

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **\$150 Million in Grants Announced to Support Child Care**

COLUMBUS, OHIO – The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) today began accepting applications for three grant opportunities, totaling \$150 million, to help child care programs defray unexpected business costs associated with the pandemic and to help stabilize operations. Eligible child care programs have until May 31, 2022, to apply.

“These grants will help strengthen our network of child care options across Ohio that were impacted by the pandemic,” said Governor Mike DeWine. “The availability of child care is an important part of our economic recovery and these funds will help not only providers, but also those individuals who rely on child care to maintain their own employment.”

The grants cover three areas:

- **Operating/New Pandemic Costs:** These funds are intended to provide assistance with costs incurred after the declaration of the federal public health emergency on January 31, 2020, through June 30, 2022.
- **Workforce Recruitment/Retention:** These funds are for personnel costs such as wages, benefits, sign-on and retention bonuses, background checks and training that are incurred between December 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.
- **Child Access Development:** These funds are to increase families' access to child care by providing funding to expand classrooms, increase access to technology, and address learning gaps and social/emotional needs of children. The expense period is December 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

“Working with our federal partners, ODJFS is providing additional support to child care programs across Ohio to reduce the impact of pandemic challenges,” said Matt Damschroder, Director of the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services. “Monies from these grants will help providers recruit and retain quality workers, as well as help expand classrooms, increase access to technology, and meet the social and emotional needs of Ohio’s children.”

These grants are available for ODJFS-regulated child care centers, family child care (FCC) type A and type B homes, in-home aides (IHA), and approved day camps, as well as Ohio Department of Education (ODE)-licensed preschool (PS) and school-age (SA) programs that are approved to provide publicly funded child care (PFCC). ODJFS-regulated child care programs do not need to be participating in PFCC to be eligible to apply for these sub-grants, however, ODE programs must be approved to provide PFCC at the time of application.



Guidance and requirements are available on the Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association's (OCCRRA) website, at [www.occrra.org](http://www.occrra.org). Eligible providers must submit an application through the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR), via a program's organization dashboard at <https://registry.occrra.org/>. Programs cannot exceed the maximum funding amount in the expense period for each sub-grant.

A paper application cannot be submitted but is available on the [Provider Pandemic Child Care Information page](#) to assist programs in developing their sending plan.

When applying for the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) stabilization sub-grants, applicants are required to provide owner/administrator demographics, program operational status, and program estimated monthly expense data as these items are federally required by ARPA.

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*The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services manages vital programs that strengthen Ohio families. These include job training and employment services, unemployment insurance, cash and food assistance child care, child and adult protective services, adoption, and child support services.*

