

Child Care and Development Division

Infrastructure Grant Program Request for Applications Webinar

**February 15, 2022
10:00 am to 11:30 am**

Using the Zoom Q&A Feature



Welcome and Introductions

- Dr. Lupe Jaime-Mileham
 - Deputy Director
 - Child Care and Development Division
- Karla Pleitez Howell, JD
 - Chief Executive Administrator
 - Program Innovation, Policy and Research Branch

Infrastructure Grant Program

- Welcome and Introductions
- Authority and Purpose
- Request for Application Process
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A child is holding an open children's book. The book features colorful illustrations of a yellow truck carrying a load of red bricks, sheep on a hill, and a fox. The text is in Russian. The background is a blurred image of a child's face.

Child Care and Development Infrastructure Grant Program

Minor Renovation and Repairs Grant Request for Applications

Authority and Purpose

- On July 23, 2021, the Legislature enacted the Child Care and Development Infrastructure Grant Program (IGP), detailed in Welfare and Institutions Code (W&IC) section 10310.1.
- The purpose of the IGP is to preserve, enhance, and expand access to child care and development and preschool opportunities for children up to five years of age by providing grants to renovate, repair, modernize, retrofit, or build new licensed child care centers and family child care homes.

Funding Source

- Funding
 - \$250 million allocated to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
 - \$100 million in one-time American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)
 - \$150 million in one-time State General Funds
- Implementation of the funding will occur in two separate grant programs

Funding Implementation

- IGP RFA 1: Minor Renovation and Repairs Grant
 - \$100 million appropriated in grants
 - For minor renovations repairs, modernization, or retrofitting of existing child care facilities
 - To increase or recover capacity due to a declared disaster, mitigate future disasters, address needs related to health and safety, licensing, or the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other existing facilities for use as child care facilities
 - Funds shall be used to preserve, enhance, or expand existing child care spaces.

Important Information and Dates

- CDSS Child Care and Development Infrastructure Grant Program Website
 - RFA's and Application Links
 - Frequently Asked Questions
 - Webinar Opportunities
- Email notifications
- The IGP RFA 1
 - Released on February 7, 2022
 - Applications will close at 11:59 pm PST on March 25, 2022.

Eligible Applicants

- Licensed child care facilities
- Non-profit, for-profit or Tribes
- Faith-based organizations (if curriculum is not faith-based)
- Umbrella organizations that are co-located with a child care and/or non-profit Housing and Community Development
- Serve low-income communities
- Provides or plans to provide subsidized child care and development and preschool program services funded through one or more of the eligible programs

Eligible Applicants (2)

- California State Preschool Program (CSPP)
- General Child Care and Development (CCTR)
- Migrant Child Care and Development (CMIG)
- Child Care and Development Services for Children with Exceptional Needs (CHAN)
- CalWORKs Stages 1, 2 and 3
- California Alternative Payment Program (CAPP)
- California Migrant Alternative Payment Program (CMAP)

Eligible Applicants (3)

- Emergency Child Care Bridge for Foster Families (Foster Bridge)
- Federal Head Start/Early Head Start
- Programs funded through local subsidies
- Programs with spaces funded through documented internal scholarships to families who would otherwise qualify as low-income under one of the above programs.

Non-Eligible Applicants

- Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) – such as county offices of education, school districts, charter schools and community colleges
- Public or government entities
- Family, Friend and Neighbor (FFN) programs or unlicensed programs
- Applicants who do not serve children from low-income families
- Applicants who do not meet experience and tenure requirements of being in operation prior to August 1, 2021
- Applicants/organizations who have been suspended or debarred or are on the federal excluded parties list on the System of Award Management (SAM) website

Non-Eligible Applicants (2)

- Child care and development and preschool program contractors who meet any of the conditions:
 - The applicant is on conditional status because of fiscal or programmatic non-compliance as described in Title 5 California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 18304.
 - If holding a State contract under which the California Department of Education or the CDSS has conducted a compliance review pursuant to 5 CCR Section 18023, and the applicant has failed to clear items of fiscal and programmatic non-compliance identified in the review within 12 months of the issuance of the compliance review report.
 - At the State's discretion, an application may be declined due to confirmation or suspicion of criminal activities (including fiscal crimes by agency officers); or a notice of deficiency issued by the CDSS Community Care Licensing Division relating to a serious risk to the health and safety of children; or if a grantee is operating with a provisional license, suspended or revoked license, or never obtained a license.

