



Caring for MI Future

July Update

Background

In spring 2022, the Michigan Departments of Education and Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (MDE & LARA) launched a \$100 million strategy to open 1,000 new child care providers by the end of 2024 and expand access to quality, affordable child care for families in all communities.

This document provides a **monthly update on progress**.

This is part of a bigger effort to expand access to quality, affordable child care for families. Learn more about how Michigan's \$1.4 billion investment is helping kids, families, child care professionals, and businesses by visiting Michigan.gov/childcare.

Monthly Highlights

- MDE and LARA selected partners to assist the state in launching Caring for Mi Future. Look throughout the document for new lead organizations for several projects.
- ISDs partners with community-based organizations (CBOs) across the state applied for grants to open new GSRP classrooms this fall. Over 40 applications were received. Grantees will receive \$25,000 to help expand access to four-year-old preschool for more families.

Mark Your Calendar

- **Late July/early August:** Grants for CBOs opening new GSRP classrooms will be awarded early August. Watch Michigan.gov/childcare for a full list of grantees.
- **Late summer/early fall:** Based on conversations with partners, we are anticipating several grants for providers to be available in late summer/early fall. All grant opportunities will be heavily publicized and allow ample time for partners to apply.

Detailed Update

Space				
<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Overview</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>When will grants be available?</i>	<i>Status Update</i>
Child Care Facilities Fund	New and expanding sites will be eligible for funding to renovate and upgrade their facilities and outdoor learning spaces.	IFF	Late summer/early fall 2022	On June 20, IFF was identified as the entity to implement this statewide work. They are developing grant criteria and applications now.
GSRP Facilities Grants for Community-based Providers	These funds help licensed child care providers start new classrooms and become long-term preschool partners.	MDE	Applications are closed. Grants will be awarded early August 2022	Applications were open in June 2022. ISDs applied for this opportunity on behalf of CBO. MDE is reviewing applications now and will award \$25,000 grants to support classroom operations.
Start Up Funding				
<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Overview</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>When will grants be available?</i>	<i>Status Update</i>
Startup grants: For sites prelicensure	These grants help defer the costs of becoming licensed. Sites will be notified by licensing when/if they are eligible.	MDE (with LARA)	Late summer/early fall 2022	MDE is working with stakeholders to identify criteria. Applications will be processed by MDE directly to providers.
Startup grants: For new licensed providers	Once a site obtains its license, it will be eligible for a startup grant. Sites will be notified by licensing when/if they are eligible.	MDE (with LARA)	Late summer/early fall 2022	MDE is working with stakeholders to identify criteria. Applications will be processed by MDE directly to providers.

Staffing				
<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Overview</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>When will grants be available?</i>	<i>Status Update</i>
Strengthen the child care career pathway	Michigan is making investments along the industry's career pathway—including recruiting high school students, making skill certificates and degrees more affordable.	MiAEYC	Child care professionals can apply now for Reconnect and TEACH scholarships	Individuals age 25+ can apply for Michigan Reconnect to earn an associate degree or certificate tuition-free. Additional scholarships are available through TEACH . Funding to support PD Specialists are now available through MiAEYC.
Expand apprenticeship programs	Apprenticeships allow early educators to earn and learn. Michigan is committed to expanding apprenticeships that recruit and train new staff.	ECIC	Fall 2022	On July 11, the Early Childhood Investment Corporation was selected to administer this work. ECIC will release a grant opportunity for organizations to launch or expand apprenticeships across the state in the coming months.
Remove regulatory barriers	LARA is offering new ways to meet licensing requirements by allowing staff to learn on the job while earning a certificate or degree.	LARA	Now available	Providers can apply now for a variance to assist in hiring new staff. Program directors can visit LARA's website (Michigan.gov/michildcare) to learn more and apply.
Business Support				
<i>Strategy</i>	<i>Overview</i>	<i>Lead</i>	<i>When will grants be available?</i>	<i>Status Update</i>
Data for all	MDE is partnering with MSU to create a public facing map of existing child care providers and demand for care.	MDE	N/A	Work is underway with MSU. Public maps will be available in early 2023.

Regional planning grants	Regional planning grants will be available to help regions organize and respond to child care access and affordability challenges. All regions will be eligible.	ECIC	Late summer/early fall 2022	On June 20, Early Childhood Investment Corporation was selected to implement this work. They are developing grant criteria and applications now.
Rural regional planning grants	Additional funding is available to expand the Rural Child Care Innovation Project which combines funding and TA for rural areas that are lacking care.	MDE with First Children's Finance	August 2022	In August, applications will be available for the next cohort of the Rural Child Care Innovation Project from First Children's Finance .
One-stop-shop for entrepreneurs	LARA will be the state's one-stop-shop for new child care providers. They will streamline the licensing process for new providers and connect entrepreneurs to technical assistance.	LARA	August 2022	LARA will identify an entity to implement the one-stop-shop. Entity along with LARA navigators will assist individuals in becoming licensed child care providers.
Family Child Care Networks	Family Child Care Networks offer, mentorship, professional development, advocacy and leadership opportunities, and a network of relationships for family child care providers.	TBA	Early fall 2022	On July 29, Early Childhood Investment Corporation was selected to implement this work. They are developing grant criteria and applications now.
Business Sustainability Planning	This effort will assist new and existing child care providers in creating and implementing business sustainability plans.	First Children's Finance	N/A	On June 20, First Children's Finance was identified to implement this statewide work.

Questions about how your organization or region can get involved?

- Visit [Michigan.gov/childcare](https://michigan.gov/childcare) for regular updates and grant opportunities.
- Contact the Child Development and Care Help Desk at 866-990-3227.