



American Rescue Plan Early Childhood & Home Visiting

Programs and Their Purposes

Child Care Development Block Grants - \$15 billion to subsidize child care for 875,000 children over the next year.

The Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Act provides federal funding to states for child care subsidies for low-income families with children under age 13, also serving to improve the overall quality of child care available to families within existing systems. These funds overall can be used to provide child care assistance to healthcare workers, emergency responders, sanitation workers, and other essential workers regardless of income. The funds can also be used to increase rates and compensation for providers, waive fees for families struggling to afford the cost of care, and ensure that underserved communities and populations have access to the care they need. Funds must be obligated within two years and should be used as a supplement, rather than a supplant, for other federal, state, and local funds. An estimation of the child care relief funding each state, D.C., and Puerto Rico will receive provided by The Center for Law and Social Policy can be found [here](#).

Head Start - \$1 billion to help programs continue (one-time grants, based on enrollment)

Head Start programs are available at no cost to children ages birth to 5 from low-income families and are designed to promote school readiness for low-income families. The programs are provided in a variety of settings from community centers and the family's own home in order to best engage parents or other key family members, with a focus on family wellbeing. The funding will enable Head Start to maintain its services, which now include accommodations such as increased cleaning procedures, smaller class sizes, and facility adaptations. The bill also directs funds towards Early Head Start which exists to serve infants and toddlers under the age of 3, and pregnant women. The funding is set to enable similar key points, however there is not yet any guidance on how the funds will be divided between the two programs.

Child Care Stabilization Funds - \$24 billion to sustain nearly 449,000 child care programs, impacting 7.3 million children.

Nearly \$24 billion creates a stabilization fund for eligible child care providers, including those who haven't previously received funding through CCDBG as long as they are a licensed, regulated, or registered child care provider in the State, territory, or Indian Tribe on the date of enactment and meet applicable State and local health and safety requirements. The grants are directed to states using the CCDBG formula which shifts 90% to providers based on operating expenses. Grantees must agree to follow CDC guidelines, not reduce pay for their employees, and provide financial assistance to families if possible, to receive funding. This fund is to be administered by state lead agencies, and is intended to support providers who are currently operating or are closed for COVID-related reasons. These funds can stabilize child care programs by covering expenses such as personnel costs, rent, maintenance, personal protective equipment (PPE), mental health support for children and early educators, and

reimbursement of any other costs that came as a result of the pandemic. States will be required to provide technical assistance to providers to ensure that the funds can be distributed equitably, and reach identified providers and communities most in need. Another 34 million is given in administrative funds for ACF to provide technical assistance, conduct research, and cover administrative costs. An estimation of the child care relief funding each state, D.C., and Puerto Rico will receive provided by The Center for Law and Social Policy can be found [here](#).

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program - \$150 million in additional funds

This provision boosts funding for the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV), which supports providers who offer in-home visitations and help pregnant women and new moms learn healthy parenting techniques to raise healthy babies and strengthen families. Through MIECHV professionals can visit at-risk families in their homes to evaluate their living situations and provide information on resources available to improve the health, educational, and economic opportunities for at-risk children. The funding is to be used for increased staff, technology assistance needed for virtual home visits, and emergency supplies such as food, water, PPE, diapers, and prepaid grocery cards. This provision also gives programs flexibility to offer visits by video, or even through email.

Timing of Funding

Child Care Development Block Grants

Available to be obligated in FY2021, FY2022, or FY2023. This adds one year to the typical obligation timeline for CCDBG funding. The funds were provided halfway through FY21 and would have effectively afforded states less time than usual.

- Two sections of underlying CCDBG law are waived for these funds.
 - First, states do not have to comply with a rule that requires them to spend 70% of their funding on direct services to families.
 - Second, states do not need to spend at least 12% of their funding on quality improvement activities.

Child Care Stabilization Funding

The legislation waives, for these funds, certain underlying rules of CCDBG that (1) require specific set-asides for quality activities and direct services, and (2) allow states to spend up to 5% for administrative costs.

Each lead agency may reserve up to 10% of the grant funds for the purposes of administering the subgrants and provide technical assistance and support to providers in applying for and accessing subgrants, including publicizing their availability. However, lead agencies must use no less than 90% of the grant funds to award subgrants to qualified child care providers.

These funds are available through September 30, 2021.

Learn more about the American Rescue Plan on the Results for America [website](#).