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Dear Quality First Scholarship recipient,

Thank you for participating in the Quality First (QF) Scholarship program by First Things First (FTF). In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, temporary federal pandemic relief funding allowed us to increase scholarship rates and provide more scholarships to help Arizona families afford quality care. However, this funding will end on June 30, 2024, which means fewer Quality First Scholarships will be available beginning July 1, 2024.

The good news is you may be eligible for funding to help pay for child care from the following services.

- The **Department of Economic Security (DES) Child Care Assistance** helps working families pay for child care costs. This option is only available if the program your child attends is already contracted with DES and if you meet the eligibility requirements. Contact your local DES office to speak with a child care eligibility specialist at [des.az.gov/find-your-local-office](https://des.az.gov/find-your-local-office) or call 1-602-542-4248.
- You may re-apply for a **QF Scholarships** at a QF participating program. Please keep in mind that fewer scholarships will be available, and there may be a waitlist. For more help, contact the QF Scholarships team at Valley of the Sun United Way at 1-866-973-0012 or by email at [regionalscholarships@vsuw.org](mailto:regionalscholarships@vsuw.org).
- State and federal tax credits can help families offset child care costs. Some child care programs may also offer reduced rates for enrolling more than one child or discounts based on family income, employer and more. Visit **Child Care Resource and Referral** at [azccrr.com](https://azccrr.com) or call 1-800-308-9000 for more information.

Thank you,  
First Things First



Quality First is a program of First Things First, Arizona's early childhood agency. Created by voters and funded through tobacco revenues, First Things First supports the healthy development and learning of Arizona's youngest children. Learn more and find additional low-cost or free resources at [FirstThingsFirst.org](https://FirstThingsFirst.org)

**READY FOR SCHOOL. SET FOR LIFE.**