



TEACHERS AND DIRECTORS

New Financial Incentives Available

Are you currently working in a child care center that participates in Louisiana's Quality Start Child Care Rating System?*

Have you worked at this center for a total of 6 months in the calendar year?

Are you enrolled in Louisiana Pathways?***

If the answer to these questions is **"YES"**, then you may qualify for \$1,500 to \$3,000 in tax credits!

- Beginning January 1, 2008, Louisiana will provide a one-of-a-kind refundable tax credit to eligible child care center staff based on their educational qualifications.
- As your qualifications increase, so does your refund, so work on your professional development now!
- Even if you do not owe taxes, you can file a state tax return and receive up to \$3,000 every year.

For more information about the tax credits go to www.qrslouisiana.com and click on the School Readiness Tax Credits tab. For questions about participation in Quality Start go to www.qrslouisiana.com or call the DSS Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education at (225) 342-0694 or (800) 680-9098.

* Quality Start is a voluntary program for licensed child care centers designed to increase the quality of child care and early learning for all children throughout Louisiana. Both Class A and Class B centers are eligible to participate and earn up to five stars based on meeting standards established for Program, Staff Qualifications, Administration Practices, and Family and Community Involvement.

** Pathways is the Louisiana Pathways Child Care Career Development System -- the state practitioner registry and scholarship program supported by DSS. You can contact Pathways at (800) 245-8925 or on the web at <http://scitech.nsula.edu/pathways/>.



Department of Social Services