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

Alaska received $19 million in supplemental CCDBG funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020. This is in addition to $6.4 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 24, the state sent a letter to HHS describing plans to offer assistance to child care providers and families. Though exact funding and details were not included in the letter, the general plan is described below.

Support for providers. Alaska will offer funds to provide technical assistance, supplies, and resources to help providers meet health and safety guidelines. A portion of the funds will be given to providers who are not currently (or were not prior to the pandemic) participating in the state’s subsidy system. The state plans to provide additional funding for wage enhancements, professional development opportunities, social-emotional health resources, technical assistance for new providers, marketing campaigns to increase enrollment, and information system upgrades. It is also currently collecting data from licensed providers to determine what actions should be taken to best support and stabilize providers.

Support for families. The state is working to continue waiving copayments for families who have been affected by the pandemic. To guide decision making, Alaska is collecting data from families, including those who do not qualify for the Child Care Assistance Program, to understand how to best support families who use child care services.

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