



Utah's Use of CRRSA Child Care Funding

Fact Sheet | March 2021

Utah received **\$109 million** in supplemental CCDBG funding through the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020. This is in addition to **\$40 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 sent a letter to HHS describing potential funding strategies and noted that Utah is in the early stages of development. The final use of funds will be informed by stakeholder and partner meetings, which began in March.

Support for providers. The state launched the Child Care Operations Grant in April 2020 with funds from the CARES Act in response to reduced enrollments and lowered capacity that caused declining revenue for providers. The Operations Grant amounts were reduced in October 2020 and have continued in the form of monthly payments to eligible child care providers. The state, with input from stakeholders, plans to review the Operations Grant to determine if it should be extended in its current form, expanded, reopened, or otherwise amended.

Utah will also consider providing funds for providers to ensure compliance with health and safety guidance, and will leverage partnerships to offer personal protective equipment to providers.

Supporting the workforce. The state is considering strategies to support the child care workforce through incentive or bonus payments to acknowledge the challenge of working in a pandemic while, for many, being paid low wages prior to the pandemic.

Support for parents. The state plans to supplement existing CCDBG funds to provide more working families access to child care by expanding income thresholds, waiving copayments, and paying providers based on enrollment rather than attendance. The state will also expand access to essential workers who may not be eligible based on their income levels, a continuation of the One Utah program which provided child care to essential workers from April to June, 2020. Utah anticipates receiving input from employers as part of stakeholder discussions to determine the current needs of the essential workforces across the state.

Additional Considerations. The state is considering additional uses of CRRSA funds to support child care programs, caregivers, and families which might include expansion of mental health and trauma services, creating a shared service alliance, automating or increased ease of administering child care programs, efforts to expand the supply of child care, or the release of grants to support summer programming.

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