



Shared Services on the Web: Summary of Funding Sources

Twenty-nine states currently participate in Shared Services on the web and use a range of public and private funding sources, coupled with membership fees, to support a state-specific version of www.ecesharedresources.net. This memorandum, based on an email survey conducted in May 2018, briefly describes the funding and membership approach in each state.

Arizona –The Arizona version of Shared Services on the web (www.AzAEYCToolkit.org) was funded by a grant from the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust. The Arizona Association for the Education of Young Children manages the day-to-day operation of the platform. Currently access is provided free of charge.

Fourteen states report that they use (or formerly used) some form of government support for Shared Services on the web, including the following sources:

- Federal RTT-ELC (CO, NM, OR)
- Federal EHS-CC Partnerships (CO)
- Federal/State CCDF (MO, PA, NH, VA, WA, WV)
- State General Funds (GA, NY, SC)
- School Readiness Tax Credits (LA)

California – Shared Services on the web is supported with funds from the Mimi and Peter Haas Fund in San Francisco. The site is available to and tailored to meet the needs of early education programs in San Francisco. No membership fee is charged. Conversations regarding the development of a long-term sustainable funding stream, with the possibility of extending access to other parts of the state, are ongoing.

Colorado – The Early Learning Ventures Model of Shared Services initially received funding from Colorado Race-to-the-Top Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) to support ELV scholarships for 100 child care centers across the state. These dollars supported the cost of the ELV Resource Platform access, full data conversion and support to fully utilize Alliance CORE (child management system). Centers were eligible to receive this scholarship if they served low-income children, obtained a level 2 Colorado Shines QRIS rating, and completed a cost/savings tool for baseline data and again at 12 months. RTT-ELC funding ended in 2016 and CO DHS no longer provides financial support for any of the ELV Shared Service Business tools. ELV charges ECE members a monthly fee, as follows:

- Tier 1: ELV Resource Platform only - \$100 annual fee for up to 5 users
- Tier 2: ELV Resource Platform and CORE – FCC home \$25/month; center \$100/month.

Additionally, federal Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) funding supported start-up costs of Tier 2 and a 50% reduction in the ELV Monthly Affiliate fee for 12 months for 34 providers (17 centers and 17 family child care homes) in four counties (Mesa, Arapahoe, Pueblo and Garfield.) After the start-up year all sites pay a membership fee for Business Services. EHS-CCP funding continues to support layered tuition, training, ECE education, coaching, QI support, family services support and other services needed to meet EHS requirements.

Connecticut – Early care and education providers in Connecticut are able to access a national version of shared services on the web (www.ecesharedresources.net), thanks to private support secured by the CT Child Care Association (CTCCA). Access to the website is included as a CTCCA membership benefit.

District of Columbia – The District’s customized version of Shared Services on the web was made available with funding from the Bainum Family Foundation and in collaboration with the Office of the State Superintendent of Education. The site, www.ECSharedDC.org, is available to all licensed early learning providers in the District. No membership fees are charged.

Eighteen States (AZ, CA, CO, DC, GA, KY, MA, ME, MO, MS, NE, NH, NJ, PA, SC, TN, TX, VT) report that they received philanthropic funds for start-up, licensing fees, or both.

Florida – The Early Learning Coalition of Orange County supports Shared Services on the web, www.SharedResourcesFL.com. The site is available to any program participating in the Early Learning Coalition's Programs in Orange County. Additionally, it is open to any provider in the state of Florida serving children and families through CCDF or VPK (Voluntary PreK) services. Eligible providers are not required to pay a membership fee at this time.

Georgia – Start-up funding for www.GAQCCmembers.net, the Georgia customized version of Shared Services on the web, was provided by local foundations including the Goizueta Foundation and the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation. Ongoing costs, including license fees and staffing, are supported with membership revenue. In addition to memberships purchased by providers, the State includes funding in each CCR&R contract to purchase one-year memberships on behalf of providers who are participating in Quality Rated (the Georgia QRIS).

Kentucky – Community Coordinated Child Care (4-C) hosts the customized version of Shared Services on the web (www.kysharedservices.org) through funding from Kosair Charities. This funding also covers the yearly membership fee for all state regulated providers in Louisville and surrounding counties. Providers in the remaining counties of Kentucky pay an annual membership fee for the service. The initial start-up costs were funded by Metro United Way.

Louisiana – The Statewide version of Shared Services on the web, www.lasharedresources.org, is available to providers who pay a membership fee. The site was initially launched with revenues from the School Readiness Tax Credits for donations to Resource and Referral Agencies ([R.S. 47:6107](#)).

