



## **EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION CAPITAL FUND INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONS**

### **Grant Eligibility**

#### Eligible Organization

- A child care provider that is, at the time of application, providing, or has demonstrated a commitment to provide early childhood care and education for low-income families with a public subsidy, or
- A developer that is partnered with or is committed to partnering with a child care provider that has demonstrated a commitment to provide early childhood care and education for low-income families with a public subsidy (evidence such as a memorandum of understanding between the developer and child care provider may be requested)
- The entity applying must provide a Unique Entity ID (SAM) – if you do not have one, you can visit SAM.gov to be assigned a number ([click here to view a reference guide for getting your Unique Entity ID](#) or [click here to watch a video demonstration](#))
- The entity applying must be operating in good standing in the State of Rhode Island and with RI DHS Child Care Licensing\*

*\* In good standing with [RI DHS Child Care Licensing](#) refers to early care and education programs currently free of any pending investigations or any pending or past legal actions, or other actions that call into question the Eligible Organization's capacity to care for children in a manner that ensures their safety. This determination will be made at the discretion of RI DHS Child Care Licensing.*

#### Eligible Facility

- A building, structure, or site that is, or will be owned, leased or otherwise used by one or more eligible organizations and licensed or will be licensed (post-construction) by the Department of Human Services (DHS) or local education agency (LEA); provided that:
  - the facility serves or is committed to serving low-income families
  - leased facilities have a lease term no less than 20 years including options\*
- Municipally-owned buildings are eligible provided that there is a dedicated single purpose space for licensed early childhood care and education, provided that:

- the facility serves or is committed to serving low-income families
- leased facilities have a lease term no less than 20 years including options\*

*\* Evidence of site control may be requested. All applicants will be required to provide [a document, signed by the property owner](#). For leased spaces, the form will indicate the property owner will enter into a lease or written agreement of at least 20 years from the date of the award or a lease with options that comprise a full 20-year period in the event a grant is awarded. It also indicates the property owner consents to the proposed project. It also requires the property owner maintain the space as a child care and early learning program for at least 20 years. No application will be considered without such written assurance, and no grant will be awarded without a signed lease as described above.*

#### Eligible Project

- The acquisition, design, construction, repair, renovation, rehabilitation or other capital improvement or deferred maintenance of an eligible facility
- Eligible applicants must demonstrate:
  - A need for the eligible project proposed
  - How the project benefits low-income children and the surrounding community
  - A financial need for assistance in the form of **grant** funding (please note, if an award is made, the amount of the award will be based on the demonstrated minimum amount required to fill the financial need with grant funds, not necessarily on the requested amount)
  - Local support for the project