



Grow Child Care Grant

2023-2025



Health & Human Services

Grow Child Care Grant

Statutory Authority

NDCC 50-11.1-11.1(1)

1. The department may make grants to public and private nonprofit entities for the planning, establishment, expansion, improvement, or operation of early childhood services. Public or private nonprofit entities may apply to the department for funding. Applicants shall apply for grants on forms provided by the department. Applications for grants using funds received by the state under subsection 2 must include assurances that federal requirements have been met.

NDCC 50-11.1-14.1(3)a and (3)b,

3. The department may provide supports and incentives to build child care capacity or quality, including:
 - a. Technical assistance and support to individuals who want to establish a new program or expand existing capacity to include information on needs assessments, regulatory processes, facility design and furnishings, startup and operating budgets, staffing patterns, curriculum evaluation, and development of business plans.
 - b. Direct payments to programs with a viable business plan and sustainable operations, to support early childhood program development, operation, and expansion in areas with a demonstrated need.



Grow Child Care Grant

Grant options to support Child Care Start-up and Expansion



3 Grant Types

1. High Needs County - New License
2. High Needs County - Expansion
3. Infant / Toddler – New Capacity

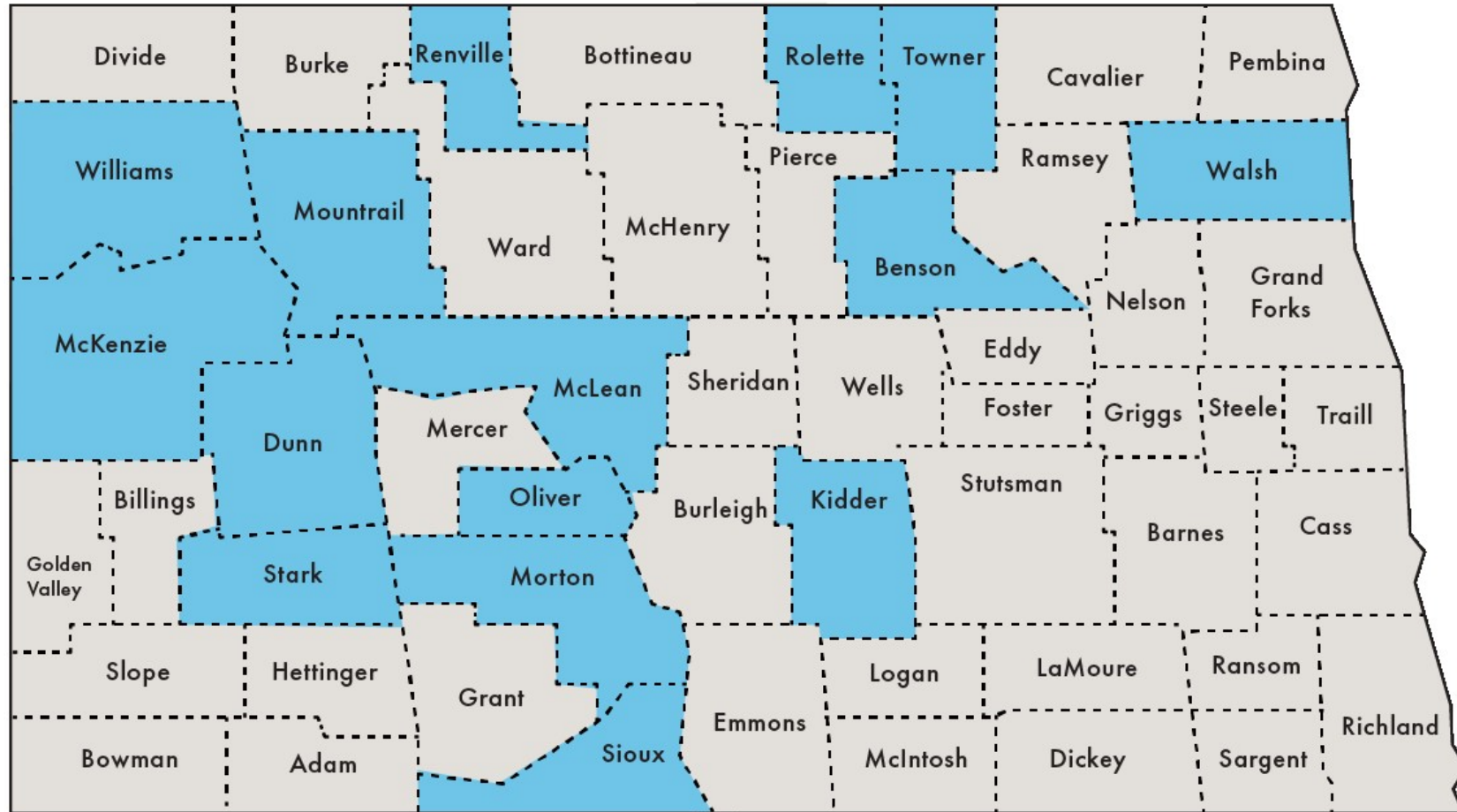
Eligible Applicant

Owner of a Child Care Program (as defined in NDCC 50-11.1(2)(16))

The **Intended Outcome** of ND's Grow Child Care Grant is to:

- ✓ Increase availability of Child Care in High Needs counties.
- ✓ Increase availability of Infant and Toddler spaces throughout the state.

High Needs Counties



 *High Needs Counties

Grow Child Care Grant Program Parameters

Investing in Child Care Start-up and Expansion

	High Needs County – New License	High Needs County – Expansion	Infant/Toddler – New Capacity
Actively working with a Child Care Aware Start Up Coordinator and Health and Safety Specialist <i>(minimum of 45 days at point of application)</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Child Care located in specific community / geography	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Application submitted within 60 days of the expansion occurring (i.e., no later than 60 days of new license being issued for the expanded or new capacity)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has to be newly licensed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Expanding capacity based on the number of existing licensed slots	No minimum threshold	50% increase in capacity	
