



Massachusetts' Use of CRRSA Child Care Funding

Fact Sheet | March 2021

Massachusetts received **\$131 million** in supplemental CCDBG funding from the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, passed in December 2020. This is in addition to **\$46 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. The state announced plans to allocate funds based on a common framework developed by states in New England to establish a regional approach to stabilization and rehabilitation of the child care system.

Support for providers. Massachusetts will distribute 75% of its funds to provide a new supplemental funding source to help all programs stay in operation. Monthly payments will be available for providers for at least five months starting as soon as May 2021. All supervised programs regardless of subsidy participation, will be offered funding. The amount will be designed to cover a minimum of 10% of a program's projected operating costs based on size, account for increased salary investments during COVID, and include services to priority populations. Stabilization grants will also be used to address the additional cost of meeting health and safety protocols. A portion of these funds will support the existing COVID-19 testing systems that are specifically available for child care families and workers, ensuring rapid responses and no wait times through the summer and fall.

The remaining 25% of the state's CRRSA funding will be reserved to support operational costs that arise across the system identified throughout the summer and fall, such as establishing child care COVID-19 testing sites, covering parent co-pays for subsidized families, and other unexpected areas as they are identified.

Support for the workforce. Massachusetts also will use funds to support increased investments in educational staff, including improving staff compensation and hiring additional staff to improve ratios.

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