

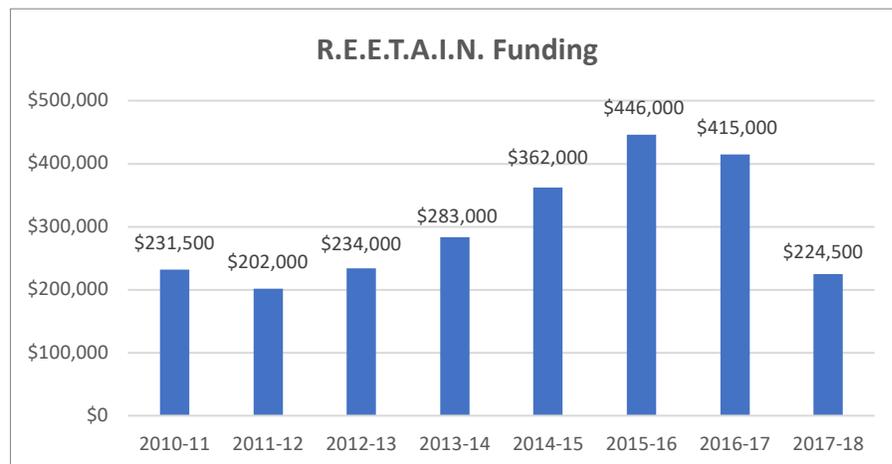
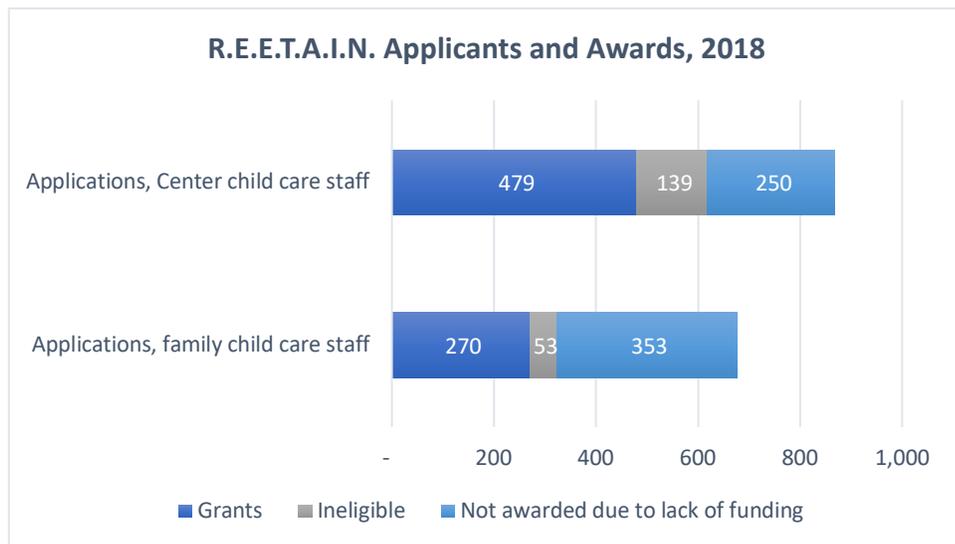


R.E.E.T.A.I.N. Workforce Retention Program

The Retaining Early Educators Through Attaining Incentives Now (R.E.E.T.A.I.N.) program provides a competitive bonus system to incentivize well-trained child care professionals to stay in the workforce, creating more consistent care for children over time.

The Reach:

- Since 2003, R.E.E.T.A.I.N. has awarded grants to over 2,000 degreed or credentialed early childhood and school-age care professionals, keeping them in the field teaching our youngest Minnesotans.



The Results:

In the most recent survey of R.E.E.T.A.I.N. recipients, over half felt that the grant strongly or very strongly influenced their decision to remain in the field. Interview respondents also indicated that funds from the R.E.E.T.A.I.N. program relieved considerable stress for providers by helping them pay bills and other expenses and allowing them to focus more easily on their work.

The Need:

- Over half of qualified family child care providers who apply for R.E.E.T.A.I.N. are turned down due to lack of funding.
- Staff turnover in child care centers is at 25%. Recipients of R.E.E.T.A.I.N. grants make a commitment to remain in their position or business for at least one year after the grant is awarded.
- From 2005 to 2015, the number of family child care providers in Minnesota decreased by 29%. Recognition helps to encourage child care professionals to remain in the field.
- R.E.E.T.A.I.N. grants are most commonly used to enhance child care programs, and to help providers cover basic costs of living.

Testimonials:

"I used my R.E.E.T.A.I.N. grant to purchase new outdoor play equipment and to pay a few overdue bills. Both have offered me real peace of mind as I now know the swing set is safe and that my business will stay afloat this year." — Jonie Pederson, child care professional

"I am happy and thankful to get the grant. Makes me feel appreciated and important – I live paycheck to paycheck. I believe I make a difference – nice to know that someone else believes that too." - Anonymous