

Financial Support to Child Care Businesses - Child Care Start-up Grants

Goal

To provide start-up grants to at least one group child care center and one family child care program in the city of La Crosse.

Benefits

This program will provide additional child care slots to the City of La Crosse by supporting new child care programs.

Eligibility Requirements

Programs must be working with pre-licensing or certification to become a regulated child care program within the city of La Crosse.

Selection Criteria

The following are items that will be taken into consideration when determining grant eligibility and amount:

- Number of potential child care slots
- Location of child care program
 - Priority will be given for areas with little to no child care options
- Programs willingness to accept families who receive WI Shares (child care subsidy)
- Program willingness to accept children under the age of 2 years old

The following rubric will be used to score applications to determine awarded applicants and the amount of funding:

Criteria	Points
Number of child care slots (maximum capacity)	1 point per slot
Number of slots that will serve children 0-24 months	Additional 1 point per slot
Accept WI Shares Subsidy	Additional 1 point per slot
Identified geographic area of need	5 points

Group Child Care Centers can receive a maximum of \$28,000 per center

Family Child Care Providers can receive a maximum of \$10,000 per program

The amount of money given will be determined on the amount of work and/or trainings that is needed to become regulated. The applications will be reviewed and scored by The Parenting Place. The Child Care Development Coordinator will work closely with the program to help identify if other funding sources are available as well as connect the program with other community supports.

Eligible Expenses

- Building costs
- Classroom materials
- Staff Training
- Required fees and expenses to obtain regulation

Ineligible expenses include:

- Staff wages
- Employee benefits
- Stipends to employees

Application Process

Programs must complete an application along with provide proof of pre-licensing or working with certification.

Award of Funds

Upon approval of awarded funds, applicants are required to sign an Acknowledgement of Start-Up Grant Spending. This document must be signed prior to disbursement of funds. *A copy of this document is attached.*

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Acknowledgement of Child Care Start-Up Grant Spending

By signing the Acknowledgement of Child Care Start-Up Grant Spending, I accept the responsibility that all money from this grant will be used for eligible expenses that was specified by the Child Care Start-Up Grant program and in compliance with Federal American Rescue Plan Act requirements. I agree to all terms of the Child Care Start-Up Grant Program and will be responsible to repay the grant should it be found the funds were spent in an ineligible way or if my program does not reach regulation.

Signature:

Name and Title: _____

Organization: _____