



# LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

February 25, 2021

Director  
Office of Child Care  
Administration for Children and Families  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
330 C Street SW  
Washington DC, 20201

## **Re: Planned Use of Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2021 (CRRSA) Funds Report**

The State of Louisiana, Department of Education, the CCDF Lead Agency appreciates the ability to submit its plan for use of the CRRSA funds. After many conversations with providers and stakeholders, as well as conducting a survey from providers and stakeholders, the Lead Agency plans on the following use of the funds which are subject to change.

### **Direct Child Care Services (Subsidies)**

Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to **provide direct child care services**, including child care subsidy assistance to health care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, farm and other food service workers, and/or other workers deemed essential or frontline during the response to coronavirus? If yes, describe. Yes, the Lead Agency plans on using approximately \$46 million to continue to pay subsidy on enrollment through the end of the 2021 calendar year.

### **Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices**

Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to provide **resources, supplies, and/or technical assistance** to child care providers to **support implementation of health and safety practices and policies** in line with guidance from State and local health departments and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)? If yes, describe. Yes, the Lead Agency plans on providing a package of operational/quality supports (approximately \$4.6 million) to address technology needs, additional PPE, etc.

### **Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers**

Does the lead agency plan to use CRRSA funds to support the **stability of the child care sector to help child care providers** (program facilities and workforce) pay for increased operating expenses during the COVID-19 public health emergency? If yes, describe. Yes, the Lead Agency plans on providing stabilization grants (approximately \$78.5 million) through calendar year 2021 to Type III licensed centers and subsidy certified

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family home providers. These grants can be used for rent, staffing, tuition of subsidy families (the gap between what the state pays and the providers' charges), etc. The Lead Agency also plans on providing Community Recovery Grants (approximately \$6.4 million) that will assist networks in their efforts to assess needs and provide targeted supports to providers in their community, and Supply Building Grants for Communities (approximately \$5.3 million) that will be used by community networks to develop and implement a plan to create new child care opportunities to address access gaps and child care deserts through innovative solutions. In addition, the Lead Agency plans on providing a package of business supports (approximately \$2.7 million) for child care, including a microloan pilot program. Lastly, the Lead Agency plans on providing Type III early childhood teacher stimulus/stipend pay (approximately \$26.9 million).

### **Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic**

As required in CRRSA, how does the lead agency plan to use a portion of funds appropriated in CRRSA to provide assistance to CCDF-eligible child care providers not participating in the subsidy system prior to the COVID-19 public health emergency? Yes, the Lead Agency plans on providing stabilization grants (approximately \$23.8 million) through calendar year 2021 to Type I and II licensed centers (non-subsidy providers) and non-subsidy certified family home providers.

### **Other**

Does the lead agency plan to use a portion of CRRSA child care funds for any other activities or assistance not described above? If yes, describe. Yes, the Lead Agency plans on using some CRRSA funds to improve family engagement, absorb some child care criminal background check fees and licensing fees, etc.

If you have any further questions, please contact me at [lisa.brochard@la.gov](mailto:lisa.brochard@la.gov).

Sincerely,

/s/

Lisa G. Brochard  
Child Care and Development Fund Grant State Administrator  
Deputy Assistant Superintendent of Early Childhood Operations

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