

Q: Why is Michigan Department of Education Office of Great Start (OGS) conducting this survey?

A: Every two years, the federal Administration of Children and Families requires all states to survey child care providers in order to calculate the 75th percentile of market rate prices to demonstrate each state's subsidy rate ensures equal access to high quality child care for low-income children. The results of this survey will help OGS understand the going rate for child care across Michigan and will help inform the reimbursement rates for the Child Development and Care Program (child care subsidy program) that helps low-income working families access high quality child care.

Q: What providers are eligible to participate in the survey?

A: All licensed and registered child care providers in the state of Michigan are encouraged to participate in this year's survey. OGS is also committed to collecting rate information on unlicensed providers and will capture this information through an alternate methodology.

Q: Is participation in the survey mandatory or tied to my ability to receive CDC Subsidy payments?

A: No, participation in this study is optional. However, your responses are critical. The more providers that respond to the survey, the more accurate the results will be. OGS wants to know the rates you charge for all families so we can have a better idea of how to adjust child care subsidy rates in Michigan. So while not required, your participation is extremely valuable and greatly appreciated, and all survey respondents will be entered into a raffle drawing for two \$100 Visa gift cards!

Q: How do I access the survey?

A: The survey will be administered online. The link to the survey will be posted on OGS's website starting Monday, March 9th, and will also be distributed to various partners to share with their networks. Once you click on the link on OGS's website or in the email, it will take you directly to the beginning of the survey. The survey can be accessed at: <http://surveys.pcgus.com/s3/mimarketratestudy>.

Q: How long will the survey take?

A: The survey will take an estimated 8-10 minutes of your time. The actual time it takes for a provider to complete the survey depends on factors such as the number of children enrolled, the number of age groups, the differences in rates charged, etc.

Q: What information do I need to have to take the survey?

A: To make the survey user experience as smooth as possible, you need just two key items:

1. Provider ID (note: for Tribal providers, please enter "TribalC1234567")
2. Your program's rate information

Q: Who is Public Consulting Group, Inc. the partner in the survey?

A: Michigan OGS has contracted with Public Consulting Group, Inc. (PCG), a nationally recognized public sector consulting firm, to help conduct this year's Market Rate Survey. The team administering the survey is from the company's early child care and early education center of excellence and has extensive experience conducting similar surveys for other states.

Q: When do I have to finish the survey?

A: The survey is open for responses until Friday, April 10th.

Q: Will my survey responses be published?

A: The survey results will be published on the Michigan's Child Care Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan, which will be posted for public comment in May. We will not publish the responses of any individual childcare facility or program.

Q: What is the difference between the "market rate" and the "reimbursement rate"?

A: The market rate is the amount providers charge families for child care services, which is the information we are hoping to collect from providers through this survey. The reimbursement rate, or subsidy rate, is the amount that the state reimburses families and is informed by the market rate.

If you have any additional questions on this year's Michigan Child Care Market Rate Survey, or need help taking the survey, please feel free to email mimarketratestudy@pcgus.com or call toll-free **1-844-225-3658** (M-F, 7am-7pm EST).