

American Rescue Plan Proposal

Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education

STABILIZATION - 286M*

90% of funding must go to existing providers and up to 10% can be used for new programs.

Subgrant Payments - \$258M**

Provider must have operated a center on or before March 11, 2021 to qualify.

Quality Improvement

Funding to assist providers in obtaining a higher level of quality. Eligible funding amounts are determined based on a cost analysis of the amount necessary to move up one level in quality.

Operational

Funding to assist providers in paying operational expenses associated with remaining open or sustaining a business during the public health emergency. This funding is also available for stabilizing operation as providers continue to serve children.

Child Care Expansion for Existing Business

Funding to address gaps in access to high quality childcare across the State of Arkansas. Existing providers will be awarded funding based on the population they are seeking to serve and capacity they will create. Funding can be used to cover costs tied to operational start-up and expansion. Funding is also available to encourage providers to partner with local businesses to expand or open facilities that will provide additional access to the essential workforce in Arkansas.

Supply Building - \$25M

Funding contracted out through public/private partnerships to create new child care centers across Arkansas for the essential workforce including care for non-traditional hours.



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SUPPLEMENTAL DISCRETIONARY - 178M

Essential Worker Child Care - \$130M

Funding to continue assisting Arkansas's Essential Workforce in paying for child care services. Essential Worker Child Care will be extended through September 2024 or until funding has been exhausted.

TEACH Scholarship Program - \$40M

Funding to cover scholarships for early childhood teachers to obtain a degree or credential in the field. Funding will be disseminated out by the Arkansas Early Childhood Association using the national TEACH model.

ADMINISTRATIVE - \$11M***

***Administrative budget is \$3M from Stabilization and \$8M from Supplemental Discretionary Funds

Personnel - \$4M

Funding to cover personnel to assist with the implementation of Stabilization and Supplemental Discretionary Funds.

IT Upgrades and Other - \$7M

Funding to cover IT upgrades for internally and externally facing systems.

