

Group and School Age (GSA) Programs

What is the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Child Care Stabilization Grant?

The American Rescue Plan Act was signed by President Biden on March 11, 2021, and includes federal COVID-19 relief dollars to support child care providers in the United States. Massachusetts was awarded \$314 million dollars and EEC developed the new Commonwealth Cares for Children (C3) formula to distribute up to 6-month direct grants to child care providers.

What is the C3 formula?

<p>TOTAL</p>	=	<p>BASE AMOUNT</p> <p>↳ All GSA programs will receive a base amount calculated based on licensed capacity and staffing costs</p>	+	<p>EQUITY ADJUSTMENT</p> <p>↳ Some GSA providers will also receive additional funds (Level 1 or Level 2) based on the vulnerability of the communities they serve</p>
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Who is eligible for the EEC ARPA Child Care Stabilization Grant?

- All programs licensed by EEC as of March 11, 2021 **and** open to serve children at the time of application are eligible for this funding.
- These grants are not competitive. All child care providers that apply and meet the eligibility criteria will be awarded funds. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

The application process

- The application opened on the LEAD portal on August 3, 2021. The stabilization grants will be available from July–December 2021. You should apply for the first month that you meet the eligibility criteria to begin the application.
- Monthly funding amounts will be calculated based on the information submitted in your application. You will have an opportunity to confirm or update your application information each month.
- The application includes 10 sections:

– Instructions	– Equity adjustment
– Program information	– Attestation
– Operation hours	– Banking information
– Capacity information	– W9 details
– Staff information	– Review and summary

Grant funds may only be used for one or more of the purposes below:

- Personnel costs, benefits, premium pay, and recruitment and retention
- Rent or mortgage payments, utilities, facilities maintenance and improvements, or insurance
- Personal protective equipment, cleaning and sanitation supplies and services, or training and professional development related to health and safety practices
- Purchases of or updates to equipment and supplies to respond to COVID-19
- Goods and services necessary to maintain or resume child care services
- Mental health supports for children and employees
- Paying for past expenses incurred after January 31, 2020

To complete the application, you will need:

- Your program ID
- Race/ethnicity and gender of Center Director
- Confirmation of EEC consumer web page rate and hours information
- Enrollment information as of the first of the current month
- Staffing information, including salary, benefits and additional stipends
- Scholarship information
- Monthly expenses (optional)
- Attestations: maintain salaries and providing tuition relief (to the extent possible)
- Banking and tax information

Resources

To apply or learn more about the C3 formula, stabilization grant, and application process:

- Visit [EEC's website](#)
- Visit [EEC's Strategic Action Plan Engagement Portal](#)
- View the [Grant Application User Guide](#)
- View the [Grant Application Video Guide](#)

For help with the application, contact the ARPA Child Care Stabilization Grants Help Desk Support by calling 833-600-2074 or emailing eecgrantsupport@mtxb2b.com.