

Family Child Care Capital Grant Program Q&A

General Information

1. Q: What is the Family Child Care Capital Grant Program?
 - a. The Family Child Care Capital Grant Program (FCCCG) is a funding initiative administered by MassDevelopment and funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts' Department of Early Education and Care (EEC). It provides grants of up to \$25,000 to licensed Family Child Care Programs in Massachusetts to support space improvements and enhance program capacity. The deadline for submissions is 11:59pm on August 16, 2024.
2. Q: Who is eligible to apply for this grant?
 - a. To be eligible, a child care provider must:
 - i. Operate a licensed in-home Family Child Care Program in Massachusetts as defined in 606 CMR 7.00.
 - ii. Have an active EEC license or be in the renewal process.
 - iii. Be in regulatory good standing, with no investigations with serious findings or legal actions in the past five years.
 - iv. Have been providing licensed child care for at least two years.
 - v. Operate a minimum of four days per week.
 - vi. Own the home where the child care program is operated.
3. Are FCC's who rent their home eligible for funding?
 - a. No, FCC's must own or hold the mortgage to the property they operate in. We are actively looking into the feasibility of including FCC renters for the second round anticipated in 2025.
4. Q: When is the application deadline?
 - a. The application deadline for the first round is August 16, 2024, by 11:59 pm. There will be a second round in 2025.
5. Q: Where can I find the application form?
 - a. A: The application form is available on the MassDevelopment website at [Grant Programs - MassDevelopment](#).

Funding Details

6. Q: Will everyone get \$25,000?
 - a. No, the FCCG is a competitive program with limited funds available for the pilot round. Not every applicant is guaranteed to receive their total request on their application.
7. Q: Will all Family Child Care Programs Receive Funding?
 - a. No, the FCC Capital Grant is a competitive program with limited funds available for the pilot round. Not every applicant is guaranteed to receive an award.
8. How much can FCC's get?

- a. Applicants can apply for up to \$25,000.
9. Can I get \$25,000 for each tier?
- a. No, providers have an overall cap of \$25,000.
10. Q: What can the grant funds be used for?
- a. Grant funds can be used for:
 - i. Tier 1: Durable Equipment: Purchase and installation of fixed and integrated equipment with a useful life of three or more years.
 - ii. Tier 2: Capital Improvements: Improvements to indoor and outdoor spaces to enhance the quality of care, increase capacity, or improve health and safety.
11. Can the funds be used to rent durable equipment?
- a. No, the funds cannot be used to rent durable equipment.
12. What does Durable mean?
- a. "Durable," defined as equipment that has a useful life of three or more years, and "Fixed and integrated" in its physical space. This means that furniture or other equipment that is easily movable is ineligible under this program.
13. What kind of itemization is expected when applying for this grant?
- a. The application gives examples as to the level of itemization required for the costs of the project.
14. Q: What are examples of eligible projects under Tier 1?
- a. Eligible projects include the installation and purchase of:
 - i. Laundry equipment for program operations.
 - ii. Food storage appliances like refrigerators or freezers.
 - iii. Non-portable, fixed play structures.
 - iv. Security equipment such as cameras and access control systems.
15. Q: What are examples of eligible projects under Tier 2?
- a. Eligible projects include:
 - i. Improvements to exterior spaces like resurfacing pavement or installing fencing.
 - ii. Upgrades to heating, air conditioning, and ventilation systems.
 - iii. Renovation or expansion of indoor spaces such as play areas and rest areas.
 - iv. Bathroom renovations specific to child care use.
 - v. Emergency repairs and system upgrades.
16. Q: What are ineligible uses of the grant funds?
- a. Funds cannot be used for administrative costs, salaries, payroll, mortgage payments, rent, utilities, insurance, operating or working capital costs, automotive, previously completed work, or work started before the grant agreement.

