

# CHILD CARE FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

## Now accepting applications

Since opening applications for the New Jersey Child Care Facilities Improvement Program late last year, hundreds of child care centers throughout the state have submitted applications for funding. Collectively, these centers serve tens of thousands of the youngest New Jerseyans and employ thousands of staff in our vital early childhood workforce.

**We are pleased to share that in mid-March 2023, NJEDA made its first grant award approvals! Now that we have established the infrastructure to administer this complex program, we expect many more applications will be reviewed and approved in the near future.**

### What this means:

- We have NOT run out of funding. These initial grant approvals reflect only a small amount of the total funding available.
- Applications are being reviewed based on submission date and time. Application processing speed and approval may be impacted by how complete and thorough the application is at the time of submission (e.g., missing or incorrect documentation). As a result, it may take months for an application to move from initial submission to grant approval. We highly recommend that you address any identified issues quickly and thoroughly once identified. Please also find a complete list of documentation and requirements listed [HERE](#).
- As your application moves into the first stages of the review process, you will receive an email from a Child Care Grant Reviewer at the NJEDA. You may also get emails from [ChildCareFacilitiesImprovementProgram@njeda.gov](mailto:ChildCareFacilitiesImprovementProgram@njeda.gov) with other updates and information. We strongly recommend that you check your junk and spam filters to ensure that all emails from @njeda.gov are routed to your inbox.

This first-of-its-kind program has multiple stages of review and analysis, and more information can be found [HERE](#). The NJEDA is working hard to quickly and efficiently process applications. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to establish a brand-new program that delivers on Governor Murphy's commitment to strengthening the child-care sector and building a stronger, fairer New Jersey.

We will provide additional updates as the program continues to move forward. However, you can find answers to frequently asked questions or points of clarification that NJEDA has encountered since opening the Child Care Facilities Improvement Application in November 2022 [HERE](#).

Should you have additional questions, you can also contact [CustomerCare@njeda.com](mailto:CustomerCare@njeda.com), call (844) 965-1125, or use the Customer Care chat feature found on the NJEDA website.

The Child Care Facilities Improvement Program provides grants to New Jersey child care providers for facilities improvements that will contribute to high quality early childhood learning environments.



### AMOUNT

Grants to cover the full amount of project costs between \$50,000 and \$200,000

Up to 20% of grant may be used for soft costs (e.g., architects, environmental assessment)



### BENEFITS

Child care providers may propose interior and exterior facility improvements to enhance the quality of their facility and receive funding to cover the full project cost



### ELIGIBILITY

Open to child care centers licensed by the NJ Department of Children and Families as of June 4, 2021

Minimum project cost of \$50,000; maximum of \$200,000

In the past year, applicants must have enrolled at least 1 child receiving assistance through NJ Department of Human Services' Child Care Assistance Program

\*Additional terms apply. See eligibility below.

## PROGRAM GUIDE

- Program Details
- Eligibility
- Award Size
- Fees
- Interested Contractors

[APPLY HERE](#)



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[ELIGIBLE IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS](#)



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[TIPS FOR FINDING A CONTRACTOR](#)



[INTERESTED PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTOR LIST](#)



## INTERESTED CONTRACTORS

## PROGRAM DETAILS

Phase 1 of the Child Care Facilities Improvement Program will provide grants for total project costs between \$50,000 and \$200,000 to licensed child care providers to make improvements to their child care facility in order to:

- Provide funding to businesses—including many minority- and women-owned businesses and those in Opportunity Zone eligible census tracts—that otherwise may not have access to resources to fund facility improvements.
- Promote healthy childhood environments for children, families, and child care providers that were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Support the capacity of child care providers to provide infant and toddler care in tandem with the expansion of Universal Pre-K to serve more 4-year-olds in the state.
- Engage providers to participate in New Jersey's child care quality improvement rating system, Grow NJ Kids.
- Target resources to communities of greater need due to historic disinvestment, through set-aside for providers located in Opportunity Zones and include the requirement that providers serve low-income children receiving Child Care Assistance subsidies.

## PUBLIC WORKS CONTRACTOR RESOURCES

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## RECURSOS ADICIONALES (SP)

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## INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR

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## CONTACT US

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