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Section 1.0 General Information/Calendar of Events	
1.0. Q.1	I am the owner of an after school program currently operating under SACC license for 83 children. Will I be able to apply for the child care desert program to open up pre-school at the same facility? My facility scored 84 points on the map provided. Also, for the preschool permit orientation. I am planning to partner up with a teacher who will take the role of the program director. As a requirement, is it mandatory or recommended for both of us to attend an orientation?
1.0. A.1	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a> An existing SACC program increasing the size of its registered maximum capacity would not be eligible under RFA #1. The program owner or operator is the person required to complete the orientation. That does not prohibit any other interested parties from taking the course.
1.0. Q.2	Are there plans for another grant like this (for new providers) to be offered in the future? Or is this a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity? Are there plans for another grant like this (for new providers) to be offered in the future? Or is this a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity?
1.0. A.2	Currently, this is the only grant opportunity scheduled for new providers. Interested new providers must apply for the Invest in New York Child Care grant opportunity under RFA #1 by the deadline of May 19, 2022, 11:59 PM.
1.0. Q.3	When will the RFA for existing centers open?
1.0. A.3	A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
1.0. Q.4	I currently operate a group family day care for which I was licensed on July 2021. If I am interested in expanding to open a day care center would I be able to apply for the desert grant? I am only able to take in 12 children and 2 after school kids, this is because of the space which is not too big, this is one of the reasons why I am researching how to open a day care center.
1.0. A.4	As a currently licensed Group Family Day Care seeking to expand to become a Day Care Center, you would be considered a new program for this grant opportunity and eligible to apply under RFA #1. The new program must have a greater capacity than the current program. Guidance on opening a Day Care Center and license requirements is available through your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency. Please refer to the CCR&R directory to identify your local CCR&R and their contact information, available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
1.0. Q.5	Would you send all this information to our emails?
1.0. A.5	All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
1.0. Q.6	How long will it take for the applicant to receive the pre-approval from the time they complete application if they are approved?
1.0. A.6	The anticipated date of notification of pre-approval is no earlier than June 15, 2022.
1.0. Q.7	What is the deadline for new programs?
1.0. A.7	The application period opens April 11, 2022, and closes May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.
1.0. Q.8	Can you apply at a later date provided you apply prior to June 2024?
1.0. A.8	No, the application period under RFA #1 is April 11, 2022 to May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.
1.0. Q.9	How long does it take to find out if you are preapproved?

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1.0. A.9	After an application is submitted, the anticipated date of notification of pre-approval is no earlier than June 15, 2022.
1.0. Q.10	Will the slides be available?
1.0. A.10	<p>You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p><u>Spanish versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
1.0. Q.11	When will the desert helpline go live?
1.0. A.11	The child care deserts help line is live and can be reached at 844-863-9320, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.
1.0. Q.12	What is the max age of child for SACC programs?
1.0. A.12	Generally, the ages of children in a School Age Child Care (SACC) program are school age up to 13 but there are exceptions when children over 13 can be in care of a licensed/registered child care program. For additional information on the exceptions, please contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency. The CCR&R directory to identify your local CCR&R and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
1.0. Q.13	How can we know if my location is a desert?
1.0. A.13	Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> .
1.0. Q.14	How are you able to identify a desert area?
1.0. A.14	Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> .
1.0. Q.51	I own and operate a daycare center, is this grant available for centers to add onto their program to create more jobs and more classrooms for children.
1.0. A.51	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity, such as adding on a classroom, within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
1.0. Q.52	When will the expansion grant money be available?

