

Child Care Restoration Grants 2021



Illinois has been awarded \$331 million in financial aid to support child care through the latest federal relief package passed by the US Congress. Unlike the Child Care Restoration Grants (CCRG) in 2020, these funds will flow directly through the Illinois Department of Human Services. We know our state's recovery relies on the economic survival of our child care system. The continuation of the Child Care Restoration Grants is designed to help sustain child care as the economy continues to reopen.

The CCRG 2021 first round of grants will be retroactive to January 2021 and cover the months of January, February, and March 2021. Monthly reporting will be required and can be submitted at the end of the 3-month grant period.

Who is Eligible:

Licensed Child Care Centers

- Must be open and caring for children by March 15, 2021.
- Must be providing full-time care
- Must have at least 25% of the child care program's revenue received from private pay tuition or IDHS Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).

Licensed Family Child Care Home and Group Family Child Care Homes

- Must be open and caring for children by March 15, 2021.
- Must be providing full-time care
- Must have at least 25% of the child care program's revenue received from private pay tuition or IDHS Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP).

License-Exempt Child Care Centers and Out of School Time (OST) Providers

- Program must be open and caring for children by March 15, 2021.
- Government entities are not eligible to apply.

Programs that received a Child Care Restoration Grant in 2020

- Programs that received a Child Care Restoration Grant in 2020 are eligible and will need to 'opt in' to signify you would like to be included in the CCRG 2021 program. When applications open, more information will be provided on how programs can opt in for grant payments in 2021.
- Programs must have completed and accepted monthly reporting for grants received in 2020.

Programs applying for their first Child Care Restoration Grant

- Any licensed child care programs that did not previously apply for a Child Care Restoration Grant can apply in 2021.
- Any license-exempt out of school time center may apply if they meet the eligibility criteria.

How To Apply

- The Illinois Network of Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies (INCCRRA) will administer the CCRG 2021 program in the same way they did for the CCRG 2020.
 - INCCRRA will again provide technical assistance through their website and via email throughout the life of the CCRG 2021.
- All applicants will need to sign an 'attestation' - confirming the information they provide is true and accurate, and they agree to meet the terms and conditions of the grant agreement.
- All information related to the CCRG will be posted on the CCRG webpage <https://www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/restoration-grants>.
- An instructional webinar will be provided to each specific eligible provider-group before the application period is open to walk you through the opt in and application process.

The following items are required to complete a grant application. For new applicants, we encourage gathering these items as soon as possible to prepare for the application process.

- Access to the Gateways Registry Director Portal <https://registry.ilgateways.com/be-a-member/director-portal>
- A DUNS number <https://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/displayHomePage.do>
- Completed W9 <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw9.pdf>
- 2021 Attestation – this document will be shared soon.
- For centers only – an Illinois Secretary of State Certificate of Good Standing <https://apps.ilsos.gov/corporatellc/>

Applications Available

Mark your calendars, applications will be open and available online on the following dates. New Programs can apply, or existing programs can opt in for grant funds to cover expenses in January, February, and March 2021.

- Licensed Centers – Tuesday March 16, 2021
- Licensed Family Child Care – Wednesday March 18, 2021
- License Exempt Centers – Monday March 22, 2021

Applications will close at midnight on Wednesday March 31, 2021.

What to Expect:

Licensed Centers

Grants will be paid on a quarterly basis and as funding is available. The grant funding formula will follow the formula used for CCRG in 2020, with grants starting at \$1,000 per month. The grant funding formula considers several factors including licensed capacity, what area of the state you live in, if you have achieved an ExceleRate Circle of Quality, and if you are in a disproportionately impacted area (DIA).

Each quarter licensed centers will need to opt in through the Gateways Registry Director Portal for a grant payment. For licensed centers that received a grant payment in 2020, your grant payment in 2021 will be a percentage of your previous grant amount. Awards for new applicants will follow a similar formula. Programs will be required to complete monthly reporting.

Licensed Family Child Care

A one-time stipend will be paid to eligible licensed family child care for January, February, and March 2021. The stipend will range from \$700–\$900 per month for a 3-month total stipend award of \$2,100–2,700. The stipend funding formula considers several factors including type of license, if you have achieved a Circle of Quality, and if you are in a disproportionately impacted area (DIA). Programs will be required to complete monthly reporting.

License-Exempt Centers

A one-time stipend will be paid to eligible license-exempt centers for January, February, and March 2021. The stipend will range from \$3,000–\$20,000 per month. The funding formula considers several factors including capacity, and if you are in a disproportionately impacted area (DIA). Programs will be required to complete monthly reporting.

Technical Assistance webinars will be held the week of March 15, 2021. Look for information and webinar registration coming soon.

For more information visit <https://www.ilgateways.com/financial-opportunities/restoration-grants>.