Application and Evaluation

17. Should I pay someone to help me fill the application?
- a. No, Please contact the Help Desk with any issues, questions, or if you need technical assistance by calling 1-833-600-2074 or emailing ecgrantsupport@mtxb2b.com There hours are M-F 8am-430pm.
 - b. You may also reach out to your Professional Development Center:
 - i. Western MA Professional Development Center
Holyoke Community College serves as the Western MA Professional Development Center. For additional information on the Western MA PDC or to inquire about coaching services, contact westernpdc@hcc.edu or contact a Western MA PDC staff member.
 1. Kimm Quinlan, Director of Early Childhood Initiatives, KQuinlan@HCC.edu or 413-552-2215
 2. Amanda Thayer, Early Childhood Initiatives Program Administrator, AThayer@HCC.edu or 413-552-2594
 3. Liz Charland-Tait, Lead Coach, ECharlandTait@HCC.edu or 413-552-2591
 - ii. Central MA Professional Development Center: Connected Beginnings at The University of Massachusetts Amherst, Donahue Institute serves as the Central MA Professional Development Center. For additional information on the Central MA PDC or to inquire about coaching services, contact:
 1. Mary Watson Avery, Coordinator, MWatsonAvery@umass.edu or 617-448-9729
 - iii. Northeast MA Professional Development Center: The Community Group serves as the Northeast MA Professional Development Center. For additional information on the Northeast MA PDC or to inquire about coaching services, contact:
 1. Luisana Lizardo, Program Coordinator, llizardo@thecommunitygroupinc.org or 978-722-2505
 - iv. Southeast MA Professional Development Center: Child Development and Education, Inc. serves as the Southeast MA Professional Development Center. For additional information on the Southeast MA PDC or to inquire about coaching services, contact:
 1. Nicole Miles, Program Coordinator, Southeastpdc@cdedu.co or 781-870-7009
 - v. Metro Boston Professional Development Center: The Institute for Early Education Leadership & Innovation at the University of Massachusetts Boston serves as the Metro Boston Professional Development Center. For additional information on the Metro Boston PDC or to inquire about coaching services, contact: 617-287-4383

1. Deb Johnston-Malden, Metro Boston PDC Coordinator, debra.johnstonmalden@umb.edu
2. Eric Burkes, Metro Boston Training Coordinator, eric.burkes@umb.edu
3. Maria Teixeira, Metro Boston Lead Coach, maria.teixeira@umb.edu

18. Q: What is required for a complete application?

- a. A PDF of the application can be reviewed before submitting online. Please use this [link](#) and select the arrow next to “Application” to review the application in your language of choice.

19. Q: How will applications be evaluated?

- a. Applications will be evaluated based on:
 - i. Alignment with program objectives.
 - ii. Project feasibility and alignment with industry cost standards.
 - iii. Capacity for execution.
 - iv. Timeline to completion.
 - v. Geographic and demographic diversity.

20. Q: What are the key dates for this grant round?

- a. Key dates include:
 - i. Guidelines and application available: June 28, 2024
 - ii. Program overview videos posted: July 9, 2024
 - iii. Live Q&A webinars: July 15 and 17, 2024
 - iv. Deadline for questions: July 18, 2024
 - v. Answers posted online: August 1, 2024
 - vi. Application deadline: August 16, 2024
 - vii. Grant notifications: Early Spring, 2025

Post-Award Requirements

21. Q: What are the expectations for grant recipients?

- a. Grant recipients must:
 - i. Remain in operation providing continuous service at the grant application site for at least two years post-award.
 - ii. Complete the project as outlined in the application.
 - iii. Submit annual surveys quantifying project impact and outcomes for two years post-award.

22. Q: How will grant funds be disbursed?

- a. Seventy-five percent of the grant funds will be disbursed upon execution of the grant agreement and evidence of securing products or services. The remaining 25% will be disbursed after project completion certification.

23. Q: Are there specific requirements for contractors?

- a. Yes, grantees must use licensed contractors for Tier 2 projects and ensure they are not debarred or suspended according to Commonwealth regulations. Contractors must sign a certification form included in the grant agreement.

24. Q. Who can I talk to for help?

- a. Please contact the Help Desk with any issues, questions, or if you need technical assistance by calling 1-833-600-2074 or emailing ecgrantsupport@mtxb2b.com

For more information or to apply, visit the MassDevelopment website at [Grant Programs - MassDevelopment](#). Questions can be directed via email to ecgrantsupport@mtxb2b.com.