

Child Care and Development Division

Infrastructure Grant Program
Request for Applications Webinar

December 8, 2022 9:00 am to 11:00 am

Using the Zoom Q&A Feature



Welcome and Introductions

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Infrastructure Grant Program Webinar Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Authority and Purpose
- Request for Application Process
- Eligibility Criteria

- Funding Priorities
- Application Process
- Scoring Process
- Important Dates
- Closing

Purpose of Webinar

- Equip our external partners that also support child care and development providers with information and resources
- Provide a preview the IGP-NCMR, the RFA, and the application
- Empower our external partners to answer questions when received from potential applicants



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
 - \$350.5 million allocated to the California Department of Social Services (CDSS)
 - \$200.5 million in one-time American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA)
 - \$150 million in one-time State General Funds
- RFA 1 will allocate \$200.5 million through January 2023. The second round of funding will allocate the remaining \$150 million.

Funding Implementation

- Infrastructure Grant Program: New Construction and Major Renovations
 - Second round of funding for the IGP
 - \$150 million appropriated in grants for new construction and major renovations
 - Funds shall be used to increase capacity or recover lost capacity
- Projects (must expand capacity):
 - New Construction
 - Major renovation

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 2
 - Released on November 22, 2022
 - Applications will close at 11:59 pm PST on January 31, 2023.

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 subsides
- Programs with spaces funded through documented internal scholarships to families who would otherwise qualify as lowincome under one of the above programs.

Non-Eligible Applicants

- Local Educational Agencies (LEAs)
- 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 on or before 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 identified in the Ineligible Entities section on pages 4- 5 of the Overview and Instructions document.

Eligible Projects

- Eligible projects must be located in the State of California and serve children and families in California.
- In order to be eligible for reimbursement, projects must have started on or after August 1, 2021.

Eligible Projects (2)

- Construction of new child care and development and preschool facilities to increase capacity or recover lost capacity as a result of a state or federally declared disaster.
- Renovation of existing child care and development and preschool facilities to increase capacity (enroll more children) or recover lost capacity (enroll the same or close to the same number of children from before the disaster) as a result of a state or federally declared disaster.

Criteria for Funding

- Applicants must demonstrate the following:
 - Grant funds are necessary to undertake or complete the project;
 - Applicant has proof of site control for the entire term of the grant.
 - Construction may start within a reasonable time frame following award and begin operations no later than June 30, 2028;
 - Applicant finances are stable;
 - Reasonable bids were obtained and all necessary approvals and permits for the proposed project were obtained, if applicable.
 - Commit at least 10% funding match

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 \$1,500,000 and Licensed Family Child Care Homes can request up to \$100,000.

Allowable and Unallowable Costs

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

Grant Term - 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 <u>ten years</u> following notification of the grant award.
 - Family Child Care Homes shall continue to provide services for <u>two</u> <u>years</u> following notification of the grant award.



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, as applicable.
 - 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.
 - You may contact CCDDFacilities@dss.ca.gov on or before January 20, 2023 to reopen your application if needed.
 - It is at the discretion of the CDSS to reopen applications.
- The online portal will generate a confirmation message and email once the application is submitted.
- 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 on January 31, 2023 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 the application process can refer to the FAQ web page or contact CDSS at CCDDFacilities@dss.ca.gov.



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
 - Available in English, as well as in Spanish and Chinese using 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 Demo

- Applications will be accepted electronically through a thirdparty online platform, Submittable.
- Applications can be accessed, saved, and edited until the application is submitted
- Applications will not be accepted by mail or hand delivery and must be submitted through the third-party online platform.





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 can be started within a reasonable timeframe of the Grant Agreement and completed by June 30, 2028. Applicants will be asked about their project timeline, status, and estimated time for completion
 - Projects in advanced stages with permits
 - Projects ready to start new construction or major renovations or have begun work but having funding gaps

Prioritization Process (2)

- Additional Priority Factors
 - 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

Match Funding

- Programs are required to provide a 10% match
- 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 Review Process: Appeals

- Eligible applicants will have the opportunity to submit a written appeal.
- The steps required to submit an appeal will be detailed on the conditional grant award notification.
- Appeal-related questions can be submitted to: <u>CCDDAppeals@dss.ca.gov</u>.

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 in 2023.



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

- As a requirement for funding, all grantees agree to submit an Expenditure Report in an Excel spreadsheet and Annual Progress Reports.
 - Refer to the page 23 of the RFA for additional Reporting Requirements.

Important Information

- The application and related information can be found on the New Construction and Major Renovation web page
- Submit questions by January 20, 2023.
- Applications will close at 11:59 pm PST on January 31, 2023.
- FAQs can be accessed on CDSS' and LIIF's Help Center <u>liifund.zendesk.com</u>
- Please submit your questions by e-mail to <u>CCDDFacilities@dss.ca.gov</u>
 - Please indicate "CCDD-IGP NCMR Question" in the subject line.

