

# American Rescue Plan Proposal

## Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education

### STABILIZATION - 286M\*

\*90% of funding must go to existing facilities and up to 10% can be used for new programs

#### **Subgrant Payments - \$258M\*\***

\*\*Facility must have been open on or before March 11, 2021 to qualify.

#### **Quality Improvement**

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

#### **Operational**

Funding to assist facilities in paying operational expenses incurred during the pandemic.

#### **Child Care Expansion of Existing Business**

Funding to address out of school time and infant/toddler early childhood education gaps across the state of Arkansas. Existing facilities will be awarded a subgrant amount based on the type and amount of increased capacity. Funding will cover minor renovations of existing classrooms, classroom start-up, or partnerships with local businesses to support essential workers by expanding or opening an on-site campus.

#### **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.

### 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 22 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.

