

Louisiana Child Care Assistance Provider (LaCAP) Round 4 Grant

Overview: The impact of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic on the child care sector and Louisiana's most vulnerable families is significant. A [survey](#) conducted by the Louisiana Policy Institute for Children found the majority of child care providers have reported a loss in revenue, and a significant number of child care providers are facing temporary or permanent closures. As child care providers become operational again or remain open, they face additional costs related to increased cleaning and sanitation requirements detailed in the [Office of Public Health Guidelines for Child Care](#) and other activities necessary to maintain operations.

The Louisiana Department of Education is funding an additional grant opportunity for open Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) child care providers. In order to ensure that families who are returning to work and/or school are able to find child care options for their child(ren), it is critical to provide financial support to child care providers. This grant will help to support the early childhood field to rehabilitate during COVID-19 and continue offering high-quality care that helps to prepare children for kindergarten. In addition to costs for increased cleaning and sanitation, staffing, etc. the grant may be used to offset out-of-pocket child care balances incurred by CCAP families between March 16, 2020 through December 31, 2020. The grant is described below.

LaCAP Round 4 Grant: This grant will support CCAP providers for costs incurred from the pandemic, including balances from the inability of some CCAP parents to pay out-of-pocket costs. In an effort to support child care access for families in need, **providers must be operational and serving children by November 1, 2020.** If you are temporarily not operational due to Hurricane Laura or Hurricane Delta, but plan on reopening by December 31, please complete the application. We will work with you on a one-on-one basis. Operational costs such as staff salaries, staff recoupment bonuses, supplies, rent and utilities are allowed in addition to offsetting out-of-pocket child care balances incurred by CCAP families between March 16, 2020 through December 31, 2020. In an effort to increase attendance with providers, LDOE will be working with affected families from this time period on a case-by-case basis and may not require a zero balance letter should they want to choose another provider.

- **Eligible providers:**

- All **open** Type III, family child care and in-home providers currently CCAP certified are eligible to apply. If the owner or director of a [center](#) or [home](#) applies to become a CCAP provider by October 23, 2020, every effort will be made to certify the provider for CCAP, but is not guaranteed approval/certification. *Head Start and Early Head Start grantees are not eligible as there is a separate allocation for Head Start and Early Head Start from the CARES Act.*
 - The Division of Licensing must be notified that the center or home is open by November 1, 2020 prior to funds being distributed. You can verify your open status by looking for your site [here](#). If you are open and do not see your center or home listed [here](#), contact LDOE Division of Licensing at ldelicensing@la.gov for notification.
 - Programs do not currently have to serve a CCAP-eligible child to be eligible for funding, but it is encouraged.
 - **Important:** If the center changes from a Type III to a Type I or Type II center prior to December 31, 2020, this award will be recouped.
- **Grant award amount:** Payment will be \$187.50 per child, based on the licensed capacity. As an incentive to enroll CCAP children, including those that may have an outstanding out-of-pocket balance incurred between

March 16 and November 1 2020, a supplemental \$50 per CCAP authorized child enrolled by October 1, 2020 will also be paid. The amount is based on the following:

- The maximum CCAP payment for infants of \$25 for 1 week (5 business days) = \$125 per child in licensed capacity **PLUS** the difference between the 75th percentile rate (\$31.25) and maximum CCAP payment for infants (\$25) for two weeks (10 business days) for Type III centers which is \$6.25 for 10 business days = \$62.50 per child in licensed capacity; and
- \$50 per CCAP authorized child enrolled by October 1, as determined by LDOE.

We are anticipating that these payments will be issued by the third week in November 2020. The Supplemental CCAP portion of the grant will be issued the fourth week in November 2020. To apply for the grant, please complete the brief [application](#).

Deadline for submitting the LaCAP Round 4 Grant application is Thursday, October 22, 2020.