

We are close to wrapping up our third cohort of the Early Child Care Business Accelerator (ECEBA) course for homebased providers and wanted to give you a quick snapshot of the pilot program's progress so far. While the primary focus continues to be providing individuals with the skills and knowledge to become licensed home-based child care businesses, we are also continually refining the steps involved in the student's process through the program itself, so as to contribute to their ultimate success.

**What the Pilot has taught us:** Pre-requisites are important! Attrition rates were initially higher than desirable due to insufficient initial screening. Going forward, students now coordinate ahead of time with our Child Care Resources (CCR), partner, NeighborImpact, to make sure that the following preconditions have been met beforehand:

- Completion of the Registered Family Child Care classes One & Two
- Initiation of the Oregon Employment Department's Central Background Registry
- Submission of home "water testing" sample
- Verification that a Homeowner's Association (HOA) or rental lease agreement allows for running a child care business out of a home.

**Results to Date:**

**Fall 2021 – English only, In-person**

- 13 students registered and 7 students completed the course
  - 6 start-up grants awarded

**Winter 2022 – English & Spanish, Virtual with simultaneous translation**

- 17 English-speaking students registered and 9 students completed the course
  - 6 start-up grants awarded
- 12 Spanish-speaking students registered and 8 students completed the course
  - 2 start-up grants awarded
  - 2 start-up grants pending

**Spring 2022 – English only, In-person**

- 9 students registered and 7 students completed the course
  - 3 start-up grants awarded
  - 2 start-up grants pending

Fall 2021 – English only, In-person

We estimate the pilot has created ~120 new childcare slots for the Central Oregon community.

**What's ahead:**

- Thanks to your financial support of the pilot program for home-based businesses, a significant grant has since been awarded by the State of Oregon to expand the program:
  - We plan offer the ECEBA, in English and in Spanish, course 3-5 times a year through June 2024.
  - We also to plan launch a new class designed for commercial-based child care businesses that will also have a grant component with it. Details to come in the fall of 2022.
  - Finally, we have received funding to pilot the (ECEBA) at other Community College's Small Business Development Centers & CCR's around the state.

- As a result, our office is hiring a full-time instructor, adviser and program manager to build on the momentum. This person will start September 12, 2022.

**Student feedback has been overwhelmingly positive and we thank you for the support!**

- *'Amazing instructors!'*
- *'I am very grateful for this support.'*
- *'Really appreciate the support from these sessions.'*
- *'Great instructors & mentor. She has helped me build my business''*

As always, if you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to me. Thank you, again, for your support of this pilot program.