

Idaho Child Care Expansion Grants, administered by the Workforce Development Council, will increase the number of child care seats available to working families by targeting employers and/or child care providers willing to build new on-site or near-site child care facilities or expand existing facilities.



Grant Application Deadlines:

- August 15, 2022
- October 1, 2022
- January 1, 2023

Employers and/or child care providers that are seeking to add or expand capacity in Idaho can apply or get more information here: <https://wdc.idaho.gov/grants>

Child care is one of the most critical work supports for parents to successfully participate in the labor market. Since the pandemic, labor force participation rates in Idaho have decreased and one of the major factors is lack of child care options.

According to Idaho's most recent Child Care Gap Assessment 74,670 children have the potential need for child care, and there are only 55,850 child care slots, leaving a gap of nearly 20,000 seats needed to get Idaho parents back to work.

Program Goals

- Increase child care seats statewide by approximately 1,000 by the end of 2024.
- Prioritize small providers, and providers who practice evidence-based high quality care.

The purpose of the fund is to encourage and enable businesses and employer consortiums to create and develop on-site, or near-site child care centers or partner with local and regional child care services to increase available slots for an employer's employees (not at the expense of existing or available slots in the local area).

Fund Availability

The Workforce Development Council has \$15 million dollars under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to expand high quality child care in Idaho. \$4 million dollars is set aside until March 1, 2023, for small providers serving 12 or fewer children. All funds must be obligated by June 30, 2023 and spent by October 31, 2024.

- Maximum of \$15,000 per child served is available to applicants to support the addition of new seats.
- 50% minimum cash and/or in-kind match is required.

Resources are available for existing providers looking to expand or employers looking to start a new child care program at <https://wdc.app.s360.is/grants/#childcare-expansion-grant>



Through its committees, programs, and collaborations, like **Child Care Expansion Grants**, the Idaho Workforce Development Council helps to connect Idahoans to career opportunities, and Idaho's employers to a qualified workforce.

Who We Are

Established in 2017, the Council is made up of 37 Governor appointed members from throughout the state, including 17 Idaho employers, 10 state government representatives, 7 workforce representatives, a member from each chamber of the legislature, and a representative of the Governor.

Represented industry sectors include Healthcare, Construction, Technology, Aerospace, Energy, Finance, Professional Services, and Advanced Manufacturing. The Council also serves as the State Workforce Development Board.

.....

Vision

We envision a future where Idaho's diverse and prepared workforce meets the needs of our unique communities and employers.

Mission

We champion strategies that prepare Idahoans for careers that meet employers' needs.

.....

What We Do

The Council's work is focused on three strategic goals:

- Increasing the public awareness of and access to career education and training opportunities.
- Improving the effectiveness, quality, and coordination of programs and services designed to maintain a highly skilled workforce.
- Providing for the most efficient use of federal, state, and local workforce development resources.