



## Career Ladder- Take the Next Step Bonus Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

### **1. How do I apply for the bonus?**

You may apply for the Career Ladder Bonus using the DSS Provider Portal- Participation Application for Career Ladder Bonus found here: [Provider Portal \(sc.gov\)](https://www.sc.gov/ProviderPortal)

### **2. How do I qualify for the bonus?**

In order to qualify for the bonus, you must have:

- verified employment at a regulated child care program.
- a current Career Ladder Level in SC Endeavors Registry. [Click here for a how-to guide.](#)
- received a SCEIS vendor number via the [SCEIS portal](#). [Click here for instructions.](#)
- not received a career level bonus in prior ABC Quality bonus.

### **3. How much is the bonus?**

The career ladder bonus amount is \$150.

### **4. Why am I unable to submit my application?**

Individuals are denied for the following reasons:

- You are employed at a program that does not provide direct care of children or is not regulated.
- You do not have a Career Ladder level in SC Endeavors Registry. Please allow up to one week after receiving your Career Ladder level in the Registry for the level to sync with the Provider Portal.
- You do not have a SCEIS vendor number.
- You have already received a bonus from previous ABC Quality Career Ladder bonus.

### **5. How long will it take to receive my bonus?**

Once you submit your application you will be taken to a confirmation screen with an Application Reference number. You will also receive this via email. You can use this number to inquire about your application while it is being processed. Once your application has been approved for payment, you will receive a notification email. After your application has been approved, please allow 6-8 weeks to receive your bonus.

### **6. Is there a deadline to apply for the bonus?**

A deadline has not been determined at this time.

### **7. Will this be a reoccurring bonus?**

Not at this time. Other opportunities for additional bonuses in the future will be communicated to the workforce as they become available.

### **8. How will I get paid if I didn't mail in my direct deposit form?**

If you did not mail in a direct deposit form, a check with the financial award is mailed to the address on file with SCEIS.

**9. How long does it take to receive my SCEIS vendor number?**

It can take anywhere from 72 hours to 2 weeks to receive your SCEIS vendor number.

**10. Who do I contact if I have any questions?**

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out SC Endeavors by phone at (864) 250-8581 or email at [scendeavors@dss.sc.gov](mailto:scendeavors@dss.sc.gov).