

# Child Care Stabilization Grants

## Fall 2021 Application

Child care providers are heroes. We are grateful for the work you do for our children and communities. This fall, the Legislature passed, and Governor Whitmer signed a budget that includes over \$700 million in grant funding to support child care providers like you.

Funds are available to help keep your doors open and focus on what matters most—supporting kids and families.

### What is the Child Care Stabilization Grant?

The Child Care Stabilization Grant is a non-competitive grant for child care providers to help stabilize operations and support the health and safety of children and staff. Grants for home-based providers start at \$3,300 and grants for centers start at \$9,200.

### Details At a Glance

- **Who's eligible to apply?**

- Licensed child care centers
- Licensed family homes and group homes
- Tribal-based child care
- Head Start and Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) programs that also provide tuition-based child care

Eligible applicants must also:

- Be open and available to provide child care services on the date of application OR temporarily closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Are you a licensed exempt provider? Funding coming soon!

- **When will the application be available?**

The Stabilization Grant will be awarded through two applications—fall and spring.

- **Fall application: November 8 – December 8**
- Spring application: Coming March 2022

Providers can receive both grants!

- **Will everyone who applies receive a grant?**

This is a non-competitive grant. Every eligible child care provider that submits a complete application will receive a grant award. Funding is not awarded on a first come, first serve basis.

- **How will my grant award be calculated?**

Every eligible provider will receive a **base award** and **bonus payments** for providing in demand care.

- The base award will be based on your licensed capacity and provider type.

- Bonus payments will be added to your award based on whether you serve infants and toddlers, whether you care for children receiving the child care subsidy, providing care during non-traditional hours, caring for a child with special needs, and having a Great Start to Quality star rating.
- Providers will also receive **funding for staff bonuses** and **recruitment of staff (as needed)**.
- **We encourage you to continue to check the website for to learn more about the Child Care Stabilization Grant at [www.michigan.gov/childcare](http://www.michigan.gov/childcare).**

## What to Do Before You Apply

- **Mark your calendar.** Applications will open **November 8**. Continue to check the website for new information at [www.michigan.gov/childcare](http://www.michigan.gov/childcare).
- **Update your profile.** Log in to the Great Start to Quality portal and update your profile. We'll use this information to prepopulate your grant application and get you paid faster.
- **Get a SIGMA number.** This number creates an account with the State and is required for us to pay your grant.
  - If you participated in the Child Care Relief Fund, we are working to prepopulate your application with the SIGMA number.
  - If haven't received a grant award before, you'll need to set up an account with the state to get paid. Visit [www.Michigan.gov/SIGMAVSS](http://www.Michigan.gov/SIGMAVSS). If you need assistance, please contact the SIGMA Help Desk at 888-734-9749 or [SIGMA-Vendor@Michigan.gov](mailto:SIGMA-Vendor@Michigan.gov).
- **Organize the information you need to apply.** You will need to know the number of children enrolled by age in your program, the number of full and part time staff, and an estimate of your operational budget.

## How to Apply

Eligible child care programs must complete and submit an online application. Visit [www.Michigan.gov/childcare](http://www.Michigan.gov/childcare) to complete the application. If you need help applying, we're here to support you! Contact your Great Start to Quality Resource Center for help with your application by calling 877-614-7328. You may also find another local partner whom you normally work with that will be willing to assist with your application.

## Eligible Expenses

This grant is intended to support operational expenses and your COVID-response. You must spend grant funds on one or more of the following:

- Personnel costs,
- Rent or mortgage payments,
- Insurance,
- Facility maintenance and improvements,
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) and COVID-related supplies,
- Training and professional development related to health and safety practices,
- Goods and services needed to resume providing care,
- Mental health supports for children and early educators, or
- Reimbursement of costs associated with the current public health emergency.

## We're Here to Help!

- For help applying, contact your Great Start to Quality Resource Center at 877-614-7328.
- For other questions, contact the Child Development and Care Call Center at 866-990-3227.