



EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND EDUCATION CAPITAL FUND INFORMATION & INSTRUCTIONS

Purpose of Grants

- 1) **Small Health, Safety, and Quality Improvements** – grants to address documented urgent health and safety issues, to make quality improvements, and to reconfigure existing licensed spaces to enhance capacity. Health, safety and quality requests should be based on documentation and consultation from a regulating entity such as DHS Child Care Licensing or as part of a BrightStars Quality Improvement Plan (as a result of an onsite visit).

Examples of improvements may include, but are not limited to:

- Repair/replacement of unsafe fencing or installation of additional fencing to meet licensing regulations
- Installation of safety egress where required by health and safety rules and regulations
- Installation of safety surfacing under structures that are otherwise deemed in compliance with ASTM and CPSC guidelines
- Costs to remove unsafe equipment
- Remediation/improvement of a direct facility-related item as a result of a compliance or regulatory visit
- Purchase/installation of shade structures in an outdoor space
- Purchase/installation of handwashing sinks

This is a reimbursement-based grant program. If approved for grant funding, grant-funded expenses must be approved, incurred and paid for during the grant term prior to receiving reimbursement (evidence of expense and payment such as invoices and cancelled checks will be required).*

**If you are approved for funding to address an urgent, documented health and safety issue, you may be eligible to receive an advance of grant funds by meeting certain milestones in your grant-funded project. LISC will work with you individually to determine if your project is eligible for a funding advance.*

Applicants should be aware that any design professionals/contractors hired must be licensed and insured. Proof of licensure and insurance will be required. All construction must follow proper building and fire codes.