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

Kentucky received $195.5 million in supplemental CCDBG funding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act passed in December 2020. This is in addition to $68 million in supplemental CCDBG funds 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 March 5, the Kentucky Cabinet for Health and Family Services released a memo outlining plans for distribution of their CRRSA funding. Kentucky is one of 19 states which must receive legislative approval before spending any unanticipated funds.

Support for providers. Kentucky plans to distribute the entirety of its supplemental CCDBG funding to over 2,000 licensed child care centers and family child care homes across the state. Though specifics were not announced, the state plans to use the funds to cover sustainment payments for regulated child care programs, the cost of fingerprint background checks for child care providers, training and technical assistance on safe and healthy work environments, and the cost of parent copayments for families benefiting from child care subsidies.

According to the state, since the beginning of the pandemic, 149 licensed facilities and 21 certified facilities have permanently closed across the state, representing about 8% of centers. Further, enrollment has been limited due to emergency regulations that restrict classrooms to 15 children. The state intends that this federal funding will prevent other programs from permanently closing.

Additional details and specifics of sustainment payments and other funding specifics will be announced at a later date.

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