

BIG NEWS

Great START has increased the maximum wage!

What is Great START?

Great START (Strategy to Attract and Retain Teachers) can provide you with extra money on top of what you're already making. Great START is a wage supplement program that rewards eligible early care and education and school-age care practitioners for achieving higher education and for remaining at their current place of employment.

- **Great START** rewards child care practitioners like you by supplementing your income based on education you have attained above DCFS licensing standards.
- **Great START** wage supplements are paid directly to you on a six-month schedule, based on continued employment at the same program.
- **Great START** supplements range from \$150 to \$1,950 depending upon your education and child care position.

To be eligible:

- Earn no more than \$18 per hour and \$37,440 per year
- Work an average of at least 15 hours per week on a continuous employment basis (including work and benefit time)
- Have been employed with the same program for a minimum of one year
- Employed in an Illinois DCFS licensed family/group child care home or center
- Meet specific education requirements

Let the Great START program reward you and your future!

Visit www.ilgateways.com and click on Great START to **review eligibility** and **apply online**. If you need additional information call **(866) 697-8278** or email gstart@inccrra.org.

\$18
Make up to

per hour and \$37,440 per year



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