Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. **Where can I find guidance for the Application for Early Care and Education Access Grant and Reconciliation?**

   Please visit www.occrra.org for guidance and resource documents.

2. **What is the CFDA number assigned by the federal government for the Access Grant Funds?**

   The CFDA number for these funds is 93.575. Programs may need this number if they have organization audit requirements.

3. **What is a competitive grant?**
   A competitive grant is an open opportunity for application. It is not an entitlement and not every application will be approved for funding. Eligible programs that submit an application by the deadline will have their application scored, with the highest scores receiving funding. **While programs may apply for one or all access grant opportunities that applies to their program type, only one grant opportunity may be awarded per license number.**

4. **What counties may be selected for this grant?**
   There is no county requirement associated with this grant opportunity.

5. **What Access Grants are available to my program?**
   Certain grants are available by program type.

Grant Type	New Center	Program Expansion	Program Repairs	Family Child Care Type B to Type A	Increase Capacity for Children with Special Needs
Centers	X	X	X		X
FCC Type A	X	X	X		
FCC Type B	X	X	X	X	
School / Preschool	X	X	X		X
School-age	X	X	X		

6. **Are all formerly known as ODE licensed programs eligible for this funding?**
   Yes, school/preschool and school-age programs are able to apply for the grant types they are eligible for in the chart above. Please note, funds may not be used for expenses paid for by other stabilization funding and/or state or federal funding programs receive.

7. **If I apply for a new center start up grant, why do I need to provide a valid license number?**
    Individuals applying must be associated with a program that has been licensed, not in provisional status, and in good standing. If approved, funding would be awarded to the existing licensed program to be utilized to open the new program.

8. **I am a licensed family child care program. How do I apply to open a child care center?**
    Family Child Care Providers may apply for the new center start up grant who will apply for the center license by August 31, 2024.

9. **What are the time periods when expenses need to occur for these funds?**
    Expenses need to occur between July 1, 2023 – August 31, 2024.

10. **How do I apply for the Access Grants?**
    The application(s) are located on the Organization Dashboard of the Ohio Professional Registry and will open based on program type. **The application deadline for all program types is 5:00 pm on April 26, 2024**. There is one application for all grants. You will only be able to see the grants for which your program is eligible.

11. **Who is able to access our program's Access Grant Applications and Payment Portal for completion?**
    Those with OPR Organization Dashboard access are able to access the Grants Application and Payment Portal in the OPR Organization Dashboard. The person who completes the application should have application information and banking account information to complete the process. The person who completes the application should also be the signer on the application.

12. **Does our program need to provide reconciliation information?**
    Yes, all programs receiving this funding need to provide reconciliation information. A portion of programs (20%) will need to complete a desk review process. Programs will be notified if they are selected for a desk review. Please retain your receipts, paid invoices and documentation. If your program submits more than one application, there will be one reconciliation for all funds. Reconciliations for this funding needs to be completed before your programs can access additional funds for any new Child Care Manual Procedure Letters (CCMPLs).

13. **How do I complete the Payment Portal?**
    The Payment Portal is a required step to complete the application and generate a grant payment. Programs will have one opportunity to complete the payment portal during the initial application submission. For your program's security, you are not able to view the information entered but the system will allow you to see a last edited date.

14. **How long will it take to review, approve my grant application and receive the money?**
    Payments will be made approximately 4 weeks after an application has been approved. Application and payment status may be viewed on the program's OPR Organization Dashboard.

15. How much can I receive with these funds?

Maximum Funding Amounts are calculations based on Grant Type. You will be asked to enter a Requested Amount in the application. The requested amount should not exceed the Maximum Funding Amount and should be the amount your program will be able to spend in the expense period. You are able to enter an amount less than the Maximum Funding Amount. **While programs may apply for one or all access grant opportunities that applies to their program type, only one grant opportunity may be awarded per license number.**

16. How do I edit my application?

There are various reasons why a program would need to edit their application. Changing the grants applied for or editing specific fields in the grant application. Programs that need to edit their submitted application can contact grants@occrra.org. We encourage programs to submit for all of the funding they believe they can spend during the expense period. **Programs must resubmit edited application by the application due date and time April 26, 2024 at 5:00pm to be considered for scoring.** Programs will be required to complete reconciliation activities for all funds received.

