



Tennessee's Use of CRRSA Child Care Funding

Fact Sheet | March 2021

Tennessee received **\$231 million** in supplemental CCDBG funding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020. This is in addition to the **\$82 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 23, the state submitted a letter to HHS describing how it plans to spend the supplemental CCDBG funds, although actual use of funds may be subject to change and specific funding levels were not described.

Support for providers. The state plans to offer grant opportunities to child care providers, including those who were not participating in the subsidy before the pandemic, to support cleaning, sanitation, and other activities necessary to maintain or resume the operation of programs. It also plans to offer funds to cover fixed costs and increased operating expenses related to COVID-19.

Additionally, the state is exploring strategies to deploy CRRSA funds to support long-term sustainability and viability of the child care provider network. These strategies may include access to technology resources, enhanced shared services, resources to improve social and emotional capabilities, and support for strengthened business practices.

Tennessee will continue to offer subsidy payments to providers based on enrollment and regardless of attendance.

Support for families. The state will continue the Pandemic/Essential Employee Child Care Payment Assistance program for 2021. This program is available to families meeting the essential employee criteria of the state. Additionally, Tennessee will continue waiving all parent copayments or fees for a set period of time, which is yet to be determined.

Tennessee will continue contracts with the YMCA and Boys & Girls Club to establish and maintain a network of temporary child care locations for school age children of essential workers.

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