



Grow Child Care Grant

2025-2027



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



Grant Types

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

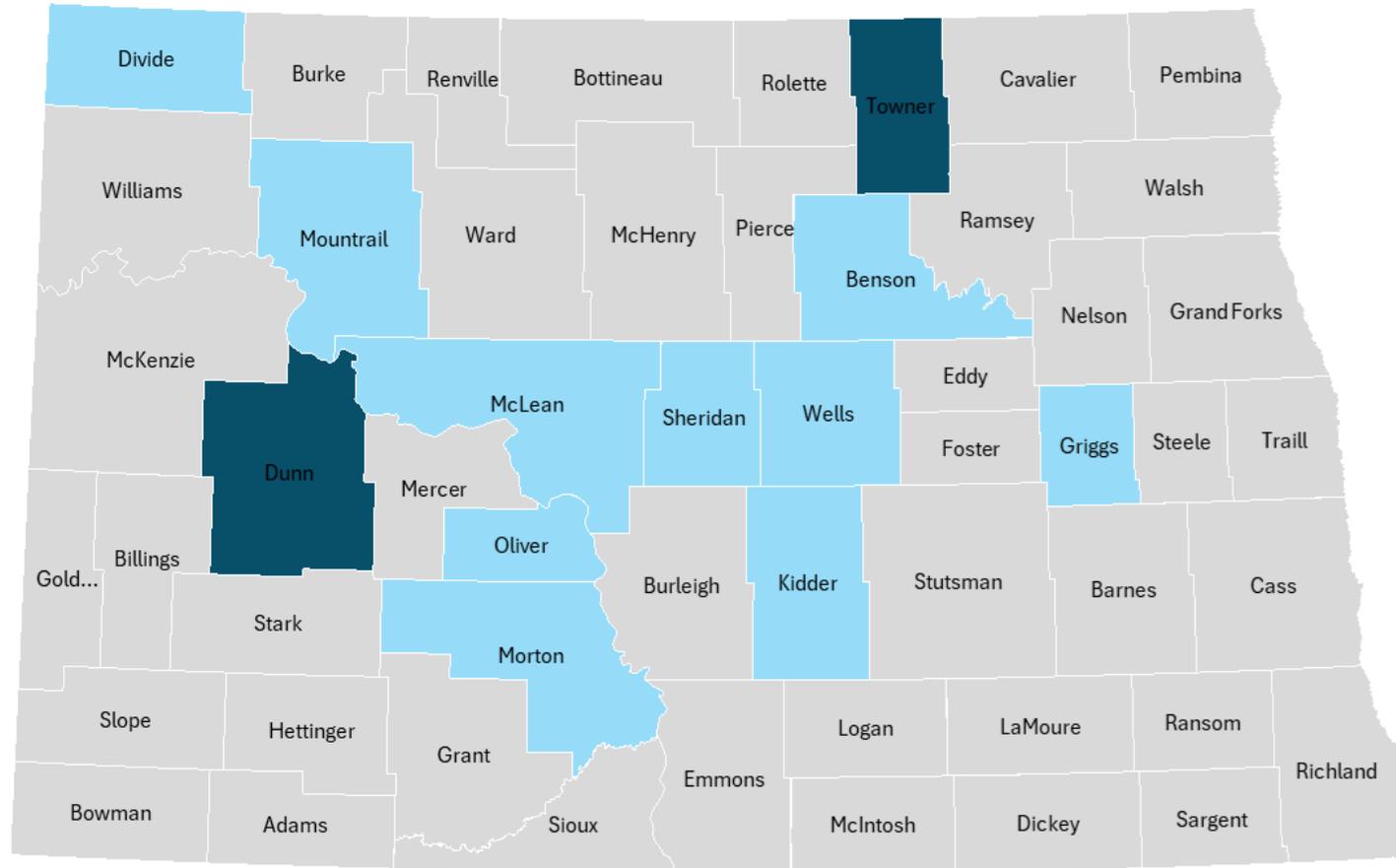
Eligible Applicant

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 Desert or High Needs counties.
- ✓ Increase availability of Infant and Toddler spaces throughout the state.

Desert & High Needs Counties



 *High Needs Counties  *Desert Counties

High Needs Counties - Grant Parameters

Investing in Child Care Start-up and Expansion

	Desert County New License Dunn & Towner only	Desert County Expansion Dunn & Towner only	High Needs County New License	High Needs County Expansion
Willing to work with a Child Care Aware Start Up Coordinator and Health and Safety Specialist	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<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"/>	<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"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Has to be newly licensed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Expanding capacity based on the number of existing licensed slots		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Max grant award	<u>License type/capacity</u> Center/\$2500/slot - up to \$100,000 Family/Group/Group Facility \$2500/slot -up to \$75,000	<u>Increased capacity</u> 1-3 slots - \$750 - \$2250 4-12 slots - \$3000 - \$9000 13-24 slots - \$9750 - \$18,000 25 or more - \$18,750- max \$45,000	<u>License type/capacity</u> Center/\$1500/slot - up to \$100,000 Family/Group/Group Facility \$1500/slot -up to \$45,000	<u>Increased capacity</u> 1-3 slots - \$500 - \$1500 4-12 slots - \$2000 - \$6000 13-24 slots - \$6500 - \$12,000 25 or more - \$12,500 - max \$30,000

Infants and/or Toddlers - Grant Parameters

Investing in Child Care Start-up and Expansion

	Infant – New Capacity State-wide	Toddler – New Capacity State-wide
Willing to work with a Child Care Aware Start Up Coordinator and Health and Safety Specialist	<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"/>
Expanding capacity based on the number of existing licensed slots	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Increasing Infant and/or Toddler space by adding 8 infants or 10 toddlers to a space dedicated for that age	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Max grant award – Max 2 awards per program	+8 infants \$10,000	+10 toddlers \$10,000

Grant Program Definitions

High Needs or Desert County New License

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

High Needs or Desert County Expansion

Expanding the number of slots in a currently licensed space.

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

Infant / Toddler Expansion

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.

Preservation of child care is not included as an eligible activity.

Preservation is defined as preventing the loss of existing child care capacity.

Examples of Preservation:

- transferring ownership or otherwise taking over responsibility for an existing child care business
- moving children and staff from one location to another

About the Pre-Application



- ❑ Complete the Microsoft Form pre-application (available on the HHS website). Below is information that will be collected on the form:

- Business Name
- Owner
- Point of Contact
- Early Childhood Hub Workforce Registry ID
- HHS License Number
- Desert or High Needs County Newly-Licensed
- Desert or High Needs County Expansion
- Expanded by 8 infants
- Expanded by 10 toddlers

- ❑ HHS will review the pre-application request and notify child care program of next steps via email.

About the Application and Award Process

❑ Complete required application documents:

- [Child Care Aware of ND Start-Up Coordinators](#) are available for support.
 - Business Plan (SFN 1946) *80 points is the minimum threshold to be awarded
 - Grant Budget Narrative (SFN 1950) *Including Floor plans

❑ Log in to the [ND Early Childhood Hub](#) select and complete the [Grow Child Care Grant](#) application.

❑ Once notified of award decision, Awardee (program owner) will be required to sign and return a grant agreement

- Desert or High Needs County (newly licensed) Awards:
 - Up to 25% of grant funds may be disbursed 6 months prior to licensing being complete.
 - Awardee must obtain a license within 6 months as described in grant agreement – awardee may be required to return distributed funds.
- Infant/Toddler Expansion Awards:
 - Funds will be disbursed after awardee's license shows increased capacity or verified by HHS Licensing Staff.

