



## Connecticut's Use of CRRSA Child Care Funding

Fact Sheet | March 2021

**Connecticut** received **\$70.1 million** in supplemental CCDBG funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020. This is in addition to **\$23.5 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 announced plans to strengthen the child care sector by providing support to providers, families, and the workforce, though specific funding amounts for these priorities were not described.

**Support for providers.** The state will offer grants to all licensed child care providers. Grant amounts will be based on program capacity, quality, and ages of children served. Connecticut will provide additional funds to programs that serve children and families living in poverty. Grants can be used to cover the increased operational costs from the pandemic such as reduced class sizes, increased staffing, technical assistance, and personal protective equipment. Additionally, the state will offer funds to expand infant-toddler spaces and staffing, increase the use of child mental and physical health screenings, and strengthen child care networks.

**Support for families.** Connecticut plans to allocate a portion of the funds to cover parent fees for families in the state's subsidy program, Care 4 Kids. It will also increase social-emotional supports to address challenges experienced during the pandemic.

**Support for children.** The state will provide funds to public schools, Family Resource Centers, and community-based child care programs to offer summer learning opportunities catered towards children who have been unable to attend preschool during the pandemic. Connecticut will also expand access to technological resources for children, families, and providers to promote children's learning.

**Support for the workforce.** Funds will be targeted towards strategies to support workforce development. This includes expanding professional development opportunities, creating lab schools at higher education institutions, and supporting individuals re-entering the workforce from low to middle income families.

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