17. How will the Access Grants Application be scored?

Below is the County and scoring information.

1. No Points- More than 1 slot per child in their county. Ashtabula, Athen, Belmont, Champaign, Cuyahoga, Fulton, Gallia, Geauga, Hamilton, Harrison, Henry, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Pickaway, Pike, Sandusky, Scioto, Washington, Wayne, and Wyandot.
2. 1 point- 1-1.2 children per slot in their county. Ashland, Brown, Columbiana, Coshocton, Crawford, Franklin, Guernsey, Hardin, Jefferson, Lorain, Lucas, Madison, Mahoning, Montgomery, Muskingum, Ottawa, Paulding, Perry, Preble, Summit, Trumbull, and Williams.
3. 3 point- 1.2-1.3 children per slot in their county. Allen, Carroll, Clermont, Defiance, Delaware, Fairfield, Greene, Hancock, Highland, Hocking, Huron, Lake, Lawrence, Licking, Marion, Portage, Putnam, Richland, Ross, Stark, Vinton, and Wood.
4. 5 points- 1.3-2.2 children per slot in their county. Adam, Auglaize, Butler, Clark, Clinton, Darke, Erie, Fayette, Holmes, Jackson, Knox, Logan, Medina, Mercer, Miami, Morrow, Seneca, Shelby, Tuscarawas, Union, Van Wert, and Warren.

New Center Grant Scoring

Criteria		Source	0 pt	1 pt	3 pts	5 pts
1)	Anticipated Children Served	Application	0-6	6-20	21-40	41+
2)	County	DCY Data	.8-1	1-1.2	1.2-1.3	1.3-2.2

3)	Evening Care	Application	None	2-3 Days	3-5 Days	7 days
4)	Weekend Care	Application	None	N/A	1 day	2 days
5)	Infant Care	Application	Under 4	4-8	9-12	13+
6)	Toddler Care	Application	Under 6	6-12	13-24	24+
7)	Highly Rated	DCY Data	Unrated	3-star	4-star	5-star
8)	ICCP Program Designation	DCY Data	No	Level 1	N/A	N/A
9)	Cost	Application	For tie breakers only, cost per child may be considered.			

Program Expansion Grant Scoring

Criteria		**Source**	**0 pt**	**1 pt**	**3 pts**	**5 pts**
1)	Anticipated Children Served (Current + Expansion)	Application	0-6	6-20	21-40	41+
2)	Infant Care	Application	None	Increase 1-2	Increase 3-4	Increase 5+
3)	Toddler Care	Application	None	Increase 2-3	Increase 4-6	Increase 7+
4)	Preschool Care	Application	None	Increase 1-6	Increase 6-11	Increase 12+
5)	County	DCY Data	.8-1	1-1.2	1.2-1.3	1.3-2.2
6)	Evening Care	Application	None	2-3 Days	3-5 Days	7 days
7)	Weekend Care	Application	None	N/A	1 day	2 days
8)	Highly Rated	DCY Data	Unrated	3-star	4-star	5-star
9)	ICCP Program Designation	DCY Data	No	Level 1	N/A	N/A

10)	Cost	Application	For tie breakers only, cost per child may be considered.	

Program Repairs Grant Scoring

Criteria		Source	0 pt	1 pt	3 pts	5 pts
1)	Children Served- Center Only	Application	0-6	6-20	21-40	41+
2)	County	DCY Data	.8-1	1-1.2	1.2-1.3	1.3-2.2
3)	Evening Care	Application	None	2-3 Days	3-5 Days	7 days
4)	Weekend Care	Application	None	N/A	1 day	2 days
5)	Infant Care	Application	None	N/A	Yes	N/A
6)	Toddler Care	Application	None	N/A	Yes	N/A
7)	Highly Rated	DCY Data	Unrated	3-star	4-star	5-star
8)	ICCP Program Designation	DCY Data	No	Level 1	N/A	N/A
9)	Cost	Application	For tie breakers only, cost per child may be considered.			

