CRRSA Update for Early Childhood and Out-of-School Programs

May 25, 2020
Today's Webinar:

1. Updated health and safety guidelines for child care programs
2. *Build, Learn, Grow* Program progress
3. Important program reminders
4. Ways for programs to stay informed and engaged
Build, Learn, Grow Program Progress

**Enabling Programs to Regain Stability**
- Providing direct support for increased operating costs
- Assisting programs in rebuilding their workforce
- Boosting enrollment through expanded child care benefits
- Continuing support for temporary closures

**Delivering Support to Children and Families**
- Waiving CCDF co-pays for currently enrolled families
- Offering tuition scholarships for children of essential workers
- Providing child care assistance for Ivy Tech students and job seekers

**Introducing New Statewide Supports**
- Monitoring recovery through a new enrollment dashboard
- Deploying business sustainability training for providers
- Planning for the launch of an online child care marketplace this fall
- Implementing a new shared substitute pool for the field

Prepared by MAPT Solutions
# Enabling Programs to Regain Stability: Initiatives Currently Underway

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Initiative</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Timeframe</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Emergency Relief Grants</td>
<td>Grants offer a 20% increase to reimbursements for programs serving children with active CCDF/On My Way Pre-K vouchers to help offset increased operating costs.</td>
<td>March 28 through Sept. 10, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Child Care Closure Grants</td>
<td>Closure grants provide support to programs facing temporary closure of a classroom or facility due to a positive COVID-19 case.</td>
<td>Through the end of 2021</td>
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<td>Increased CACFP Reimbursement</td>
<td>Programs participating in CACFP are eligible to receive increased reimbursements to assist with COVID-related food expenses.</td>
<td>CACFP claims for meals provided from May-Sept. 2021</td>
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<td>Waived Background Check Fees</td>
<td>To support programs in hiring new staff, the state is waiving background check fees for child care programs’ employees.</td>
<td>April 2021 through April 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Hire Onboarding Stipends</td>
<td>To support programs’ workforce recruitment and onboarding costs, the state is issuing $400 stipends to child care programs for each new hire.</td>
<td>April 2021 through April 2022</td>
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<td>Equipment and Supply Allowances</td>
<td>The state is making available a one-time allowance to help programs rebuild their supply of COVID-19 health- and safety-related materials.</td>
<td>May 7 through July 31, 2021</td>
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80% of Indiana’s planned *Build, Learn, Grow* initiatives are now live, making Indiana one of only two states in the region and a small group in the nation, to release any CRRSA funds.
ONE-TIME EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY ALLOWANCE

In partnership with Fastenal, the Office of Early Childhood and Out-of-School Learning is making available one-time equipment and supply allowances to programs to replenish health and safety-related supplies and maintain compliance with updated guidance.

Allowance Amounts
- Centers $2,000
- Homes $1,000
- Ministries $1,500
- Exempt programs $800

Eligibility and Allowance Amounts
Programs must be CCDF-eligible

Time Period
Allowances were announced to all eligible programs on May 5, and then between May 5-24, program administrators were invited to create their account and purchase allowances by program type. Allowances must be used by July 30, 2021.

How it Works
By setting type, program administrators are invited to create accounts at Fastenal.com and purchase items from a pre-approved supplies list. Purchases will be delivered to the respective programs and billed to the state of Indiana.

If your program is eligible and you have not received an invitation by end of day 5/25/21, contact Fastenal Support at oecosl@fastenal.com or (866) 237-4647.
Program Reminder: Fundamentals of Business Sustainability Training

Providers are required to participate in SPARK Learning Labs’ new Fundamentals for Business Sustainability training which empowers providers with new business management training and includes seven (7) hours of approved in-service training for PTQ. Programs have until August 31, 2021, to complete.

The training collection includes the following:
- Financial Health: Elements of Budgeting
- Financial Health: Financial Goals and Cost Benefit Analysis
- Financial Self-Assessment and Action Plan
- Pricing Models for Successful Business
- Strategies to Raise Wages
- Boosting Enrollment When Your Program Needs it Most
- Coronavirus Resources for Child Care Providers

How To Access
To access the training, log in to ilead.in.gov and click “Start Your Indiana Learning Path”. Once there, choose “Courses” from the left-side menu. Search for the training name and register.
Poll Question #1

How is your program making use of child care relief funds? *Select up to three responses.*

Answer choices:

- [ ] Enrollment marketing
- [ ] Hiring new staff
- [ ] Staff wage increases or bonuses
- [ ] Reopening classrooms
- [ ] Providing tuition assistance to families
- [ ] Offsetting increased operating expenses incurred during COVID
- [ ] Purchasing COVID-related equipment and supplies
- [ ] Investing in instructional quality improvements
- [ ] Implementing technology to strengthen operations
- [ ] Other
## Supporting Children and Families

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<td>Waived CCDF Co-Pays</td>
<td>CCDF co-pays for families with active CCDF vouchers are waived to provide temporary relief to families.</td>
<td>March 28 through Oct. 23, 2021</td>
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<td>Build, Learn, Grow Scholarship Fund</td>
<td>The fund offers families of essential workers scholarships toward their children’s early care and education, summer learning or out-of-school time care.</td>
<td>May 2021 through October 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivy Tech Partnership to Support Students</td>
<td>To better support vulnerable student populations in achieving educational goals, OECOSL is providing streamlined and prioritized access to CCDF assistance.</td>
<td>Summer 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Care Assistance for Job Seekers</td>
<td>As a temporary service to help families displaced from the workforce find new employment and more children enroll in quality child care programs, “Job Search” has been added as a valid service need for initial eligibility for On My Way Pre-K and CCDF-funded programs.</td>
<td>April 2021 until funds/demand are depleted</td>
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Learn more about *Build, Learn, Grow* child and family initiatives at [https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/build-learn-grow/families](https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/build-learn-grow/families)
Expanding Support for Families of Essential Workers through the Build, Learn, Grow Scholarship Fund

- Participating Providers: 978
- Children Served: 1,328
- Claim Submissions: 733
- Representing $2.2M
- Funds Released to Providers: $552,654
- Avg. Award Per Child: $1,760
- Counties Represented: +20

+50 applications have been identified as CCDF eligible
Expanded eligibility to be announced soon...

