.





# Why is SC BOO\$T Important?

Early childhood educators play a crucial role in a child's early development, yet they are often underpaid despite the high level of responsibility they carry. Better wages would help retain skilled educators, improve the quality of care, and recognize the value of their work in shaping future generations.

A boost in wages for early childhood educators impacts:

Economic growth & development



participation





# Wages of Participants Who Applied for SC BOO\$T

### Median Hourly Wage by Program Types

| Program Type                   | Median Hourly Wage | Program Type                        | Median Annual Salary |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| All Program Types              | \$15.00            | All Program Types                   | \$34,026.80          |
| Child Care Center (not HS/EHS) | \$14.50            | Child Care Center (includes HS/EHS) | \$36.399.72          |
| Family Child Care Program      | \$15.00            |                                     |                      |
| Registered Faith-Based Program | \$13.23            | Family Child Care Program           | \$25,000.00          |
| Head Start/Early Head Start    | \$17.69            | Registered Faith-Based Program      | \$23,050.00          |

#### Median Hourly Wage by Select Positions

| Position                   | Median Hourly Wage |  |
|----------------------------|--------------------|--|
| Director                   | \$18.75            |  |
| Teacher                    | \$14.62            |  |
| Assistant Teacher          | \$13.92            |  |
| Floater                    | \$13.00            |  |
| Family Service Coordinator | \$19.32            |  |

# The Impact of SC BOO\$T

# **Two Rounds of Payments**



**Round 1** payments were distributed to **9,370** early childhood professionals for a total of **\$12,776,050**.

**Round 2** payments were distributed to **8,620** early childhood professionals for a total of **\$12,255,610**.

In total, SC BOO\$T distributed **\$25,031,660** to early childhood professionals in South Carolina!

## **Early Care and Education Turnover**

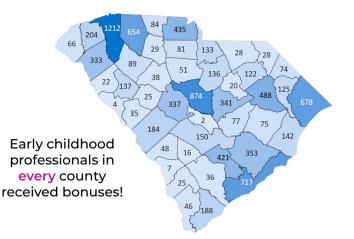


There is a 15%-25% turnover rate of early childhood professionals nationally.



There is an 8% turnover rate of early childhood professionals in South Carolina after Round 2 SC BOO\$T payments.

# Number of SC BOO\$T Recipients by County



## **Testimonials**

"I felt very blessed to receive this bonus. I am a single mother. My husband passed away last year, and this bonus was so beneficial to helping me and my daughter financially. Thank you so much."

> "As a preschool teacher, I am sometimes working paycheck to paycheck. This helped me put some money in savings. It also allowed me to get ahead and pay off some bills."

"I was encouraged that I was valued as an early childhood educator. Birth through age five is the most important time of learning for a child. It is the window of opportunity to shape a child's ability to learn, think and thrive. This bonus was the first time I feel like early educators were recognized."

SCEndeavors EARLY CARE + EDUCATION



SC Endeavors is a program of the South Carolina Department of Social Services Division of Early Care and Education.