Type B to Type A Grant Scoring

Criteria		Source	0 pt	1 pt	3 pts	5 pts
1)	Anticipated Children Served	Application	0-6	7-8	9-10	10+
2)	County	DCY Data	.8-1	1-1.2	1.2-1.3	1.3-2.2
3)	Evening Care	Application	None	2-3 Days	3-5 Days	7 days
4)	Weekend Care	Application	None	N/A	1 day	2 days

5)	Infant Care	Application	Under 4	4-8	9-12	13+
6)	Toddler Care	Application	Under 6	6-12	13-24	24+
7)	Highly Rated	DCY Data	Unrated	3-star	4-star	5-star
8)	ICCP Program Designation	DCY Data	No	Level 1	N/A	N/A
9)	Cost	Application	For tie breakers only, cost per child may be considered.			

Increase Capacity for Children with Special Needs Grant Scoring

Criteria		Source	0 pt	1 pt	3 pts	5 pts
1)	Anticipated Children Served	Application	0-6	6-20	21-40	41+
2)	County	DCY Data	.8-1	1-1.2	1.2-1.3	1.3-2.2
3)	Evening Care	Application	None	2-3 Days	3-5 Days	7 days
4)	Weekend Care	Application	None	N/A	1 day	2 days
5)	Infant Care	Application	Under 4	4-8	9-12	13+
6)	Toddler Care	Application	Under 6	6-12	13-24	24+
7)	Highly Rated	DCY Data	Unrated	3-star	4-star	5-star
8)	ICCP Program Designation	DCY Data	No	Level 1	N/A	N/A
9)	Cost	Application	For tie breakers only, cost per child may be considered.			

18. **Do I need to return funds that I request and am not able to spend on allowable items during the expense period?**
    Yes, programs are required to repay all unspent funds. OCCRRA will work with programs to determine if any other allowable expenses in the expense period can be added. Please ensure your reconciliation is approved before sending the repayment so the correct amount is submitted.

19. **Can gift cards be used as a payment method?**
    No, gift cards, gift certificates or any item that holds a future value are not allowed for any purpose under these grants.

20. **What if I do not apply for this funding cycle by the April 26, 2024 deadline?**
    If a program fails to submit all of the components required for a complete application which includes the application and payment portal by the grant application deadline, they will receive a status of "unable to verify" and not be considered for the grant. Due to the number of requests received during a grant cycle, no exceptions will be made for incomplete grant applications.

21. **If my program is determined eligible, but then my license is in the revocation process, is my program still eligible?**
    Your program is no longer eligible because your program is no longer in good standing when in the revocation process.

22. **Are these grants taxable?**
    Taxability of these funds is determined by the Internal Revenue Service. OCCRRA is required to provide programs with a Form 1099 based on how questions are answered on the electronic W-9 form provided. If your program is an S Corp, C Corp or Other then a Form 1099 would not be issued.

23. **What is the difference between minor and major renovations?**
    Major renovations are not allowable. 45 CFR 98.2 defines "major renovation" to mean "(1) structural changes to the foundation, roof, floor, exterior or load-bearing walls of a facility, or the extension of a facility to increase its floor area; or (2) extensive alteration of a facility such as to significantly change its function and purpose, even if such renovation does not include any structural change." In other words, funds may be spent on renovations such as painting, carpeting, and other activities that neither add to the permanent value of the property nor significantly alter the function or purpose of the facility.

24. **Who do I contact about Access Grant application and reconciliation questions?**
    Please contact OCCRRA at support@occrra.org or 614-396-5959.