

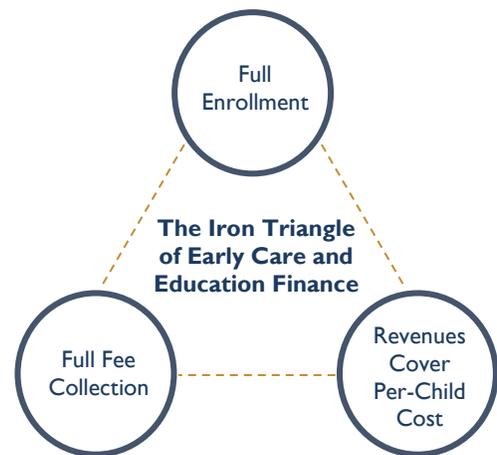
Why is it Important to Update My Information?

You may be wondering why you are being asked to answer questions monthly about how many children you want to care for at your child care program (desired capacity, which may be less than your licensed/registered capacity) and how many slots you have open at your child care program (vacancies).

This may seem frequent, but this information changes often. If you regularly update this information, you are more likely to fill any open slots in your program. This helps the local economy because more children in care means more adults being able to work or pursue further education. Even if you're already fully enrolled, the accuracy of the information can show where more child care is needed.

Maximizing Enrollment

Filling all child care slots available in your program helps you keep your child care business open so you can support yourself and your own family. Your child care program is your business. And like any business, money matters. Keeping your child care program fully enrolled (i.e., all slots full) is one piece of Opportunity Exchange's financial model known as the [Iron Triangle](#). To learn more about the Iron Triangle click [here](#) (or [here](#) for a Spanish version of the same document).



Improving Data Quality

A major part of your income comes from how much you charge families for your child care services. Filling all the slots that you are licensed/registered to have—being fully enrolled—means you will make more money.

When you respond to the questions about desired capacity and vacancies in your child care program, you help improve the quality and timeliness of the data. In turn, this helps families that are looking for child care know if you have any open slots—and if you do, you'll fill those slots quicker.

It's a win-win situation for Iowa's child care providers, families, and their children!