

Board Contract Year 2025 Texas Rising Star Mentor Distribution and Board CCQ Convening Discussion Paper

1 Background

2 The Texas Workforce Commission's (TWC) three-member Commission (Commission) provides
3 funding each year to the Local Workforce Development Boards to support Texas Rising Star Mentors.
4 TWC's financial support for Texas Rising Star Mentors has been increasing over the past few years,
5 based upon [Texas Government Code 2308.3155](#) which makes participation in the Texas Rising Star
6 program a requirement for all child care programs participating in TWC's Child Care Services (CCS)
7 program.
8

9 Issue 1 – Texas Rising Star Mentor Distribution for BCY'25

10 The Texas Government Code requires Boards to provide mentoring assistance to all CCS child care
11 programs, both to assist those who are not yet certified, and to assist those who are certified to pursue
12 higher star-levels. TWC estimated the costs associated with increasing mentoring services, as
13 published in the [HB2607 Fiscal Note](#). Based upon the prior Fiscal Note, TWC staff estimated the
14 following amounts were needed to support Texas Rising Star mentors:
15

16 BCY'23 - \$22,000,000
17 BCY'24 - \$27,000,000
18 **BCY'25 - \$29,000,000**
19 BCY'26 - \$31,000,000
20

21 Prior to BCY'23, the Texas Rising Star distribution methodology was more heavily weighted based on
22 the relative percent of each Board's Texas Rising Star programs. As Boards are now required to
23 support not only current Texas Rising Star-certified child care programs, but also support non-Texas
24 Rising Star child care programs, beginning in BCY'23, the distribution methodology considered a
25 Board's relative percentage of all CCS child care programs (excluding relatives, military, and out-of-
26 state providers).
27

28 Because mentors are required to observe all classrooms within a child care program, also beginning in
29 BCY'23 the distribution methodology considered the licensed capacity of providers, as this is a proxy
30 for child care program/classroom size.
31

32 In BCY'23, the distribution methodology excluded CCS child care programs who have not had a CCS
33 child referred in the past 18 months as we expected that these providers may not continue their
34 participation in the CCS program given the requirement that they pursue Texas Rising Star
35 certification. In the past year, Boards have worked with all CCS providers to update their Provider
36 Agreements and ensure that all providers understand their requirements regarding mandatory
37 participation in Texas Rising Star. For the BCY'25 Mentor distribution, staff recommends including
38 all providers with CCS agreements (excluding relatives, military, and out-of-state providers), as
39 Boards will be supporting all of these providers, regardless of whether they have active CCS referrals.

1 For BCY’25, staff recommends Texas Rising Star Mentor distribution methodology include a
2 \$150,000 base amount, and the following distribution criteria¹ for the remaining amount:
3 • 60% based on the Board’s relative proportion of all CCS child care programs
4 • 40% based on the Board’s relative proportion of licensed capacity of all CCS child care
5 programs
6

7 Additionally, staff recommends increasing the planned \$29 million distribution by \$62,000 to ensure
8 all Boards are funded at least at the level they were in BCY’24.
9

10 **Issue 2 –Board Strategic Planning for Quality Improvement Convening**

11 On February 28, 2023, the Commission [approved](#) the use of \$150,000 in federal child care stimulus
12 funds to support a statewide convening of Boards to provide training/technical assistance to support
13 their Boards in planning for the use of their Child Care Quality (CCQ) improvement funding. Child
14 Care & Early Learning (CC&EL) hosted this event October 3-4, 2023. The event was focused on
15 assisting the Boards in planning for the use of their BCY’24 CCQ funding.
16

17 CC&EL would like to host a Board Strategic Planning for Quality Improvement convening in August
18 2024, to assist the Boards in planning for the use of the BCY’24 CCQ funding. Staff recommends that
19 the Commission approve \$150,000 to support this effort. Funding will be used to support the costs of
20 the convening, including supporting Board travel, as outlined in Attachment 2.

21 **Decision Point**

22 Staff recommends that the Commission

- 23 • Increase the distribution for Texas Rising Star Mentors by \$66,665 and distribute \$29,066,665
24 to Boards using the methodology as outlined above (Attachment 1); and
- 25 • approve \$150,000 for a Board Strategic Planning for Quality Improvement convening in
26 August 2024, as outlined above (Attachment 2).

¹ CCS Child Care providers who have an incorrect Child Care Regulation permit number were excluded from the calculation unless they had CCS children in care as of April 15, 2024. Prior to exclusion, CC&EL requested that Boards review and correct these providers’ permit numbers in TWIST.

