

Pennsylvania's Use of CRRSA Child Care Funding

Fact Sheet | March 2021

Pennsylvania received **\$304 million** in supplemental CCDBG funding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act passed in December 2020. This is in addition to **\$106 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 March 2, the state announced plans to spend its supplemental CRRSA funding.

Support for providers. To provide stability to child care programs during periods of low and variable enrollment, Pennsylvania will use \$140.7 million to provide a one-time award to providers. Funds will be allocated based on the provider type and licensed capacity, and on the assumption that providers are operating with a 32% decline in enrollment. Family child care homes may receive up to \$3,100, small centers can receive up to \$10,600, and the largest centers can receive up to almost \$70,000.

Further, the state is offering \$64.6 million to help child care providers cover increased operating costs. This funding decision was based off a study conducted by Penn State Harrisburg, which found that providers are spending an average of \$22 a week, per child, on extra supplies and equipment necessary to operate safely. Funding amounts will be calculated based on provider type and licensed capacity. To support providers serving children whose tuition is supported with a subsidy payment, the state will invest over \$87 million to increase base reimbursement rates.

This funding will become available on April 20, 2021.

Support for child care workers. Pennsylvania will invest \$3 million of their CRRSA funds to distribute 'pandemic relief awards' to child care professionals. These [awards](#) were established in January 2021, and originally funded through CARES Act funding. The awards are one-time, \$600 grants for child care employees around the state. The additional \$3 million investment will allow another 5,000 employees to receive the award, on top of the 33,000 staff who previously qualified—fully funding all applications.

More information available [here](#), including how the [state spent its CARES Act funding in 2020](#).