

Question and Answer

2022 Child Care Facilities RFP

Version 4: updated 6/23/22

LAST DAY TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS: July 12, 2022

	Program Area	Question	Answer
1.	Information Session	I would like to attend the Child Care Facilities RFP Information Session on March 24th. When I clicked on the link to RSVP, I only had the option to "join meeting" so I wanted to make sure I am able to attend. Also on that link , the password says "Please obtain your meeting password from your host." Could I please have the password to join the information session? Please let me know if there is anything else I need to do, or anyone else I need to contact.	Using this link, 2022 Child Care Facilities RFP - HumanServices seattle.gov , you will be directed to our RFP’s funding page. In the middle of the page beneath the timeline, you will see a link to the meeting, also copied here: https://seattle.webex.com/webappng/sites/seattle/meeting/info/94c55e9cc07d4cb7901449c5a1ee51c8?siteurl=seattle&MTID=m11f9479a917216028b780748ddeccb67 . The password that you need to enter the meeting is in the timeline listed under the Activity column for Tuesday, May 24. Please use that password on the day of the information session with the link below it (second link copied above for convenience). The room will open at 10:30 as indicated. If you have issues, there is a telephone number that you can use to also join the meeting; it is listed on the web page at the bottom of the Join Information window.
2.	Eligibility	If I currently use the home that I live in as a part of my daycare, I am aware that I would be a 'home-based agency', but I would like to use the funds to buy a house (or buy land) to use as a center and this would expand my capacity for kids (I would not live in it). Would I be limited to \$75,000 since I currently only have a home daycare, or am I eligible to request up to 2 million?	Under Eligible Activities on Page 6 of the RFP it states the following: “Acquisition costs may be considered an eligible funding activity if a provider can demonstrate they have fully secured enough funding to complete any rehabilitation work necessary to obtain their license from DCYF and become operational.” The Applicant Eligibility Requirements on pages 4-5 also state that an applicant: “Must be a nonprofit agency operating within City of Seattle corporate limits.” If you meet these and other published requirements in the RFP, then you would be able to apply for funding up to \$2,000,000 as stated in the Funding Information on page 3 of the RFP.
3.	Eligibility	Are ‘soft costs’ incurred prior to the award date eligible?	That is going to depend, but they are most likely not going to be eligible. In section 5 of the RFP and Contracting Requirements on page 7, it states the following: “Any agency applying for funds under this RFP bears the risk of all project costs incurred prior to executing a funding agreement with the City. An agency should not expect City funds to reimburse

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			expenses accrued prior to executing a contract with HSD. In limited instances, project costs incurred by an agency prior to execution of a final funding agreement may be eligible for reimbursement under the agreement subject to HSD prior approval if: 1) the project is selected through this RFP, 2) the project meets all requirements of this RFP, including prevailing wage requirements, and 3) funding will ensure completion of existing project improvements. HSD will make this determination on a case-by-case basis if necessary.”
4.	Eligibility	I am a childcare provider. I am renting a single-family home, have a huge backyard, nothing on it except grass. I would like to do some fun stuff. I also have children with special needs. Maybe building cognitive equipment. Is this I can do with this fund?	First, are you a licensed childcare? If the improvement allows you to expand or increased the licensed capacity to serve more kids and if it is a fixed structure or improvement attached to the land, then it would be eligible. Things that you can pick up and move and which are not affixed to the land, such as plastic sandbox, are not eligible. Also note that to meet the minimum eligibility requirement, an agency has to be non-profit 501c3 organization.
5.	Eligibility	By when projects must be completed?	December 31, 2024
6.	Eligibility	We are a nonprofit organization and home to a licensed childcare who is expanding for low-income families. Are we able to apply in partnership with preschool and, or a childcare center on their behalf? Or how would that work?	As a landlord, yes, because you are a nonprofit organization and control the property. Yes, you can do both. It should be a joint application between two entities signed by both parties.
7.	Eligibility	I am a family provider, I rent, I heard a program like this one, People rent from owners are hard to do repairs compared to companies. Is it possible to buy commercial facility for childcare?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To meet RFP eligibility requirements – an agency has to be non-profit organization • Under Eligible Activities on Page 6 of the RFP it states the following: “Acquisition costs may be considered an eligible funding activity if a provider can demonstrate they have fully secured enough funding to complete any rehabilitation work necessary to obtain their license from DCYF and become operational.”

