

# Child Care Providers Resources

## Child Care and Development Block Grant

The CARES Act includes \$3.5 billion for the Child Care Development Block Grant. The Child Care and Development Block Grant makes available supplemental funds to state, territory, and tribal governments that provide support for children and their families with paying for child care that will fit their needs and that will prepare children to succeed in school.

CARES Act funding for Child Care Development Block Grants will allow eligible child care programs to maintain critical operations, including meeting emergency staffing needs and ensuring first responders and health care workers can access child care while they respond to the pandemic. The Administration for Children and Families' (ACF) Office of Child Care (OCC) will distribute these funds according to a state formula with some minor adjustments to better target the funds. CARES Act funding can be used to:

- Provide continued payments and assistance to eligible child care providers in the case of decreased enrollment or closures related to coronavirus, and to assure providers are able to remain open or reopen as appropriate;
- Provide child care assistance, without regard to income, to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, and other workers deemed essential during the response to the coronavirus; and
- Provide funding to child care providers who were not participating in subsidy prior to the public health emergency for the purposes of cleaning and sanitation and other activities necessary to maintain or resume the operation of programs.

States have until September 30, 2021 to obligate the funds. Payments made under this provision may be obligated in this fiscal year or the succeeding two fiscal years provided that funds may be made available to restore amounts, either directly or through reimbursement, for obligations incurred to prevent, prepare for, and respond to coronavirus, domestically or internationally.

### **Eligible Child Care Providers**

The Child Care and Development Block Grant Act defines an eligible child care provider as a center-based, group home, or home-based child care provider that is licensed, regulated, or registered based on state law and meets state and local health and safety requirements, or a child care provider over the age of 18 who provides child care services only to children to whom they are related and meets and requirements for relative child care providers.

### **For More Information**

More information about the Child Care Development Block Grant program in the CARES Act can be accessed [here](#).