

Business Incentive Grant Slots Webinar Q&A
September 23, 2022

1. Will an infrastructure grant become available again?

A: We are not aware of any additional infrastructure grants at this time.

2. Is this open for schools?

A: Yes.

3. You have to have 75 employees in the state of Iowa or organization-wide?

A: The employer or consortium of employers needs to have a minimum of 75 full-time employees within the community of need (where the project will be).

4. As an employer, we are starting to explore solutions of partnership with a child care center. Do the parameters remain the same every time funding becomes available?

A: No, we open each with parameters that the grant is intended to focus on.

5. If you have combined employers for the grant, would you add all the employees for all of the businesses together or does at least one of the businesses have to have at least 75 employees.

What is the definition of full-time employees? We consider a .8 FTE as full-time benefit eligible.

A: The consortium would have a minimum of 75 FT employees between all employers. One of the employers would be the applicant.

A: DAS defines a full-time employee as anyone consistently working over 30 hours per week.

6. Do the daycares have to be located in Iowa?

A: Yes.

7. This opportunity is not for underserved Communities if the minimum staff is set on 75-more(?)

A: We would encourage employers to join a consortium – the consortium would have a minimum of 75 FT employees between all employers. One of the employers would be the applicant.

8. Are startup centers not yet established, who can have partnership established be eligible for the grant?

A: Only existing, licensed child care centers or registered child development homes would be able to partner for this opportunity.

9. Will there be a list of daycares that are or will be interested in partnering with employers with this grant?

A: <https://ccmis.dhs.state.ia.us/clientportal/ProviderSearch.aspx> can provide information on available providers in communities.

10. Do you have examples of how this can be used for schools?

A: Schools may consider working with an existing child care facility, including one that is operating on school grounds, to provide child care to school district employees.

11. The \$250,000 is the cap for the two-year period of time?

A: Correct.

12. If we are awarded the grant, when do the funds get released to us? Can the funds have already been expended? Example: we are an employer building out our own licensed, on site, center for our employees. We ideally would begin this build out Jan 2023. So, funds would have already been expended by the time the grant is, hopefully, awarded to us.

A: The funds cannot already be expended as this project is to pay a portion for slots for employees, not create a new child care facility.

13. Do you anticipate more grant opportunities like this in the future?

A: We are not aware of any future opportunities at this time.

14. The match dollars - do they have to go toward the dollars to increase slots or can that money have been utilized for capital items?

A: All dollars must go toward the intent of increasing slots.

15. How would an employer get connected to a consortium to partner with other employers if we do not have 75 employees?

A: Reach out to your local Economic Development or Chamber office to inquire about businesses that may be interested in participating. IWF has examples of consortiums if you need guidance once you have businesses on board.

16. We are a youth mental health agency and have been exploring opening a therapeutic daycare as a new program. It would be something run directly by us, and it would be more for the community at large for children with special mental health or behavioral challenges. Would creation of slots through this method be eligible?

A: This appears to be a new child care facility for the community and would be an infrastructure need. The project would not be eligible for this slots grant opportunity.

17. Do you have examples of sustainability plans for those who look to support staff wages with a slots grant?

A: IWF has a sample slot contract. You can reach out to IWF to receive a copy.

18. To clarify, the money needs to be spent by September 2024?

A: Correct. This is a reimbursement grant, as described in the NOFO. 50% reimbursement of expended funds on a quarterly basis.

19. If the child care staff become employees, does the board still run the operation?

A: This would not be a decision made by HHS.

20. Is there a minimum amount of slots that have to be offered by the child care provider?

A: No.

21. How do we find out if there are any open slots in a location like Storm Lake or Waterloo? Or how do we find out which partners are able to expand?

A: You can look for operating child care facilities in your area here:
<https://ccmis.dhs.state.ia.us/clientportal/ProviderSearch.aspx>

22. How do child care centers let businesses know they are willing to partner? Is there a list? Or someone who can help a child care center promote their willingness?

You are encouraged to contact the Iowa Women's Foundation (IWF) for guidance on how to work with businesses.

23. You showed a map earlier. we are in Fremont county, could not tell we were either blue or gray in Sidney(?)

A: A city specific listing can be found here:
<https://iowaccrr.org/resources/files/Data/FY20/Desert%20Data%202020/Desert%20Data%202020.pdf>