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Example: The City will loan you \$500,000 for a project that costs \$650,000 - \$500,000 to acquire the site and \$150,000 to rehabilitate the building; \$150,000 is needed for these construction costs, you need to demonstrate that you have this secured that you have the funds, if not, it would be problematic. When the project is done, it has to be operable and licensed and increase the licensed number of children for childcare.
8.	Process	Are funds awarded altogether or are they reimbursed after costs are incurred?	It is a reimbursement program. Agencies are reimbursed after costs are incurred. The City will process your invoice and then send you a check for reimbursement.
9.	Eligibility	Is there a reason why the funds are only being distributed to nonprofits? From the CLFR language you shared and what I've read in the City's ordinance, there is nothing precluding the use of these public dollars on for-profit child care programs. Our program is for-profit and serves nearly 130 children in the Delridge area. By the looks of it, we do not qualify for this grant. Perhaps you can provide some clarification.	<p>The Coronavirus Local Recovery Fund and the Community Block Grant Funds which are being allocated through this Request for Proposals (RFP) process are governed by a variety of federal regulations, including the Code of the Federal Regulations (CFR). HSD has reviewed these regulations during the development of this RFP and has determined that funding for capital improvement projects is only eligible to "non-federal entities", which by definition includes nonprofit organizations, but does not include for-profit organizations. HSD is continuing to research this issue to see if there are any options to fund for profit entities for capital improvement projects and HSD will provide any updates should one or more become available.</p> <p>For profit organizations (including Limited Liability Companies (LLC's)) are now eligible to apply for funding in addition to nonprofit organizations.</p>
10.	Eligibility	We just read with excitement the new funding opportunity for child care expansion in the City of Seattle. Only to find out it is only open to non-	See the answer to Question #9 above.

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		profits. We are wondering why just non-profits? There are non-profits who's tuition is higher, we care for City of Seattle Families through the Seattle Department of Education and Early Learning, the Department of Children, Youth and Families and we have some slots we don't even charge for but allow families to attend. Lastly, non-profits are in a position to have more funding because they get donations. We don't.	
11.	Eligibility	Grant is only for non-profit child care?	See answer to Question #9 above
12.	Eligibility	If I currently have a home child care but I have been in the process of licensing a new center for 2 months, does this new center qualify to receive the grant for increasing the child's capacity in my daycare?	If the new center meets the RFP requirements and priorities on pages 4 – 7 of the guidelines you are eligible to apply for funding. Please submit a follow-up question if there is a specific eligibility requirement or priority on which you'd like a more detailed response.
13.	Application	Is a Board Member signature required at the bottom of the cover page? It says "if applicable" so I'm not sure if it's needed.	The Signature of Authorized Board Member on Application Cover Sheet (Page 9) is required of any applicant that is governed by a board of directors.
14	Application	I am a coach with Early Achievers. Some of my providers wanted to know	Cost estimates (produced by contractors/engineers/architects) are optional attachments to this application but are recommended as this is a competitive process. A budget is also

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		if an estimate was required prior to submitting the grant application?	required. If the total project cost exceeds the funding amount requested, please provide both dollar amounts. See page 9. As you serve as a coach to multiple child care providers, please help ensure that each provider meets our minimum eligibility requirements prior to completing an application.
15	Eligibility	You cap your maximum award at \$2M. Is it OK if the total of our 15 years of lease payments is greater than \$2M?	Maximum awards are capped at \$2M but the cost of your 15-year prepaid lease can exceed the \$2M figure.