Non-Eligible Applicants (3)

- Current and former CDE and/or CDSS child care and development and preschool program contractors who meet any of the following conditions:
 - The applicant has an outstanding accounts receivable balance with the CDE and/or the CDSS.
 - The applicant has a delinquent audit with the CDE and/or the CDSS pursuant to 5 CCR section 18073.
 - One or more of the applicant's prior CDE and/or CDSS child care services contracts was terminated within three years preceding the date this RFA was posted.
 - The CDE and/or the CDSS did not make an offer of continued funding as to one or more of the applicant's prior the CDE and/or the CDSS childcare services contracts within three years preceding the date this RFA was posted.

Eligible Projects

- Eligible project sites shall:
 - Be located in the State of California and serve children and families in California.
 - Operate as a California licensed child care center or licensed family child care home for at least one year prior to August 1, 2021.

Eligible Projects (2)

- Eligible project sites shall:
 - Demonstrate that funds shall be used for any of the following purposes:
 - Renovation, repair, modernization, or retrofitting of existing child care and development and preschool facilities to increase capacity or recover lost capacity as a result of a state or federally declared disaster, or make existing child care and development and preschool facilities more resilient for future natural disasters.
 - Renovation, repair, modernization, or retrofitting of existing facilities for use as child care and development and preschool facilities.
 - Renovation, repair, modernization, or retrofitting of existing child care and development and preschool facilities to address needs related to the COVID-19 pandemic and other health and safety or licensure needs.

Criteria for Funding

- In order to be considered for funding, the Application shall demonstrate that the:
 - Project shall preserve/enhance/expand spaces for children ages birth to 5.
 - Grant funds are necessary to undertake or complete the project.
 - Applicant has proof of site control for the entire term of the grant (lease, rental agreement, deed, property tax statement, or mortgage payment coupon).
 - Project has no funding gaps and can be completed within 120 days following grant award.
 - Financial and organizational viability for the child care program operation for the term of the grant.
 - Applicant shall apply for and obtain all necessary approvals and permits for the proposed project.

Award Amounts


- It is at the discretion of the CDSS to determine award amounts based on, but not limited to, the following:
 - Scope of each project.
 - Regional costs.
 - The use of universal design to provide inclusive environments.
 - The need to meet licensing requirements or health and safety standards.
 - The proportion of children receiving subsidies to be served.
 - The total number of children served or to be served.
- Licensed Child Care Centers can request up to \$249,999 and Licensed Family Child Care Homes can request up to \$75,000.

Allowable and Unallowable Costs

- Grants funds shall supplement, and not supplant, federal, state, and local public funds expended for these purposes.
- Allowable and unallowable costs are included in the RFA.

Years of Service Requirement

- Awardees will be required to continue providing child care and development or preschool services at the location site where the grant funds are being used for a period of years following grant award as described below:
 - Child Care Centers shall continue to provide services for four years following notification of the grant award.
 - Family Child Care Homes shall continue to provide services for two years following notification of the grant award.

A person is holding an open children's book. The book features colorful illustrations of a yellow truck carrying a load of red bricks, and a flock of white sheep on a grassy hill. The text is in Russian. The background is a blurred image of a person's face.

General Application Information

Application Process

- Applicants seeking funding for projects at multiple site locations shall submit a separate application for each site location.
- Applications for funding must be completed in accordance with the following instructions:
 - An online third-party web portal (Submittable).
 - Applicants shall enter application data, narratives, budgets and all required attachments through the portal.
 - Attachments should be legible and converted to the appropriate file format.
 - Applicants can access and edit their application until submitted.

Application Process (2)

- Once submitted, applications will be locked, and no changes may be made.
- The online portal will generate a confirmation message and email once the application is submitted.
 - Note: If an applicant submits their application before all documents have been submitted, the applicant can request their application be reopened the CDSS by email at CCDDFacilities@dss.ca.gov and indicate the reason for the reopening of the application.
 - **This shall occur before the application deadline.**
- Applicants agree that by applying, they authorize CDSS to verify all information contained in the application.

Application Process (3)

- All documentation submitted to CDSS shall become public record and CDSS may legally have to disclose to third parties upon request.
- Applicants should not disclose confidential information in their applications.
- The application platform will close at 11:59 pm PST. Please ensure that you allow ample time to fully submit your application before this time. Applications will not be accepted outside of the platform.
- Applicants who have questions regarding their application should contact CDSS at CCDDFacilities@dss.ca.gov.