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1.0. A.52	A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
1.0. Q.53	Here can we find the RFP?
1.0. A.53	The Child Care Deserts RFA is posted on the NYS OCFS Child Care Deserts website. <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
1.0. Q.54	What is the age range for children to be served by this funding?
1.0. A.54	All ages that may be served by licensed/registered/permitted child care programs.
1.0. Q.55	When can we download the RFP?
1.0. A.55	The full RFA is available now on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
1.0. Q.56	Are you expected to have everything in place before May deadline? It feels very short to have the location, the funds and everything in place since it would be only three to four months between the announcement of the grant and the application deadline?
1.0. A.56	Applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/permitted by the application submission date in May, but they are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application. Based upon the site included within the application, if awarded, from the date of the pre-approval letter there will be 120 days to complete the licensure/registration/permitting process. The grant application period is April 11, 2022 to May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. The anticipated date of notification of pre-approval is no earlier than June 15, 2022.
1.0. Q.57	Do OCFS assist in looking for a location if home based is not wanted? Whom do I contact for home based programs?
1.0. A.57	No, OCFS is not able to assist applicants with locating a child care site. If you have questions dealing with licensing requirements and selecting a facility site, please reach out to your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R). A directory of CCR&R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
1.0. Q.58	How do I find my agency ?
1.0. A.58	Child Care Resource and Referral agencies are key partners in assisting with the child care provider licensing process. Statewide, there are 36 CCR&R's covering every county. A directory of CCR&R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
1.0. Q.59	Where do I sign up to learn how to set up a childcare?
1.0. A.59	Information on how to become a childcare provider is available on the OCFS webpage at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php</a> . Additional resources are also available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a>
1.0. Q.60	Is the information session through the CCRN on how to start a child care program required for those of us with a current license opening a second location?
1.0. A.60	Attending the technical assistance sessions offered by the CCR&Rs is not a requirement for applying to the grant opportunity. The sessions address licensure requirements and new providers as well as existing providers can benefit from attending. The online childcare orientation session is required for all applicants.
1.0. Q.61	If I don't have a location as of yet, should I explore locations that will fall into the following scoring structure?
1.0. A.61	Yes. Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find

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	resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhqyRfXpk</a> .
1.0. Q.62	I am inquiring about this grant that will be available to new providers. Would like more information.
1.0. A.62	For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.
1.0. Q.63	Hi my name is CP and I am interest in the Desert Program, if someone can please reach out to me with more information it will be very much appreciated. Thanks C
1.0. A.63	For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information. An informational session on the grant was held in February and a recording of the presentation is available to view on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
1.0. Q.64	I will like to know more about it my daughter is interested in opening one..
1.0. A.64	For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information. An informational session on the grant was held in February and a recording of the presentation is available to view on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
1.0. Q.101	if we are in process of looking for a daycare center how do we qualify if the grant is for operatinal and running?
1.0. A.101	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
1.0. Q.102	Last year I was licensed and ready to accept children but my landlord would not let me open. Any advice on this?
1.0. A.102	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a> . OCFS is not able to offer guidance on a landlord-tenant dispute.
1.0. Q.103	We currently hold an FDC and a GFDC license in what is considered a legal mother/daughter dwelling. Would I be able to expand the FDC into a GFDC license?
1.0 A.103	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>  If your programs are currently operating pursuant to the exception allowed in 18 NYCRR Sections 416.15(a)(7) and 417.15(a)(7) a new GFDC license would <b>not</b> be issued for that location and would not fall under this exception.
1.0. Q.104	The data to develop the Desert Level score for Pulaski (Census Tract ID 203.01, Oswego County, Central NY REDC) is not correct based on my calculations. The only childcare center operating in Pulaski closed in July 2021. The Child Care Desert map was developed using data from January 19, 2020 from licensed child care providers from the Child Care Facility System (Page 35 of the RFA). Can you provide updated calculations

