

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

ACCESS TO QUALITY CHILD CARE EXPANSION GRANT

Request for Application (RFA) Release Date: November 1, 2017 by 12:00 p.m.

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is soliciting grant applications for the Access to Quality Child Care Expansion Grant. The goal of the Access to Quality Child Care Expansion Grant is to increase the supply of child care services for infants and toddlers in the District by adding a total of 1,000 new infant and toddler slots to DC's infant and toddler child care supply by Sept. 2020, with the goal of an average of 300 new seats in 2018, 2019 and 2020. OSSE's Division of Early Learning (DEL) is soliciting applications from organizations interested in (1) developing and implementing a sub-granting mechanism for enabling child development providers to improve the supply of such child care services and (2) providing technical assistance for the same purpose.

The grant is supported through District of Columbia local funds as part of a strategic citywide effort to expand access to child care through the Access to Quality Child Care Fund, available here: [Section 4103 of the Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Support Act of 2017](#).

Eligibility: OSSE/DEL will accept applications from eligible applicants. Eligible applicants must be non-profit organizations but are not required to provide direct child care services to infants and toddlers. Additionally, eligible applicants must have a proven track record of success in providing financing and investment approaches and technical assistance in child development facility financing and development and specifically in grant-making related to child development facilities. Applicants are encouraged to seek and propose bold and creative solutions.

Available Funding for Award: The total funding available for this award period is approximately \$9,000,000. Grant funds will be made available over the three year period of the grant, in accordance with the grantee's work plan and budget as approved by OSSE/DEL. OSSE/DEL anticipates issuing one award from this funding opportunity. The period for the grant will be three-years, ending on September 30, 2020, contingent upon availability of funds. Each budget period will be one year, with the first period ending September 30, 2018.

OSSE maintains the right to adjust the grant award and amount based on funding availability. Successful applicants may be awarded amounts less than requested.

OSSE/DEL will make the funds available through a competitive process to identify nonprofit organizations with experience in the child care field that are interested in implementing the Access to Quality Child Care Expansion grant. Applications that meet all eligibility and application requirements will be evaluated, scored, and rated by an OSSE/DEL designated review panel.

OSSE/DEL will use external peer reviewers to review and score the applications received in response to the request for applications. External peer reviewers may include employees of the District of Columbia government who are not employed by OSSE. An external peer reviewer is an expert in the field or the subject matter. The final decision to fund applicants rests solely with OSSE/DEL. After reviewing the recommendations of the review panel and any other relevant information, OSSE/DEL shall decide which applicant to fund.

For additional information regarding this grant competition, please contact:

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The RFA will be released November 1, 2017 at 12:00 p.m. through OSSE's Enterprise Grants Management System. The online system and training videos may be accessed by visiting <http://grants.osse.dc.gov>.