Attachment 1 – BCY’25 Texas Rising Star Mentor Distribution

		Providers	Capacity	% of State Providers	% of State Capacity	BCY'24 Distribution	FY24 Total Distribution	Difference BCY'25 vs. BCY'24	Hold Harmless Distribution
1	Panhandle	108	9,046	1.36%	1.18%	\$470,077	\$478,651	(\$8,573)	\$8,573
2	South Plains	129	12,115	1.63%	1.58%	\$549,268	\$535,889	\$13,380	\$0
3	North Texas	80	6,026	1.01%	0.79%	\$378,363	\$362,350	\$16,012	\$0
4	North Central	703	87,813	8.88%	11.46%	\$2,607,858	\$2,215,633	\$392,225	\$0
5	Tarrant	590	60,116	7.45%	7.84%	\$2,037,016	\$1,815,444	\$221,572	\$0
6	Dallas	636	61,701	8.03%	8.05%	\$2,143,996	\$1,995,208	\$148,788	\$0
7	North East Texas	64	6,678	0.81%	0.87%	\$356,724	\$362,586	(\$5,861)	\$5,861
8	East Texas	213	20,429	2.69%	2.67%	\$814,759	\$810,058	\$4,701	\$0
9	West Central Texas	88	7,484	1.11%	0.98%	\$412,269	\$421,746	(\$9,477)	\$9,477
10	Borderplex	301	19,415	3.80%	2.53%	\$967,054	\$900,149	\$66,905	\$0
11	Permian Basin	97	9,388	1.23%	1.22%	\$453,826	\$475,395	(\$21,569)	\$21,569
12	Concho Valley	54	5,122	0.68%	0.67%	\$317,791	\$315,290	\$2,501	\$0
13	Heart of Texas	106	9,787	1.34%	1.28%	\$475,907	\$465,462	\$10,446	\$0
14	Capital Area	354	35,899	4.47%	4.68%	\$1,280,002	\$1,115,847	\$164,155	\$0
15	Rural Capital	342	38,568	4.32%	5.03%	\$1,291,985	\$1,235,957	\$56,028	\$0
16	Brazos Valley	116	8,800	1.47%	1.15%	\$481,932	\$470,201	\$11,731	\$0
17	Deep East Texas	83	8,346	1.05%	1.09%	\$414,025	\$421,607	(\$7,582)	\$7,582
18	Southeast Texas	113	11,460	1.43%	1.50%	\$510,716	\$480,997	\$29,719	\$0
19	Golden Crescent	62	5,488	0.78%	0.72%	\$337,565	\$327,087	\$10,477	\$0
20	Alamo	579	57,770	7.31%	7.54%	\$1,985,979	\$1,816,736	\$169,243	\$0
21	South Texas	127	7,409	1.60%	0.97%	\$484,608	\$464,471	\$20,136	\$0
22	Coastal Bend	169	13,029	2.13%	1.70%	\$636,286	\$608,826	\$27,460	\$0
23	Lower Rio Grande Valley	447	28,861	5.65%	3.77%	\$1,363,738	\$1,296,831	\$66,906	\$0
24	Cameron County	154	10,458	1.95%	1.36%	\$574,818	\$569,342	\$5,477	\$0
25	Texoma	66	5,475	0.83%	0.71%	\$344,916	\$340,644	\$4,272	\$0
26	Central Texas	207	16,945	2.61%	2.21%	\$758,394	\$745,332	\$13,062	\$0
27	Middle Rio Grande	40	2,977	0.51%	0.39%	\$263,715	\$277,317	(\$13,602)	\$13,602
28	Gulf Coast	1,888	199,941	23.85%	26.08%	\$6,286,414	\$5,674,945	\$611,469	\$0
	Statewide	7,916	766,546	100%	100%	\$29,000,000	\$27,000,000	\$2,000,000	\$66,665

Distribution Methodology: \$150K Base amount; Remaining 60% based on CCS Providers; 40% based on CCS Provider Capacity, as of April 15, 2024; with no Board area’s BCY’25 distribution decreasing below their BCY’24 amount.

Attachment 2 – Board Strategic Planning for Quality Improvement Distribution

Board #	Board Name	Quartile	Size	Staff Members Participating	Funding Distribution
12	Concho Valley	1	Small	3	\$3,000
25	Texoma	1	Small	3	\$3,000
19	Golden Crescent	1	Small	3	\$3,000
3	North Texas	1	Small	3	\$3,000
27	Middle Rio Grande	1	Small	3	\$3,000
7	Northeast	1	Small	3	\$3,000
16	Brazos Valley	1	Small	3	\$3,000
9	West Central	2	Medium	4	\$3,500
13	Heart of Texas	2	Medium	4	\$3,500
17	Deep East Texas	2	Medium	4	\$3,500
11	Permian Basin	2	Medium	4	\$3,500
1	Panhandle	2	Medium	4	\$3,500
18	Southeast Texas	2	Medium	4	\$3,500
2	South Plains	2	Medium	4	\$3,500
21	South Texas	3	Medium	4	\$3,500
26	Central Texas	3	Medium	4	\$3,500
15	Rural Capital	3	Medium	4	\$3,500
22	Coastal Bend	3	Medium	4	\$3,500
24	Cameron County	3	Medium	4	\$3,500
8	East Texas	3	Medium	4	\$3,500
14	Capital Area	3	Medium	4	\$3,500
10	Borderplex	4	Large	5	\$4,000
23	Lower Rio Grande	4	Large	5	\$4,000
5	Tarrant County	4	Large	5	\$4,000
4	North Central	4	Large	5	\$4,000
20	Alamo	4	Large	5	\$4,000
6	Greater Dallas	4	Large	5	\$4,000
2	Gulf Coast	4	Large	5	\$4,000
			TOTAL	112	\$98,000