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	based on the closure of the only childcare center in that area? The change will significantly effect the Estimated Base RFA Score and the ability to be awarded a grant.
1.0 A.104	The data to develop the desert level scores was updated in a RFA amendment to use child care provider and capacity data as of October 2021. For Census Tract ID 203.01, the desert level score only includes slots in a registered family day care and a licensed group family day care; it does not include any slots at a licensed day care center. The desert level score points for this census tract are 30 points out of a maximum of 40 points.
1.0.Q.203	I completed the web meeting yesterday what's the next step for me?
1.0 A.203	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:</p> <p>Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements</p> <p>Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type</p> <p>step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session</p> <p>Step 4: Submit a Grant Application</p> <p>Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
1.0. Q.209	I have questions about the program. Where can I call
1.0. A.209	The Child Care Deserts Help Line is live and can be reached at 844-863-9320, Monday to Friday, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm.
1.0. Q.210	Where can I see the recording of the Webinar that took place Feb. 7?
1.0. A.210	<p>You can find the recordings, slide deck, and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p><u>Spanish versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
1.0. Q.215	<p>Re: 1.0 General Information</p> <p>Licensed/Registered/Permitted: This funding opportunity is available to licensed and registered child care programs as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH, which will collectively be referred to as “licensed” in this funding opportunity. <b>This RFA is ONLY for newly licensed programs, not for existing programs.</b> A future, separate RFA will be released for existing programs looking to expand.</p> <p>1.7 RFA Definitions</p> <p><b>New Program:</b> An individual or entity that is not licensed and is applying for licensure to operate a child care program at a specific location.</p> <p><b>Question:</b></p> <p>Can you further define “new?”</p> <p>Would an existing licensed agency looking to open a day care program at a new site be considered “new” or “expanding,” given that every site must be licensed? What about an existing licensed agency that is looking to open a program for a different age group?</p> <p>Thank you.</p>
1.0. A.215	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA

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	#2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a> An existing SACC program increasing the size of its registered maximum capacity would not be eligible under RFA #1. The program owner or operator is the person required to complete the orientation. That does not prohibit any other interested parties from taking the course.
1.0. Q.216	My name is D. S. I am currently the owner/provider of DKC Daycare LLC. I just received my Group Family Daycare license as of 12/08/21. I would like to know if I am eligible for this grant opportunity as I am a new provider and licensed before January 28,2022. What do I need to do? What documents do I need to submit? My license is attached to this email. Please help.
1.0. A.216	Providers who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license as of January 28, 2022. If awarded, funds from the Child Care Desert Grant can only be spent on allowable expenses dating back to the date of application submission.  An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
1.0. Q.217	Goodnight my name is A. M. provider for the LR Child Care and I was wondering if the grant covers every district? Saying if I do get awarded does it cover the valley stream area as well? Am I able to open up a day care in the area?
1.0. A.217	NYS will be awarding \$70 million to providers opening new licensed/registered/permitted child care programs in desert areas of New York State. Your program location and/or your regional desert level must be sufficient to achieve a minimum base score of 30 (without bonus points) to be eligible for funding. To view child care deserts in New York State, visit the REDC Child Care Deserts map: <a href="https://bit.ly/cc_deserts">https://bit.ly/cc_deserts</a>
1.0. Q.251	I am reaching out today, because I tried calling the Invest Child Care hotline regarding a question I have, but have been unsuccessful to speaking with someone.
1.0. A.251	If your question has not been answered, please email your questions to <a href="mailto:investnychildcare@ocfs.ny.gov">investnychildcare@ocfs.ny.gov</a> or call 1-844-863-9320. Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are also available to review at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/Child-Care-Desert-QA.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/Child-Care-Desert-QA.en.pdf</a> In addition, you can contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agency for help. A directory of CCR&R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
1.0. Q.254	Where can I see the Frequently Asked Questions and REsponses?
1.0. A.254	You can find the frequently asked questions by clicking here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/Child-Care-Desert-QA.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/Child-Care-Desert-QA.en.pdf</a>
1.0. Q.261	Donde puedo aplicar ? thank you Where can I apply? Thank you
1.0. A.261	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
1.0. Q.262	Good Morning,

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	Can you please let me know where to find the application for the Child Care Desert. I have searched the OCFS website and I could not find it. Thank you so much and God Bless you.
1.0. A.262	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:            Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements            