Group programs include regulated group centers, school age programs, preschools, camps, and Head Start programs.

All responses were gathered electronically and submitted directly from each program.

Responses are based on approximately 32% return rate.

Prior to 2018, wages and benefits survey questions were included in the annual Business Information Form (BIF). This wages survey was sent out via email to all group programs in the 4-C service delivery area in spring and not at the same time as the annual BIF.

**Definitions:**

- Average Starting Wage = average hourly wage for NEWLY HIRED staff
- Median Starting Wage = the middle value of wages for NEWLY HIRED staff
- Average Wage = the average hourly wage of CURRENT STAFF
- Median Wage = the middle value of wages for CURRENT STAFF
- Minimum Wage = the minimum hourly wage of CURRENT STAFF
- Maximum Wage = the maximum hourly wage of CURRENT STAFF

**Highlights and Key Findings:**

- Many of the positions had a wide range in their minimum and maximum wages.
- An average and median wage value was included for all positions. Average data can generally give a good representation of data. However, when using averages, adding one extreme value can pull the average up or down and therefore may give a misrepresentation. Median values are the exact middle of the range and are another tool to evaluate the data.
- Each staff position duties and responsibilities tend to vary for each program. The Department of Children and Families licensing rules will indicate entry level training that is approved for child care workers. This can be found on the [DCF website](#).
2019 Average Wages Columbia County Group Child Care Centers

Columbia County Lead Teacher Wages

- Average Starting: $11.10
- Median Starting: $10.50
- Average: $12.78
- Median: $12.50
- Minimum: $9.50
- Maximum: $18.01

Columbia County Assistant Teacher Wages

- Average Starting: $9.68
- Median Starting: $10.00
- Average: $10.64
- Median: $10.70
- Minimum: $8.00
- Maximum: $16.00

Columbia County Group Center Benefits Offered

- Health Insurance: 21%
- Dental Insurance: 21%
- Paid Family Leave: 5%
- Paid Vacation Time: 68%
- Paid Sick Time: 53%
- Paid Holidays: 68%
- Paid Prep Time: 58%
- Continuing Ed Reimbursement: 63%
- Reduced Child Care Rates: 53%
- Retirement Plan Available: 26%
- Ctr Contributes to Retirement: 21%
- Paid Staff Mgmt/in-Service: 68%