California’s Use of CRRSA Child Care Funding
Fact Sheet | March 2021

California received $964 million in supplemental CCDBG funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020. This is in addition to $350 million in supplemental CCDBG funding the state received in the CARES Act, passed in March 2020.

States were required to submit a plan for their use of CRRSA funds to the Department of Health and Human Services by February 26, 2021. On February 23, 2021, California passed a bill to allocate $402 million to child care and preschool providers for COVID-19 related assistance. As of March 12, plans for the rest of the funding had yet to be announced.

**Support for providers.** The state is using $244 million of its supplemental CCDBG allocation from the CRRSA to offer one-time stipends worth $525 per child to providers (either a child care or state preschool program) who serve subsidy recipient children. Providers will receive the flat rate based on the number of subsidized children enrolled in their program. These stipends are to offer providers additional financial relief and to help ensure providers and preschool programs can remain open or reopen. The state may designate another agency or a third party to distribute these funds to child care providers.

Up to $16 million of the $244 million shall be allocated to the State Department of Social Services to provide similar one-time stipends of $525 per each child, for those children enrolled in the California Work Opportunities and Responsibility to Kids, or CalWORKs, Stage 1 program (the state’s TANF program). The state has noted that if additional funding is needed based on program data, a revised budget may allow the state to shift funding amounts for proper distribution.

Additionally, the state is allocating $76 million to extend services within state-subsidized “alternative payment programs” including, but not limited to, programs for migrant children, essential workers, at-risk children, children with disabilities, individualized learning, and more. The Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Department of Social Services will allocate stipends for distribution to child care providers and the state preschool programs.

**Support for families.** The state is allocating $80 million of its CRRSA funding to provide additional emergency vouchers for children of essential workers, at-risk children, and children with disabilities or special health care needs whose individualized education plan or individualized family service plans include early learning and care.

Guidance on each of these funding allocations is forthcoming.

More information available here, including how the state spent its CARES Act funding in 2020.