American Rescue Plan Proposal
Office of Early Childhood

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.