Maine – Educate Central Maine provided funding for start-up, customization and licensing fees for the State’s version of Shared Services on the web, www.SharedServicesforME.org, as part of their “Educare beyond the walls” strategy. Ongoing support for the website for the past three years has come from Davis Family Foundation, Jane’s Trust, John T. Gorman Foundation, The Betterment Fund and The Hollis Brain Foundation. The site is available to providers who participate in quality improvement activities and currently no membership fees are charged.

Massachusetts – The United Way of Massachusetts Bay and Merrimack Valley funded the development cost and the annual licensing fees for the customized shared services on the web

platform, www.SharedServicesMA.org. Initially the site is available to providers who are participating in Shared Services Alliance cohorts in Cambridge and Somerville.

Mississippi – Licensing fees for the Mississippi version of Shared Services on the web, www.MSEarlyLearningResources.org, are supported with funds from the Phil Hardin Foundation. No public funding is used to support Shared Services on the web. The site is available to any program participating in quality improvement. No membership fees are charged.

Missouri – The Missouri Child Care Resource and Referral network (dba Child Care Aware® of Missouri) allocates a portion of its general CCR&R contract funding (federal CCDF funding), coupled with funds from corporate and foundation grants, to support ‘incentive’ subscriptions to www.ShowMeResource.org, the State’s version of Shared Services on the web. These incentive subscriptions are given to centers that participate in quality improvement efforts that do not include resources to cover the subscription fee (such as obesity prevention work or centers that serve a significant number of low-income children), as well as organizations that are seeking to start a new licensed facility or convert an exempt facility to licensing. Long-term sustainability planning assumes significant revenue from membership fees and is dependent upon targeted marketing efforts and technical assistance on how to use the site.

Nebraska – The Nebraska version of Shared Services on the web, www.nebraskaexchange.org, is supported with funding from the Buffett Early Childhood Fund as well as membership fees.

New Hampshire – The United Way of the Greater Seacoast, the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and the NH Community Development Finance Authority provided initial start-up funding for Shared Services on the web in NH (www.selahnmembers.com). Later, in January 2017, the NH Department of Health and Human Services Child Development Bureau provided funding to customize the site to align with NH specific needs and policies. The site is currently available statewide on a subscription fee basis. Membership fees support ongoing costs.

New Jersey – Start-up funding and licensing fees for the New Jersey version of Shared Services on the web, www.NJSharedResources.org, were jointly funded by the New Jersey Association for the Education of Young Children (NJAEYC) and the Nicholson Foundation. No public funding was used. The site is available to NJAEYC members as a membership benefit, and therefore at no additional fee.

New Mexico – For the past three years, the New Mexico Association for the Education of Young Children received an annual grant from federal RTT-ELC funding awarded to the NM Children, Youth and Families Department to support the licensing fee for www.NewMexECA.org, the NM customized version of Shared Services on the web. The site is available to any program participating in quality improvement. No membership fees are charged.

New York – The New York State Council on Children and Families, a state agency, funded purchase of the original customized site and first three years licensing fee for www.SharedSourceECNY.org. Currently, the site is co-funded by the New York Association for the Education of Young Children (NYAEYC) and the Early Care and Learning Council (the CCR&R statewide association) and is available, free of charge, to members of these organizations as

well as programs that participate in QUALITYstarsNY, New York's quality rating and improvement system.

North Carolina – ECE Shared Resources North Carolina (www.ncecesharedresources.org) offers a customized version of Shared Services on the web, with customization, start-up costs, staffing and annual license fees jointly funded by three private sector partners: Child Care Resources Inc., Child Care Services Association and Southwestern Child Development Commission. The service will be available statewide to users on a subscription fee basis.

Ohio - The Ohio customized version of Shared Services on the web, www.earlylearningresourcesohio.org was developed with funding from the Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association (OCCRRA). No public funding was used or will be used to support the annual licensing costs; an annual subscription fee will be charged. The platform will be part of Ohio's child care resource and referral agencies' Tier 2 technical assistance efforts, which will include other intensive coaching/mentoring fee-for-service offerings.

Oregon – The initial start-up costs and annual licensing fees for www.OregonQRISResources.org, Oregon's version of Shared Services on the web, were paid by federal Race-to-the Top funds as part of the State's effort to create and implement a QRIS. The intention is to allocate state funds for continued support; however legislative approval is needed. The website is available to any program participating in QRIS. No membership fees are charged.

