



Rhode Island's Use of CRRSA Child Care Funding

Fact Sheet | March 2021

Rhode Island received **\$24 million** in supplemental CCDBG funding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020. This is in addition to **\$8 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 28, the state submitted a letter to HHS describing a vision for how it will disburse supplemental CCDBG funds. Their plan was developed as part of a collaboration of Region 1 states (Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont) who have convened regularly to conceptualize a common framework for federal emergency funds. Rhode Island will commit at least 65% of its supplemental funds to the purposes agreed to under the framework

Support for providers. Seventy-five percent of the state's CRRSA funds (a total of \$18 million) will be used to issue immediate and direct stabilization grants to licensed child care providers who are open and committed to serving children in-person. Programs, regardless of their participation in the child care assistance program will be eligible for these funds. Rhode Island has contracted with The Public Consulting Group to serve as the state's fiscal intermediary to distribute these grants. Grants will be issued using a methodology consistent with Region 1's common framework, leveraging a classroom-based reimbursement model for center-based programs, while family child care providers will receive a flat grant amount based on their licensed capacity. The initial goal is to issue these monthly payments for at least two months, beginning in March.

The remaining 25% of the state's CRRSA funds will be leveraged to maintain the CCDF flexible payment practices, as well as design and explore new service-delivery models and capacity building activities to strengthen Rhode Island's child care infrastructure. The state will regularly convene a steering committee of early childhood advocates, partners, and providers to support, and advise on, future investments in the state's child care system.

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