COVID-19 Child Care Stabilization
Grant Funding Opportunity

September 23, 2021 - December 31, 2021
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What is this funding program?

The Oregon Department of Education’s Early Learning Division (ELD) is providing this funding opportunity to address the financial hardship faced by child cares during and after the public health emergency and the instability of the child care market as a whole.

Who is eligible?

This funding opportunity is designed to stabilize existing child cares, not fund the start-up of new child cares that are not yet operating. To be eligible for a Grant under this funding opportunity, applicants must meet all the following criteria for its category:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Office of Child Care licensed (must meet all criteria)</th>
<th>Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) license-exempt family child care and centers (must meet all criteria)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Be an existing child care that is open and available to provide child care at the time of application, or Be an existing child care that is temporarily closed due to public health, financial hardship, or other reasons relating to the COVID-19 public health emergency and plans to reopen within 30 days of receiving a Grant</td>
<td>Be an existing child care that is open and available to provide child care at the time of application, or Be an existing child care that is temporarily closed due to public health, financial hardship, or other reasons relating to the COVID-19 public health emergency and plans to reopen within 30 days of receiving a Grant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Be licensed at the time of application</td>
<td>Be listed and approved by ODHS as of March 11, 2021; and at the time of application</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Child cares who are Early Head Start, Head Start, Oregon Pre-kindergarten, or Relief Nurseries are not eligible for a Grant because the funding is intended to help the child care sector, not publicly funded programs.

Applicants who have previously been deemed ineligible to receive funding from ELD are not eligible to receive a Grant under this funding opportunity.

Applicants who own or operate more than one child care must submit separate applications for each site.
How much are the Grants?

ELD has approximately $224 million from the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 to be paid directly to eligible child cares. 100% of the funding for this opportunity will be paid with federal money.

ELD anticipates awarding Grant Agreements (each a “Grant”) from this funding opportunity to eligible child cares. The term of each Grant is anticipated to be at least 6 months, with an option to include COVID-19 costs incurred between January 31, 2020 and the end of the Grant. ELD may offer to renew or extend the Grant at ELD’s discretion. Under current law, these funds must be obligated by September 30, 2022.

Estimated Grant amounts are shown below and are based on providing full-time care (more than 30 hours per week). Child cares that provide part-time care are eligible for 75% of the estimated total Grant amount. This funding may be subject to tax. Please consult your tax authority if you have questions.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Child Care Type</th>
<th>Estimated Minimum Total Grant Amount</th>
<th>Estimated Maximum Total Grant Amount (includes all bonuses)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ODHS license-exempt family child care</td>
<td>$6,800</td>
<td>$10,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ODHS license-exempt center</td>
<td>$8,500</td>
<td>$13,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registered Family</td>
<td>$11,520</td>
<td>$18,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Family</td>
<td>$27,430</td>
<td>$43,888</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Center (capacity of less than 21)</td>
<td>$42,390</td>
<td>$67,824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Center (capacity of 21-40)</td>
<td>$66,650</td>
<td>$106,640</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Center (capacity of 41-60)</td>
<td>$103,220</td>
<td>$165,152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certified Center (capacity greater than 60)</td>
<td>$146,050</td>
<td>$233,680</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Bonus amounts are available to child cares that provide the services shown below. Bonus amounts are in addition to the estimated minimum total Grant amounts shown above. You may qualify for more than one bonus.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bonus Type</th>
<th>Estimated Bonus Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Serve infants or toddlers</td>
<td>30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Serve families receiving child care subsidy</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offer extended hour or weekend child care (before 6 a.m. or after 7 p.m.)</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### What is the application process?

This funding opportunity, including all attachments and updates, is published on the ELD website at https://oregonearlylearning.com/child-care-stabilization-grants. Applicants are responsible for checking the for updates.

 Applicants must complete and submit an online application at [https://ode.smapply.org/prog](https://ode.smapply.org/prog) by December 31, 2021, 5 p.m. Pacific Time to be considered for a Grant.

Submitted applications will be reviewed by ELD weekly during the open application period. ELD will notify all applicants of their application status in writing. ELD will contact applicants if additional information is needed. ELD may reject any or all applications in whole or in part, or may cancel this funding opportunity at any time, when the rejection or cancellation is in the best interest of the State of Oregon or ELD, as determined by ELD.

If approved, applicants will be offered a Grant for signature. This will be sent via email using DocuSign. Grants must be signed within 30 days of receipt.

