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

North Dakota received $19 million in supplemental CCDBG funding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), passed in December 2020. This is in addition to $6 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, the state outlined activities it intends to offer using the funding.

Support for providers. North Dakota plans to offer facility improvement grants to all licensed, authorized, or registered child care providers to help pay for certain facility updates, including touchless faucets and towel dispensers, automatic or touchless door openers, various disinfecting appliances, air purifiers, and other improvements to improve indoor air quality. The state anticipates the grant to be available April 1 through December 31, 2021.

Additionally, CRRSA funds will be used to provide an emergency operating grant to all child care providers (licensed, authorized, or registered) who can demonstrate a continued negative impact from COVID-19 related reductions in enrollment or revenues. To be eligible, declined enrollment or revenues must be 30% for a period of at least six months. These grants are anticipated to be available April 1, 2021, through March 31, 2022.

All subsidy payments to providers will be based on enrollment rather than attendance, and will be provided the maximum payment rate based on a child’s approved level of care. These policies are intended to last through March 31, 2023.

Support for parents. The state will eliminate all copayments for families receiving a state subsidy through March 31, 2023. Additionally, the state will add “job search” as an eligible criteria for receiving a state subsidy, given disruptions in work availability due to the crisis. This policy will be in effect through September 30, 2022.

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