Application Components



Application Components (1)

- The application shall contain the following components:
 - Collection of information on program, project, and impact.
 - Narratives to describe agency mission/vision/history, project scope and timeline and fund development/budget activities.
 - Budgets for the project site, project cost and fund development to cover the entire project cost.

Application Components (2)

- In addition, each applicant will be required to agree to General Assurances.
 - Grant Terms and Conditions and Program Assurances are included in the RFA overview and instructions.
 - A pop up on the application platform
 - The Child Care and Development Infrastructure Grant Program Website
 - English
 - Spanish version included in the link

Prevailing Wage Requirements

- Public works construction projects, as defined in Labor Code Section 1720, et seq., must meet prevailing wage requirements. California law requires that workers are not paid less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages on public works projects.

Application Review Process



Preliminary Screening Process

- Applications shall be preliminarily screened for:
 - Project readiness to determine if applicant meets the eligibility criteria.
 - All required attachments are submitted.
- Application shall contain all required certifications, assurances and signatures uploaded to the online portal.
- Applicants are responsible for reviewing all RFA requirements and instructions.
- Late, incomplete or not properly completed applications may be disqualified. Disqualifications cannot be appealed.

Prioritization Process

- All applications will be reviewed and scored using a scoring rubric.
- Initial Priority Factors
 - Projects with urgent timing issues or can be completed within 120 days of the signed grant agreement
 - Projects in advanced stages with permits
 - Projects ready to start minor renovations or have begun work but having funding gaps
 - Projects that do not have any permitting requirements
 - Projects with quick timelines/can begin immediately
 - Projects that are only requesting the purchase of equipment

Prioritization Process (2)

- Additional Priority Factors
 - Programs where minor renovations would prevent the revocation of a child care facility license
 - Programs where minor renovations would mitigate health and safety issues or decrease the risk of licensing violations
 - Programs that serve children with state subsidies
 - Programs that serve higher numbers of low-income families
 - Programs located in areas with a demonstrated shortage of licensed care (child care deserts, priority zip codes)
 - Programs serving infants and toddlers

Prioritization Process (3)

- Additional Priority Factors
 - Programs that focus on serving children with exceptional needs, migrant or children who are unhoused or in Child Protective Services or foster care
 - Programs that have been affected by declared disasters
 - Programs operating as non-profits
 - Projects co-located within affordable housing
 - Project where building is owned by the operator/entity providing care
 - Projects that can demonstrate long term financial sustainability

Prioritization Process (4)

- Programs with match funding
 - Acceptable matches include operator reserves/cash on hand
 - Loans from a lending organization lending organization such as Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI)
 - Small Business Administration (SBA)
 - Bank loans
 - Foundation/Pledge commitments/other grants (non-federal or state)
 - Tax Credits
 - Equity on land and/or buildings purchased outside of grant
 - Real property valuation/cash out refinance documented by appraisal

Application Appeals Process



Application Review Process: Appeals

- After receiving their written score notification, applicants may review their application, the criteria used to score the application, and any readers' comments on their application.
- An applicant wishing to appeal their score must submit a notice of appeal to the CDSS within ten (10) business days of receiving their score notification.
- The steps required to submit an appeal will be detailed on score notification.
- Any questions can be submitted to:
CCDDAppeals@dss.ca.gov

Application Review Process: Results

- Successful applicants will receive a Grant Award letter.
- Final awards will also be posted on the CDSS website.
- Grant Award letters will be sent between March 2022 and September 2022.

Award Process



Notification of Award

- Grants will be competitively awarded based on the criteria listed in W&IC section 10310.1.
- Applicants will be notified by email of proposed funding award letters with additional instructions.
- No grant is final until CDSS receives a completed and signed grant award notification and all other required documents from the grantee.
- Grantees will be required sign additional compliance certifications or agreements.

Reporting Requirements



Reporting Requirements (1)

- As a requirement for funding, all grantees agree to submit an Expenditure Report in an Excel spreadsheet and Annual Progress Reports.
 - The first Expenditure Report is due within 120 days from the grant award date.

Important Information

- The application and related information can be found on the [Minor Renovation and Repairs web page](#).
- Applications will close at 11:59 pm PST on March 25, 2022.
- Please submit your questions by e-mail to CCDDFacilities@dss.ca.gov
 - Please indicate “CCDD-IGP RFA 1 Question” in the subject line.

Closing

