

**RESOLUTION**

**ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor RJ Sutterlin & Supervisor  
Bill Wilson  
INITIATED BY



8/31/2023  
DATE DRAFTED

**Modifying the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Childcare Grant Program**

**WHEREAS**, the County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution R-2023-274 on August 10, 2023 to create an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Childcare Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, additional input and related due diligence from the Wisconsin Early Childhood Association (WECA), the contracted administrator of this grant, has recommended some value-added and timely modifications to this new program; and

**WHEREAS**, implementing these modifications will assist with driving this much needed financial assistance to certified and licensed family, group and day camp childcare providers; and

**WHEREAS**, implementing these modifications will also facilitate the overall utilization and related effectiveness of this grant; and

**WHEREAS**, these modifications preserve this grant program's accountability, eligibility and related use provisions without unduly burdening applicants and adding excessive administrative costs.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors, duly assembled this 14th day of September 2023, authorizes and approves the modification of the ARPA Childcare Grant Program.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, grants will be made available to certified and licensed family and group childcare programs, as well as childcare day camps; and the eligibility criteria for this Childcare Grant Program includes:

- Must have been a certified and/or licensed childcare provider, as determined and regulated by the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF), by March 14, 2020;
- Must generate less than \$1.5 million in annual childcare program income and/or revenue, per a provider's most recent Federal Income Tax Return and/or other customary and usual income verifications;
- Must have at least one (1) full-time staff (e.g. owner/operator, employee, support staff, etc.), but not more than 40 (full-time equivalent) staff, per DCF and/or other customary and usual employment verifications;
- Must be participating in DCF's YoungStar program and have at least a Two-Star rating, per DCF;
- Must be enrolled with the Wisconsin Early Childhood Education Shared Services Network (WEESN), per WECA; and
- Must not be delinquent on any outstanding taxes owed; and current with all applicable county, state and/or federal childcare regulations, per DCF.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the funds allocated for the Childcare Grant Program will be paid out over a period ending on December 31, 2026, or until the allocated funds of \$1.5 million are expended, whichever occurs sooner.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the baseline funding calculation for this Childcare Grant Program is based on the number of eligible children served, which is determined by the verification of the Rock County residency status of at least one parent or guardian of the child being served, in a form, format and frequency consistent with existing DCF practices; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the maximum per project funding formula is based on the number of verified eligible children, during the project period; and:

- \$315 per child and per month for Family Providers, not to exceed \$30,240 per approved project;

- \$100 per child and per month for Group Providers, not to exceed \$60,000 per approved project; and
- \$100 per child and per month for Day Camp Providers, not to exceed \$15,000 per approved project.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, the number of approved projects per provider, during this grant program, cannot exceed the following thresholds:

- Up to four approved projects, per each Family Provider;
- Up to two approved projects, per each Group Provider; and
- Up to four approved projects, per each Day Camp Provider.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, grant funding will be disbursed and reported on the following schedule(s), subject to the customary and usual documentation, in a form and format consistent with existing DCF and/or WECA practices:

- One-time projects will receive 50% of their approved funding when said project is initiated and the remaining 50% will be released upon project completion. One-time projects are required to submit a single, one-time project report within 30 days after each project is completed; and
- On-going projects will receive equal installments of their approved funding during the duration of said project, per the agreed upon project period. On-going projects will be required to submit interim progress reports within 30 days of each funding installment and then a final project report within 30 days of said project completion.

FISCAL NOTE:

This grant program has been budgeted and funded with ARPA dollars. No additional funds are being requested.

Ryan Wiesen  
Assistant Finance Director

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to Wis. Stat. §§ 59.01, 59.02, 59.03, 59.51. The County Board is authorized pursuant to the ARPA to appropriate conditions on ARPA expenditures, so long as those conditions fall within qualified ARPA expenditures.

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Providing funds in this manner is consistent with ARPA requirements. Based on expert feedback, these modifications would increase the access to and utilization of these funds by Rock County childcare providers. Consequently, I recommend approval.

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

**Committee Action**

Planning and Development Committee

The Planning and Development Committee recommended this resolution for approval by vote of 3-1 in which Podzilni, Sutterlin and Winter voted “Aye” and Stevens voted “Nay.” (Sweeney Absent).