ELD reserves the right to reduce the amount of Grant Funds for any reason, including but not limited to if an Applicant’s license capacity is modified during the term of the Grant.

### What are the requirements?

If selected for a Grant, the applicant must provide their Taxpayer Identification Number and backup withholding status on a completed W-9 form. ELD will not disburse any Grant Funds without a properly completed W-9.

The Grant will include state and federal terms and conditions, including, but not limited to the following requirements. If awarded a Grant, applicants will be required to:

- Remain open to provide child care services from the date the Grant is signed by all parties to the date the Grant expires. Limited, temporary closures to meet regular business schedules or due to public health, financial hardship, or other reasons relating to COVID-19 are permitted. If Grantee is temporarily closed on the date the Grant is signed by all parties, Grantee must open within 30 days of that date.

- Immediately notify ELD in writing of any temporary or permanent closure, except for planned closures to meet regular business schedules.

- Immediately notify ELD in writing of any change to address, ownership, license type, or

<table>
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<th>Bonus Type</th>
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<tr>
<td>Provide culturally responsive care</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(the practice of caring for children from culturally diverse families in ways that are consistent with their home practices and values)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
capacity, or of changes to any other information submitted in the Grant application.

- Implement applicable health and safety requirements and guidelines, including guidance, laws, rules and orders issued from state, local and Tribal authorities and, to the greatest extent possible, guidance issued by the U.S Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Grantee must remain aware of changing requirements and guidance issued by these entities, including any modifications or updates.

- Pay all employees (including lead teachers, aides, and any other staff who are employed by, or who contract with, the child care to work in transportation, food preparation, or other service) full compensation (e.g., weekly wages) and maintain the same benefits (e.g., health insurance and retirement) for the duration of the Grant. Grantee must not take action that reduces compensation, including involuntary furloughing employees, from the date of application through the duration of the Grant.

- Use at least 20% of the total Grant Funds on increasing compensation of the child care staff.

- Provide relief from copayments and tuition payments for enrolled families, to the extent possible, and prioritize such relief for families who are struggling to pay either of these fees.

- Maintain an active license status with ELD or remain listed and approved to receive child care subsidy with ODHS.

- Maintain records that document compliance with the requirements of this Grant, including accurate records in sufficient detail to permit ELD to verify that Grant Funds were used only for Allowable Expenses. Grantee is subject to audit by ELD and must, upon request, provide any information and supporting documentation requested by ELD, provide access to the child care facility for which this application is submitted, and allow child care staff to be interviewed in connection with this Grant and the use of funds received.

- Ensure Grant Funds are used to supplement and not supplant other public funds to provide child care services. Grant Funds may not be used to pay for expenses that have been or will be reimbursed by public funds from any other source.

Grant Funds may only be used for costs related to COVID-19, including but not limited to:

- Personnel costs, including payroll and salaries or similar compensation for an employee (including any sole proprietor or independent contractor), and benefits;

- Rent/lease/mortgage, utilities, facility maintenance and improvements, and insurance. Allowable facility maintenance and improvements may include, but are not limited to: building or upgrading playgrounds; renovating bathrooms; improvements to meet licensing requirements; installing railing, ramps, or automatic doors to make the facility more accessible; or removing non-load bearing walls to create additional space for social distancing;

- Personal protective equipment, cleaning and sanitization supplies and services, and training and professional development related to health and safety practices;

- Purchases or updates to equipment and supplies to respond to COVID–19;
• Goods and services necessary to maintain or resume child care services including, but not limited to, child care management services, food services, and transportation; and

• Mental health supports for children and employees.

Grant Funds may be used for the above-described costs incurred between January 31, 2020 and the end of the Grant. Grant Funds may not be used for the purchase of land, construction of new facilities, or major renovations to any building or facility. A sample Grant can be reviewed on the ELD website.

What is the payment process?

Grant Funds will be disbursed in two equal payments. Payment 1 – 50% of the total Grant Funds in the first month of the Grant and Payment 2 – 50% of the total Grant Funds in the fourth month of the Grant. Use of the Grant Funds is subject to audit. Be sure to keep accurate and complete accounting records. If Grant Funds are not spent for Allowable Expenses, or are otherwise misused, you may be required to pay those funds back.

Do you have questions?

All questions regarding this funding opportunity must be directed to ECCgrants@state.or.us or 971-707-2029 (8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Time, Monday through Friday). Frequently asked questions will be published on the ELD website.