

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.**

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.
- **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. If you need assistance, please contact the SIGMA Help Desk at 888-734-9749 or 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 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.