Find details about expanded eligibility for Build, Learn, Grow Scholarships on or after 5/27/21 at https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/scholarships.
Tools to Market the **Build, Learn, Grow** Scholarship Fund in Your Community

Your family may qualify for a Build, Learn, Grow Scholarship – covering 80% of your tuition until October. Visit [https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/scholarships/families](https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/scholarships/families) to learn more and apply.

Access program marketing tools and resources here: [https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/build-learn-grow/toolkit](https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/build-learn-grow/toolkit)

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**Email Marketing**

**Text Messaging**

**Social media promotions**
Building for the Future: Assessing Indiana's Child Care Supply and Demand

As part of the Build, Learn, Grow program, OECOSL has launched the Program Enrollment Dashboard to help provide insight into early childhood education supply and demand gaps across our state. These insights inform ongoing and future relief and recovery efforts to restore enrollment to pre-pandemic levels and rebuild Indiana’s early childhood education workforce.

Check out the new Program Enrollment Dashboard here: https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/scholarships/enrollment
What We're Seeing...

• Program reporting of open positions decreased by 600+ positions across the system, suggesting that programs, especially larger high-quality programs, are using the security of increased reimbursements and hiring supports to begin hiring and rebuilding their teams.

• Both immediate vacancies and max enrollment numbers increased between reporting periods, indicating that some of the state’s providers are reopening seats and/or classrooms to be able to serve an expanded number of children.

• Enrollment within the system increased by more than 1,300+ seats, 82% of which was concentrated in high-quality programs.
Reminder to Complete Bi-Weekly Program Enrollment Report

To remain in good standing, CCDF-eligible programs are required to report enrollment data every two weeks via an easy-to-use mobile interface.

To access the form, simply log in with your program’s registered email address and license number.

Once you’ve logged in, it only takes a few minutes to complete the form. Descriptions of the requested data are located on the form to help guide you through the process.

The Program Enrollment Report is open now through May 21. If you have not received a link to complete, contact the Brighter Futures Indiana Solution Center at 1-800-299-1627 or by email at Solutioncenter@earlylearningindiana.org

The Program Enrollment Report

Executive Order
Enrollment report
Notice of enrollment
Reporting service
Notifications
Resources
Contact us

Prepared by MAPT Solutions
System-Building on the Horizon...

Rebuilding the Workforce
To help programs rebuild their teaching teams, OECOSL will issue a statewide industry-building campaign to raise awareness and interest in early care and education careers.

Making Care-Finding Easier and More Efficient
In partnership with Early Learning Indiana, OECOSL will support the launch of a statewide online marketplace for child care to increase quality, modernize care finding and introduce new marketing supports for programs.

Shared Resource Pools for Providers
To build workforce capacity, OECOSL will support the creation of shared substitute pools by partnering with INAEYC to establish a Substitute Teacher certificate and assist workers in becoming ready to work.

New Technology Supports
Now more than ever, programs should be thinking about how technology and automation can strengthen business operations. OECOSL will support this in coming months through strategic capacity-building incentives.
Poll Question #2

Which of these system-building efforts would yield the most value to your program? 
*Select up to two.*

- Workforce recruitment campaign
- New online child care marketplace
- Shared substitute teacher pool
- New business technology supports
Closing Reminders for Programs

1. **CCDF-eligible programs are required to complete the Program Enrollment Report.** Program submissions for the third reporting period were due by close of business on May 21. Complete the form here: (link to form.)

2. **To receive scholarships from eligible families,** complete the 30-minute *Build, Learn, Grow* Scholarship Fund Information Session in Indiana Learning Paths. Log in or create a free account at ilead.in.gov to complete.

3. **Take advantage of your one-time equipment and supply allowance for purchasing health- and safety-related supplies.** If your program is eligible but has not received an invitation to create an account and place your order, contact Fastenal Support at oecosl@fastenal.com or (866) 237-4647.

4. **Complete the SPARK “Fundamentals for Business Sustainability” training in Indiana Learning Paths.** Log in or create a free account at ilead.in.gov to complete.

5. **Programs can now submit claims for increased CACFP reimbursement for costs incurred during the month of May.** Submit CACFP claims as you normally would; the increased reimbursement will apply automatically.

Prepared by MAPT Solutions
Poll Question #3

How would you rate the communication you are receiving on the Build, Learn, Grow program?

☐ Communication is good; I feel well informed.
☐ There is too much communication; I feel overwhelmed.
☐ I would be happier with more communication.
Staying Engaged

For more information about any of the initiatives discussed today, please visit https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/build-learn-grow

Find frequently asked questions for all Build, Learn, Grow initiatives at https://brighterfuturesindiana.org/build-learn-grow/faq

For help, contact the Brighter Futures Indiana Solution Center via email, phone or chat, Monday-Thursday 8 a.m.-7 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Call (800) 299-1627, email Solutioncenter@earlylearningindiana.org or live chat at https://ileadhelp.org.