Increasing Infant and/or Toddler space by adding 8 infants or 10 toddlers to a space dedicated for that age			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Max grant award	<u>License type/capacity</u> Center / 75+ - \$100,000 Center / 31-74 - \$60,000 Group Fac / 18+ - \$30,000 Grp Fam/Grp / 7 -17 - \$500/slot	<u>License type/increased capacity</u> Center / 75+ - \$100,000 Center / 31-74 - \$60,000 Group Fac / 18+ - \$30,000 Grp Fam/Grp / 7 -17 - \$500/slot	<u>Max 2 awards/program</u> +8 infants \$20,000 +10 toddlers \$20,000

Grant Program Definitions

High Needs County New License

Creating new slots in a licensed child care space that has not been “previously licensed”

High Needs County Expansion

Expanding the number of slots in a currently licensed space by 50%

Expanding the number of slots in a currently licensed space by 50% by moving to a new location (which results in a new license)

Infant / Toddler Dedicated Space

Classrooms that are designed to serve children ages 0-35 months.

An applicant can demonstrate this by describing plans for both physical space and staffing, as per licensing requirements. This info must be confirmed in the Coach Letter of Confirmation.

“Preservation” of child care

“Preservation” is defined as preventing the loss of child care capacity and while an important goal, is not included as an eligible activity in the definition of “expansion” or “new capacity” for the Grow Child Care grant funding.

Example: Transferring ownership or otherwise taking over responsibility for an existing child care does not qualify for this particular grant.

About the Application and Award Process

- Work with a Child Care Aware Start-up Coordinator; they'll send HHS a Confirmation letter when you're "ready" to apply.
- Log in to their Growing Futures Organization account and select "Grow Child Care Grant" to gather / submit required documents
 - Application
 - Business Plan (SFN 1946)
 - Grant Budget Narrative (SFN 1950)
- HHS will review grants as they are received
 - 80 points is the minimum threshold to be awarded (SFN 1946)
- Once notified of award decision, Awardee (program owner) will be required to sign and return a grant agreement
 - If awarded as a "High Needs County" (either new license or expansion) and if a qualified director has been identified (as per the desired license type)
 - Up to 25% of grant funds may be disbursed 6 months prior to licensing being complete.
 - Note: if the awardee does not obtain a license within 6 months as described on the grant application, the awardee is required to return 100% of funds disbursed.
 - If awarded as an "Infant/Toddler" expansion, funds will be disbursed after awardee receives license showing increase in capacity

