

## Hero Pay Guidance

### Purpose:

In December 2020, Congress passed the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021. The Act provided Ohio with funding to help support the child care workforce. As a result, ODJFS created Hero Pay.

### Eligibility:

Professionals who worked in an eligible role at ODJFS licensed child care programs (Centers, Type A Family Child Care and Type B Family Child Care) for the entire (excluding gaps of less than 10 days) specified quarters are eligible for a payment. The program needs to have been opened and in operation during the quarter as well. Currently, the specified quarters are:

- Quarter 1: October 1 – December 31, 2020
- Quarter 2: January 1 – March 31, 2021
- Quarter 3: April 1 – June 30, 2021
- Quarter 4: July 1 – September 30, 2021

It is possible for professionals to be eligible for one or more quarters. Employment for past quarters will not be able to be edited.

Eligible Roles include: These roles can be working with age groups infants through school age.

Administrator on JFS License	Individual Service Provider Not Used in Ratio
Assistant Teacher	Individual Service Provider Used in Ratio
Cook	Lead Teacher
Driver	Owner
Extracurricular Not Used in Ratio	Program Management Not Used in Ratio
Extracurricular Used in Ratio	Program Management Used in Ratio
Floater	Substitute

The Hero Pay payment amount is \$300 per professional per quarter.

### OPR Hero Pay Tab:

In your Ohio Professional Registry Profile (OPR), if you are eligible, a Hero Pay Tab will appear in your account. On this tab, you will be able to see such information as:

- Which quarters a professional is eligible for with employment for those quarters;
- Link to complete the Payment Portal (must be completed to receive payments); and
- Quarterly payment information

### Payment Portal:

To receive a Hero Pay quarterly payment, the Payment Portal must be completed. The Payment Portal is a secure portion of the site to protect sensitive information. The information requested in the payment portal is an IRS substitute W-9 including social security number and bank account information.

OCCRRA will be sending payments by Electronic Funds Transaction (EFT) transactions to the professional's bank account. It is important that the name on the bank account and name on the OPR profile are the same to ensure the payment posts successfully. As long as the same banking information is kept through the specified quarters, this information only needs to be entered once. Professionals are able to edit bank account information by entering the payment portal from their Hero Pay tab.

When the payment portal submission is complete, the payment status on your Hero Tab states "processing," a professional will not be able to edit banking information as this means a payment is in process.

If payment information results in a failed payment attempt, the professional will need to provide banking information again. If the payment information provided results in two failures of payment attempts, a professional will receive a check for the duration of the program quarters.

If a professional is eligible for Quarters 1-3, then they need to complete their payment portal information by July 15, 2021. Professionals who do not provide this information timely will forfeit those quarterly payments. They still would be able to receive the Quarter 4 payment, if they are eligible.

If a check is selected for payment, please ensure the address in your OPR profile is correct as this is where the check will be sent.

**Timing of Payments:**

Payments to professionals will start in mid-July 2021 for Quarter 1. Please visit the Hero Pay tab in your OPR Profile for payment updates.