

## GUIDELINES FOR CHILD CARE START-UP GRANT APPLICATION

(July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025)

### Purpose

To increase the availability of regulated child care in Central Wisconsin (Adams, Clark, Langlade, Lincoln, Marathon, Marquette, Portage, Taylor, Waushara and Wood County). Grants are intended to assist individuals with start-up costs associated with opening and providing regulated care.

### Funding Available

A total of \$12,500 is available from charitable contributions to support start up grants for individuals becoming regulated child care providers. Newly certified family child care providers may request up to \$500 per program; currently certified family child care providers wanting to become licensed may request up to \$500 per program; and newly licensed family child care providers may request up to \$1,000 per program on a first-come, first-served basis. Newly licensed group child care programs may request up to \$2,500. Final grant awards will be dependent upon number of requests received as well as the geographic location of the program.

### Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible, individuals must meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Received initial certification or license within the previous 3 months of applying for the grant
- ✓ Will provide the proposed child care services within 6 months of receiving funds unless an extension is granted by Childcaring, Inc.

This program does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, creed, age, national origin, ancestry, pregnancy, marital status, sexual orientation or disability.

### Allowable Expenses

Allowable expenses include equipment and materials required to start-up regulated child care programs. This may include but is not limited to the following: crib, mattress, high chair, stroller, car/booster seat, baby monitor, fire extinguisher, safety gates, smoke detector, outdoor play materials and course registration fees/books. Grantees will be required to submit receipts for all expenses incurred. These funds may only be used for expenses incurred or activities performed after signing the grant agreement. Funds may not be used to pay off prior debt, or for activities performed, expenses incurred or items acquired before signing the grant agreement. The following non-exhaustive list of child care materials may **not** be purchased with grant funds:

1. Trampolines or bouncing surfaces (including hopper balls)
2. Toy weapons
3. Videos, video games, computer games, software or electronic devices designed for children (e.g., learning tablets)
4. Any item that could pose a significant safety hazard or risk, including (but not limited to) items such as ice skates or stilts.
5. Any items that has been recalled. A list is available from [cpsc.gov](http://cpsc.gov)

### Repayment of Funds

We reserve the right to require repayment or transfer of equipment to another regulated program if the grantee does not become regulated or stops providing care within one year of the grant award.

### Terms

A check for the total grant awarded will be sent to grantee upon receipt of the signed grant agreement. Receipts for items purchased will be required to be submitted along with a detailed expense report for a review of progress in meeting objectives of the grant, as well as on-site monitoring visits at Childcaring's discretion. Grant dollars will need to be spent within three months of receiving the check unless an extension is granted by Childcaring, Inc.

### Submittal of Application

One copy of the application must be hand delivered, mailed, or scanned and emailed to Childcaring, Inc., 850 Hwy 153, Suite F. Mosinee, WI 54455 [info@childcaring.org](mailto:info@childcaring.org). You will receive emailed confirmation upon receipt.

### Notification

Each applicant will receive written notice of determination of approval or non-approval for funding. Childcaring, Inc. reserves the right to accept/reject any or all grant applications, waive minor informalities and to accept only the most qualified applications in the judgment of Childcaring, Inc. Determination of whether a grant condition is substantive or merely a formality shall reside with Childcaring, Inc.

### Timeline

Application Materials Available	July 1, 2024
Notice of Award	within 4 weeks upon receipt of application
Awards Granted	upon receipt of signed agreement

Grant agreements and report forms will be mailed and/or emailed to potential grantees.