



USING GRANT FUNDS TO SUPPORT FAMILIES

This one-pager is designed to guide a child care provider in planning for the use of their ReInvigorate Child Care Stabilization Grant funds, specifically to support families and promote retention. As a grant recipient, you attested to provide relief from copayments and tuition for parents struggling to afford child care, to the extent possible, and prioritize this relief for families struggling to make either type of payment. This document can support your program in identifying family needs, planning to administer tuition assistance, and documenting spending.

Getting Ready



As you get ready to spend your grant funds, **ask yourself**: Has your program created a budget for your ReInvigorate Child Care Stabilization Grant funds?

If not, we recommend you start by creating a budget for grant funds, in order to understand how the program's grant funds have been dedicated and what funds remain. You may reference the "I Received a Grant, Now What?" guidance document for assistance: <http://kids.ri.gov/cabinet/funding-opportunities/>.

Assessing your Needs

Consider: Have any families expressed struggles with covering tuition or copayments throughout the pandemic?

If **"Yes"**, you can start making your plan to support them, which is outlined in the next section.

If **"No"**, you may consider the following to help inform your decision making:

- Calling families to learn more about their current needs given the ongoing pandemic.
- Talk to families when they drop-off/pick-up their children to gather feedback.

Making a Plan

As you start to develop your spending plan to support families, consider these questions:

- Approximately how many families need assistance in covering copayments and/or tuition?
 - How much assistance can we provide to each family?
- How long can we sustain tuition/copayment assistance for families?
- Will we create a temporary policy change to support the implementation of this assistance or offer individual help to families as needed?
 - If we plan to implement a temporary policy, how will we document this change and communicate it to families?
- How does this fit into the program's grant funds budget?

Document your Plan

The fillable budget template included in the "[I Received a Grant, Now What?](#)" guidance document can support your program in planning your overall budget for grant funds. In addition to documenting how all ReInvigorate Stabilization Grant dollars were spent, document the following:

- How many families received assistance?
- How much tuition assistance did each family receive and for how long?

If your program is Center-based, you will be required to report this data in your Recertification application. If your program is home-based, you will report this data in a spending poll this Spring.

If you have any questions or need assistance in planning to spend your program's grant funds, please contact ChildCareGrants@pcgus.com or toll-free at 833-930-3540.