Pennsylvania – The Pennsylvania customized version of Shared Services on the web, www.SharedSourcePA.org, was originally developed with funding from the William Penn Foundation and the Heinz Endowments. Licensing fees were initially included in the state portion of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) membership fee, making access a benefit of PNAEYC membership. However, given new revisions in NAEYC membership policies and fees, this cost-sharing approach was no longer possible. In 2017 the Pennsylvania Office of Child Development and Early Learning agreed to cover the annual licensing fee and make access to the platform available free of charge to all PA ECE programs

South Carolina – The initial start-up costs and annual licensing fees for www.PalmettoSharedServices.com, South Carolina's version of Shared Services on the web, were paid by Greenville County First Steps. (First Steps is the State's comprehensive early childhood education initiative, and each county has an office.) Greenville First Steps will continue to fund the web platform for the next few years; however the intention is that this contribution will gradually diminish and will be replaced by financial support from other County First Step offices as well as philanthropic grants and membership fees.

Tennessee – The State's version of Shared Services on the web, ChildcareTennessee.com, was initially funded by a partnership with The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee, the Department of Human Services, and area foundations, individuals, and corporations. No public funding is currently received. Membership fees vary by the size of the ECE program (the number of licensed children). Users pay a subscription fee for access to the platform.

The Nashville Shared Services approach also includes a free public website,

www.ChildcareNashville.com, which is a community resource for families searching for child care. This searchable website includes “real-time” information on available slots that each of the 280 programs update regularly. Tours can be scheduled through the website directly between parent and provider. The site also includes free job postings. This website is funded by The Community Foundation of Middle Tennessee and private donors.

Texas – Child Care Associates partnered with The Miles Foundation to launch the first and only Texas statewide online resource platform for child care providers, www.TXChildCareTools.com. Child Care Associates manages the day-to-day operation of the shared services platform. Subscription fees are not presently charged to end users.

Vermont – Start-up and annual licensing fees for the Vermont version of Shared Services on the web, www.sharedservicesvt.org, is provided by a collection of private funders including The Permanent Fund for Vermont’s Children, the A.D. Henderson Foundation, and the Turrell Fund. No public funding is currently received. At present, the site is available to Vermont providers who participate in QRIS, and no fees are charged. However, fees may be charged in the future. The leadership of Shared Services Vermont is developing a sustainability plan that will include the web platform, as well as a preferred software vendor for a child management system, to promote statewide efficiencies for all programs that participate in QRIS. Statewide web-based resources will work in tandem with a network of regional Alliances that will provide deeper business and pedagogical leadership for ECE programs

Virginia – Initial start-up costs and annual licensing fees for the first three years of Virginia’s version of Shared Services on the web, www.vasharednetwork.org, were supported with State CCDF funds. As of February 1, 2018, a new fee structure was implemented. CCDF funds will continue to subsidize the cost of the platform through September 2018. Additionally, scholarships to cover membership costs will be made available with financial support from CCDF, a Virginia Dept. of Health CDC grant, and funds from other partnering agencies.

Washington – Initial start-up costs and annual licensing fees for the first three years of WA’s version of Shared Services on the web (www.childcarebizedge.org) will be supported with state CCDF funds. The site was launched in May 2018. No fees will be charged to providers enrolled in WA’s QRIS system, Early Achievers.

West Virginia – Early Care Share West Virginia is a project funded by the Division of Early Care and Education of West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources and administered by River Valley Child Development Services. State CCDF funds support the development, staffing and annual license fees for West Virginia's Shared Services on the web, www.EarlyCareShareWV.org. The site is available to early childhood professionals throughout the state. No membership fees are charged.

On the following page, a table summarizes each state’s approach to membership fees.

State	No Membership Fee	Membership Fees Waived for SOME Providers	Membership Fees Charged to ALL Providers
AZ	✓		
CA	Access to site available at no fee to providers in San Francisco		
CO		ELV philanthropic funding is used to off set the true cost to deliver ELV shared services while work on member fees to cover business services. This is being done by more efficient sales, onboarding and support (mostly virtual) and working to saturate the ECE market in CO.	Tier 1: Resource Platform ONLY \$100/annual fee for up to 5 users Tier 2: Resource Platform (many users as needed associated with Member) and CORE is \$25/month for HOMES, and \$100/month for CENTERS
CT	Access to site available if you are a member of the Connecticut Child Care Association.		
DC	✓		
FL	✓		
GA		Scholarships to providers who participate in QRIS	
KY	Access to site available at no fee to regulated providers in Louisville	Providers in other counties pay membership fees	
LA			✓
MA	Access to site available to members of alliance cohort at no fee.		
ME	✓		
MO		Incentive subscriptions to selected providers	
MS	✓		
NC			✓
NE			✓
NH			✓
NM	✓		
NJ	Access to site available at no fee to NAEYC members		
NY	Access to site available at no fee to NAEYC and ECLC members		
OH			✓
OR	✓		
PA	✓		
SC	✓		
TN			✓
TX			
VA		✓	
VT	✓		
WA	✓		