

237A.30 High quality child care providers.

1. The department shall accept nationally recognized accreditations in identifying and listing high quality child care providers. Any registered child development home or licensed child care provider in this state that is accredited in good standing by the national association for the education of young children or the national association for family child care shall be included in the listing.
2. Providers included in the listing which remain in good standing with the accrediting body and with state regulation shall be designated as a gold seal quality child care provider. Any provider included in the listing may publicly utilize the designation as a gold seal quality child care provider. Child care resource and referral services shall be encouraged to make use of the providers holding this designation as a resource in quality improvement efforts and to identify these providers in making referrals to the public.
3. Holders of the gold seal quality designation shall be recognized annually in April during the week of national recognition of young children. A recognition event shall be hosted during that week by a committee which may include but is not limited to the governor, legislative leaders, department staff and other child care experts, and the chairpersons and ranking members of the legislative committees involved with regulation or funding of child care.
4. Subject to the availability of funding, an eligible holder of the gold seal quality designation receiving an initial or renewal national accreditation may receive a one-time cash award in the year of initial or renewal accreditation on or after July 1, 1999. Holders of the designation who received funding assistance to obtain the initial or renewal national accreditation under a grant administered by the child development coordinating council or as part of being a federal head start program are not eligible for the cash award. Eligible holders of the designation may receive a cash award of two hundred fifty dollars for registered child development home providers and five hundred dollars for licensed centers.

99 Acts, ch 192, §33; 99 Acts, ch 203, §49; 2002 Acts, ch 1142, §27, 28, 31