



Funding

Facility Planning Grants: A limited and competitive pool of funds exists to make grants to qualified organizations so that they can secure professional services to plan for and assess the feasibility of both indoor and outdoor facility projects. Qualified uses might include architectural services, engineering studies, playground audit and design services and environmental surveys.

Recoverable Grants: To cover pre-development costs, such as; an option on a site, architectural drawings, environmental and engineering review, and legal and project management fees, the RICCELFF makes “recoverable grants” that function like zero interest loans to qualified organizations for high priority projects. The amount of recoverable grant funds provided will vary based on the size and needs of the project and may range from \$10,000 - \$100,000.

Loans: Loans ranging from \$50,000 - \$5 million are made to eligible organizations for the construction and renovation of child care facilities.

Special Purpose Grants: From time to time, based on availability of funding, the RICCELFF offers special purpose grants through a competitive RFP process. Prior grant programs have included; playground grants, grants for “greening” early learning facilities, grants to improve school aged spaces, health and safety grants and Race to the Top funded Early Learning Facility Grants. Special purpose grants are announced at www.riccelff.org and through the RICCELFF eNews.

Services

Technical Assistance: RICCELFF staff and consultants are available to provide technical assistance to qualified organizations that are undertaking facility renovation and construction projects. Our staff and consultants cannot take the place of your architect and real estate development team, but can offer assistance in helping you navigate the steps in a real estate development process and can help connect you to resources that will support you and your real estate team through the often complicated process of designing and constructing a child care or early learning facility. In addition, our team is available to help guide architects and other building professionals working on child care and early learning projects in Rhode Island. Staff and consultants are also available to assist with creating financing and fundraising plans and in helping you to assess your organization’s capacity to undertake a successful project.

Training, Forums and Group Technical Assistance:

Visit our website www.riccelff.org for information on upcoming events.



Scan code to visit website
www.riccelff.org

How to Proceed:

Contact us by phone or e-mail to discuss the next steps in applying for technical assistance services or funding of any kind. After learning more about your facility priorities and needs, our staff will guide you in the next steps of the application process. Priority for all services and funding is given to centers that enroll a high percentage of children receiving DHS child care subsidy and that have a demonstrated commitment to high quality, including active participation in the BrightStars system.

RICCELFF

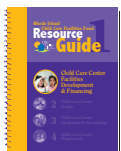
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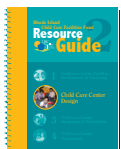
Resources

Written Resource Materials:

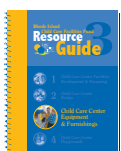
LISC has developed a series of “how-to” guides to assist organizations that are planning to renovate, construct or improve their facilities. Download your copies today at www.riccelff.org.



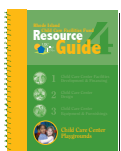
Volume 1 on Child Care Center Facilities Development & Financing identifies all of the steps in the real estate development and financing process, and helps child care providers and their development partners overcome the hurdles that every project faces.



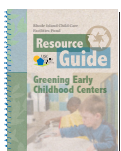
Volume 2 on Child Care Center Design highlights the important connection between well-designed space and high quality programming, and helps child care providers and their architects plan an effective space for young children.



Volume 3 on Child Care Center Equipment & Furnishings will help child care providers and others select and arrange classroom furniture and equipment to create a child-safe and child-friendly, functional and attractive learning environment.



Volume 4 on Child Care Center Playgrounds will help with the planning of a child care center’s outdoor space to achieve a successful environment for young children. It suggests equipment and materials that support a range of activities that children can enjoy outdoors.



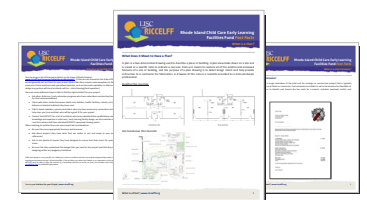
Greening Early Childhood Centers helps organizations understand best practices in green design, specifically for children’s environments. It includes information on simple changes that centers can make today.



Creating Quality School-Age Child Care Space reflects best practices in the design and improvement of after-school environments for children from kindergarten through eighth grade.

Tools for your Use:

As a compliment to the resource guides, tools are available to help centers & family childcare homes assess the quality of their indoor and outdoor environments. These comprehensive tools allow directors, owners, staff, board members, parents and others to review all of the different functional areas in the space, rate the quality and take next steps to address space-related issues. Download these tools at www.riccelff.org.



Fast Facts:

Visit our resource library at www.riccelff.org to search and download copies of our Fast Facts. Fast Facts offer basic overviews on timely topics such as *How to Select a Contractor*, *Playground Fencing*, *Playground Surfacing*, *Securing an Architect for Your Project*, *Playground Inspections* and more.