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## PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM RATIONALE

**DATE:** April 19, 2023

**TO:** Deborah A. Frison, Ed.D.  
Deputy Commissioner of Education

**FROM:** Melody Hobson

**PROPOSED AGENDA ITEM:** Authorize the Deputy Commissioner to approve a renewal grant to the Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children (NeAEYC) for the Child Care WAGE\$ program

**AGENDA ITEM TYPE:** Grant

### RATIONALE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- Child Care WAGE\$@ NEBRASKA is a program that provides education-based salary stipends to low-wage early care and education providers working with children ages birth-five in licensed family child care settings in Nebraska.
- This program is designed to increase retention, education, and compensation of the early childhood workforce.
- The program pays periodic stipends to family child care providers on a graduated scale that is based on post high school educational attainment.
  - At the first level, participating providers receive \$300 annually for attaining nine college credit hours.
  - The highest level, level 10, provides a \$3,500 annual supplement for a participating provider with at least a bachelor's degree with a current Nebraska teaching certificate.
- The Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children is the only Child Care WAGE\$ licensee in the state of Nebraska.

**PROPOSED BOARD MEETING:** May 2023

**ESTIMATED COST:** \$50,000

### FOR CONTRACTS AND GRANTS:

- Indicate the Funding Source: Federal Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF)
- New or Renewal: Renewal



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- If renewal, date of first approval: 2022

**FOR NEW CONTRACTS OR OTHER CONTRACTS REQUIRING PROCUREMENT: NA**

**FOR GRANT SUBAWARDS:**

- Describe the grantee selection process: The Nebraska Association for the Education of Young Children is the only entity licensed to provide Child Care WAGE\$ in Nebraska.

*\*Updated 02.07.2023*