



THE BUILDING AND SUSTAINING QUALITY EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION GRANT

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is committed to meeting the growing demand for quality child care in the District that provides consistent and reliable service to families. In order for child care providers to focus on preparing children for kindergarten, they must be supported in administrative aspects of their businesses. To further support for child care providers' sustainable business needs, OSSE is launching the **Building and Sustaining Quality Early Care and Education Grant**. This grant combines three previous grants into one grant with three program areas: Capital Quality, DC Child Care Connections, and the Shared Services Business Alliance. Combining the grants will both continue the services already provided in these three areas, while building stronger supports for providers, families and communities over the next four years.

WHAT IS CHANGING AND WHY?

OSSE heard from the early childhood workforce and leadership a need for more coordinated and explicit business and administrative technical assistance. Here's what we heard:

"We need more information about how technology can support our marketing efforts"

- (feedback obtained from Directors' Corner training held by DC Child Care Connections grantee)

"[We need] help with [writing a] business plan"

- (customer survey provided to Capital Quality grantee)

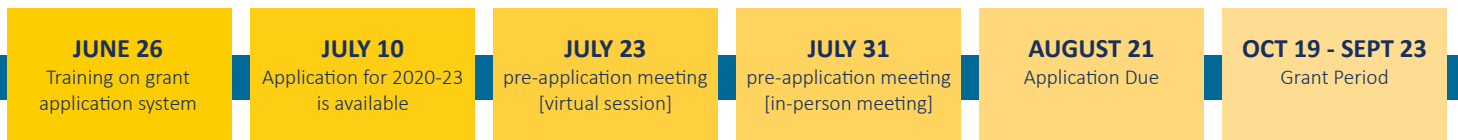
Historically, 40 percent of total professional hours delivered under these three grants were devoted to business administrative needs. Each program area will build on infrastructure established by the previously individual grants. Applicants for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2020-23 Building and Sustaining Quality Early Care and Education Grant may apply for one, two or three program areas.

OSSE's APPROACH TO BUILDING AND SUSTAINING QUALITY EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION GRANT:



KEY DATES:

Applications for fiscal year 2020-2023 will be available **July 10**. The application is due **August 21**. The grant will begin in **October 2019** and continue through **September 2023**. Interested applicants are encouraged to attend a training on OSSE's grant application system on **June 26** as well as a pre-application meeting (virtual session **July 23** or in-person meeting **July 31**). RSVP details in "Next Steps."



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

OSSE is soliciting applications for the Building and Sustaining Quality Early Care and Education Grant. This new grant opportunity combines three previous grant opportunities (Capital Quality – the Re-Designed Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), the DC Child Care Connections / Child Care Resource & Referral and the Shared Services Business Alliance). Based on feedback from providers, the current grant opportunity brings additional focus on supporting the business and administrative needs of child care providers.

PROGRAM AREAS & FUNDING

Program Areas	Funding Amount in Year 1
Capital Quality: The Re-designed Quality Rating and Improvement System	\$1,530,000
DC Child Care Connections: Child Care Resource & Referral	\$1,120,000
Shared Services Business Alliance	\$500,000
TOTAL (MAXIMUM available to applicants applying to support all three Program Areas)	\$3,150,000

WHEN WILL THE GRANT APPLICATION BE AVAILABLE?

The grant application will be made available July 10 in OSSE's Enterprise Grants Management System (EGMS). More information is available in the Notice of Funding Availability: <http://bit.ly/2K6nS37>.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Eligible organizations include non-profit, for-profit, faith-based organizations and agencies with relevant experience in:

- Business and financial management
- System design
- Early childhood and a working knowledge of the District's early childhood landscape.

Specific expertise in each program area will be detailed in the Request for Applications.

NEXT STEPS:

Know an organization that would have the relevant skills to apply? Please encourage them to attend the pre-application meeting. Are you a previous grantee? You are encouraged to attend.

Interested applicants are encouraged to attend an EGMS training on **June 26** as well as a pre-application meeting (online session **July 23** or in-person meeting **July 31**).

Technical training on OSSE's grant management system:
June 26, 2019, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | RSVP here: <http://bit.ly/EGMSTraining>.

Pre-application meeting: Applicants are encouraged to attend online or in-person.

- **Online: July 23, 1-4 p.m. | RSVP here: <http://bit.ly/2ldM9n1>**
- **In-Person: July 31, 9 a.m.-12 p.m. | RSVP here: <http://bit.ly/2ZriAnT>**