



**CABINET FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY SERVICES**  
**Department for Community Based Services**  
**Office of the Commissioner**

**Andy Beshear**  
Governor

275 East Main Street, 3W-A  
Frankfort, KY 40621  
502-564-3703  
502-564-6907  
[www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs](http://www.chfs.ky.gov/agencies/dcbs)

**Eric C. Friedlander**  
Secretary

**Marta Miranda-Straub**  
Commissioner

February 25, 2021

Director, Office of Child Care  
Administration for Children and Families  
330 C Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Director,

Please accept this as Kentucky's formal plan to distribute the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act funding to child care programs throughout the Commonwealth of Kentucky. Kentucky was awarded just over \$195.5 Million dollars in funding. These funds will be dedicated in the following manner:

**\$165 Million dedicated to sustainment payment funding for regulated child care providers (licensed, certified, and registered providers).**

- All payments to licensed and certified child care providers will be based on capacity. All payments to registered child care providers will be based on enrollment.
- The first payment will be \$300 per child. The following three payments will be \$260 per child and follow in two month intervals.
- Child care programs shall use portions of this funding for staff salaries. This may include salary increases or hazard pay for providers working during the KY State of Emergency.
- Funding can also be used for fixed expenses (like rent/mortgage, utilities, insurance premiums, etc.), PPE, cleaning supplies, and food.
- Child care programs must keep receipts on site for five years in the event of an audit.

**\$3 Million to KARES background check system to pay for fingerprint background checks for child care providers once fingerprinting resumes.**



**\$4.5 Million in Training and Technical Assistance:**

- \$3,000,000 will be dedicated to CPR, First Aid, Epi Pen, and Blood Borne Pathogen training for child care providers throughout the state. The Division of Child Care will utilize “approved training agencies” as defined in 922 KAR 2:240. Mini-grants will be awarded to “approved training agencies” to pay for the trainers as well as certification for child care providers.
- \$1,500,000 will be dedicated to resiliency and trauma-informed care training. The Division of Child Care will contract with the Early Childhood Mental Health Specialists in the Department of Public Health. The ECMHS team will utilize “provider cafes” in a virtual setting to help child care providers debrief on their own trauma throughout the pandemic. The ECMHS team will also provide training to child care providers on how to support children who are experiencing trauma.

**\$20 Million dedicated to paying parent co-pays for children in the Child Care Assistance Program beginning on February 1<sup>st</sup> and lasting as funding allows.**

This distribution of funding addresses all the areas of need identified at the federal level. A total of \$20 Million will be used towards direct funds for child care services and subsidies to support families in need. Continued support for providers to purchase Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and to receive training on health and safety practices will assist with mitigation of the virus. The largest portion of the funding will go towards sustainment stipends to stabilize the entire field of child care in Kentucky, including those programs that do not typically rely on the child care subsidy program.

Also, Kentucky is providing funds for resiliency training for child care providers to assist with the mental health strain on the pandemic. The final financial portion will go towards the cost of fingerprint background checks. During the pandemic, child care providers had to utilize name-based background checks and pay to process those checks. Once the fingerprint background checks re-open, the employs who used those paper background checks will need to pay for the fingerprint checks as well. Kentucky is using federal funds to help alleviate those costs.

If there are any additional questions regarding the expenditure of the CRRSA Act funds, please reach out so that we may clarify your questions.

Sincerely,

Sarah T. Vanover  
Director, Division of Child Care

cc: Eric R. Blanchette, OCC Regional Program Manager, Region IV  
Anna Carter, Region IV State Systems Specialist  
Melissa Davis, Region IV Program Specialist  
Lesa Dennis, Deputy Commissioner, KY Department for Community Based Services