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

Ohio received $333 million in supplemental CCDBG funding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020. This is in addition to $117 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 25, the state submitted a letter to HHS describing a how it plans to spend its supplemental funding, though specific details including funding amounts for each project were not included. These plans are dependent on acquiring necessary spending authority from Ohio’s General Assembly.

Support for providers. The state plans to offer pandemic support grants to child care programs. These grants may be used for payroll, infrastructure, personal protective equipment, cleaning supplies, temporary sinks, thermometers, classroom dividers, personnel costs, and other expenses. It will also create “innovation grants” to further support licensed child care providers.

Through the biennial budget process, Ohio plans to implement their 2020 market rate survey by ensuring all base rates meet or exceed the increase to the 25th percentile, based on Ohio’s 2020 market rate survey.

Support for parents. The current income eligibility threshold for a state child care subsidy is set at 130% of the federal poverty level, or $28,236 for a family of three in 2020. Through the state’s biennial budget for 2022-2023, Ohio plans to increase the eligibility threshold to 138% of the FPL, or about $29,974 for a family of three. Additionally, the eligibility threshold will increase to 150% of the FPL ($32,580 for a family of three) for families in need of special needs child care.

Support for the workforce. Ohio plans to provide stipends to early childhood professionals who maintain roles in licensed settings in the following positions: assistant teacher, lead teacher, and administrator.

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