

Employment and Community First CHOICES (ECF CHOICES) Employment Provider Incentive Training

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ECF CHOICES employment provider incentives

- Amerigroup Community Care has allocated funds to incentivize providers that prioritize employment. All ECF CHOICES providers who are contracted to provide ECF CHOICES employment services are eligible to apply for these incentives.
- Do you need additional resources, more qualified staff, or have a creative idea to help more people with disabilities obtain jobs? Then these incentives can help!

Three types of employment incentives

1. Employment related training

- This reimbursement incentive can help you pay for staff training, such as the Association of Community Rehabilitation Educators, Certified Employment Support Professional exams, self-employment training, or conferences focused on employment.
- Do you want to cross train direct support persons as job coaches? Apply for the incentive to help pay for Training Resource Network job coach training.
- Do you want to increase your geographic service area?
- How will this benefit your organization to provide more employment services, decrease wait times for services, or serve more people?
- Proof of training completion will be required for reimbursement. This cannot be used for retroactive training or training paid by any other funds.

Three types of employment incentives (cont.)

2. Provider mini-grants for innovative employment projects

- We know providers are creative, and we are looking to collaborate with you to help fund projects that focus on technology, self-employment, peer-to-peer support, workforce development, or anything else that will contribute to an increase in employment for people with disabilities.
- Do you have a unique idea for a project, but are not sure how to fund it? Then this incentive could help. We want to go beyond supporting existing programs and fund new, exciting ideas or pilots.
- Tell us how many people you think your project will support, how it will increase employment opportunities for people with disabilities, who you may partner with in the community, and how you will be able to sustain the project. There is a \$5,000 limit for each grant, but providers may apply for multiple grants, as well as other incentive types.
- Outcome data will be required as well as a breakdown of how the money was spent

Three types of employment incentives (cont.)

3. Secure employment incentives

- High performance providers who show great outcomes should be rewarded. This incentive pays a fee on top of any other funding you receive for placement into a job or retaining a job. We are especially looking for placements where people are working a minimum of 20 hours per week or have retained their job for six months or more.
- Are you helping people obtain meaningful employment in a job of their choosing that matches their interests and skills? Are you helping people find good paying jobs and ensuring they keep those jobs? If so, these incentives are for you.
- Proof of the job will be required. There is a \$250 incentive for placement for 10 to 19 hours per week, a \$500 incentive for placement for 20 or more hours per week, and a \$500 incentive for a six-month retention.
- Placements and retention incentives must be for jobs that have a start date from November 1, 2021, through October 31, 2022.

Application process

- We will start accepting applications November 18, 2021, and will remain open until either all of the money is spent or until November 18, 2022, whichever comes first.
- Amerigroup employment specialists and the ECF CHOICES director will review and approved all applications.
- Find the application online at <https://provider.amerigroup.com/TN> and should be submitted to Stephanie Potter at stephanie.potter@amerigroup.com.
- You will have one year from the date the mini grant incentive is awarded to spend the funds.
- Providers can submit applications for multiple incentive payments.
- The ARC of Tennessee is administering the funds on our behalf, and they will pay the incentive in full by check. They will also be collecting the proof needed for the training incentive payments and outcomes related to the mini-grants, including a budget breakdown.

Application

Employment and Community First CHOICES Employment Provider Incentive Application

Provider information		
Provider name:		
Provider ID number:		
Date of request:		
Incentive information		
Type of incentive applying for:	Choose all that apply:	Amount requested:
Training	<input type="checkbox"/> ACRE	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-employment	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Mini grant	<input type="checkbox"/> Technology	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Self-employment	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Peer-support	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Workforce development	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	
Employment incentive	<input type="checkbox"/> Job placement under 20 hours per week	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Job placement over 19 hours per week	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Retention of job over six months	

Application (cont.)

Please provide more information on the specific incentive you are applying for below.
Training
Please provide the following information: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Training provider.• Name of training.• Website.• Breakdown of costs.• How many staff will be trained.• How this will benefit your organization to serve more people or help increase employment for the people you serve.
Mini grants
Please provide your project idea including: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How many people will benefit.• How this will help increase employment for people with disabilities.• Who you will partner with in the community.• Why this idea is unique.• How you plan to sustain these efforts.• A budget breakdown.

Application (cont.)

Employment incentive

Please provide the following information:

- Initials of the person you helped to obtain a job. If the person is funded by Employment and Community First CHOICES (ECF CHOICES) and an Amerigroup Community Care member, provide their full name and member ID.
- How many hours they are working per week.
- Name of their employer.
- Start date of employment.
- The funding source you used to assist this person (ECF CHOICES, DIDD, VR, etc.).
- If possible and the person agrees to it, please include a copy of a recent paystub to prove hours worked per week and length of time on the job.



Questions?

Contacts

- Stephanie Potter:
 - Employment Specialist
 - stephanie.potter@amerigroup.com
 - **901-481-2017**
- Tina Jones:
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<https://provider.amerigroup.com/TN>