



**Office of Early Childhood**

P.O. Box 1437, Slot S140, Little Rock, AR 72203-1437

P: 501.682.8590 F: 501.683.6060 TDD: 501.682.1550

---

## **American Rescue Plan Act Sustainability Grant**

### **What is a Sustainability Grant?**

The Sustainability Grant is designed to help providers sustain child care operations and continue quality improvement enhancements. All licensed child care centers, child care family homes, and out-of-school time facilities that were open on or prior to March 11, 2021, qualify to apply. There is a limited amount of funding so the sustainability grant will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

### **Below is a list of the allowable budget categories with examples:**

- Personnel Costs
  - Salaries
  - Staff recruitment and retention
  - Funding to support teachers working outside of hours paid for with existing funding
- Fringe Benefits
  - Health insurance
  - Retirement plan
  - Paid time off
- Bonuses
  - Retention Bonuses
  - Sign-on bonuses
- Substitutes
- Minor Renovations
  - Painting
  - Replacing countertops
  - Laying new flooring
  - Cannot be used to move or renovate a load bearing wall
- Rent or Mortgage
- Utilities, Telephone, Internet
- Facility Maintenance, Repair, and Improvements
  - Playground updates (ground cover; shade such as awning or sail)
  - Kitchen updates (stove, refrigerator, vent-a-hoods)
  - Sprinkler system
  - Heating and Air System
  - New paint and flooring
  - Fencing
- Insurance
- Annual Audit
  - Certified public accountant (CPA) to conduct required audit
- Office Supplies
- Food Service Supplies
  - Kitchen supplies including utensils, plates, hair nets, pots, pans, and cups

- Furniture
  - Age-appropriate tables, chairs, cribs, and changing tables
- Curriculum Resources and Supplies
  - Curriculum and related resources
  - Learning centers
  - Children’s consumables and materials
  - Active outdoor play classrooms
- Parent Involvement
- Transportation
  - Purchase or lease of van or bus
  - Comprehensive vehicle insurance
  - Upgrades to transportation to meet safety requirements
- Professional Development
- Screenings/Assessment
  - Screening tool, training on the tool, and/or costs involved with hiring someone to conduct screenings
- Technology
  - Computers, tablets, scanners, copiers, software
- Health and Safety Items
  - Personal protective equipment
  - Cleaning and sanitation supplies and services
  - Air filtration system
  - UV light or other medical grade air purifiers
  - ServSafe certification or CPR training
- New or Updated Security Systems
  - Child care attendance tracking software
- Mental Health Services for Children or Families
- Other

**We strongly encourage the following:**

- Purchasing a child care attendance tracking software that allows parents to sign in and out their children
- Using funding to hire a financial professional to assist with budgeting and audit

**Sustainability Payments Grant Amount Chart**

Care Type	Capacity	Amount per Application
Registered Family Home	5	\$10,000
Licensed Family Home	10	\$15,000
	11-16	\$20,000
Child Care Center	<50	\$35,000
	51-100	\$50,000
	101-150	\$65,000
	151-200	\$80,000
	200+	\$95,000
Out of School Time	<50	\$20,000
	51-100	\$30,000
	101-150	\$40,000
	151-200	\$50,000
	200+	\$60,000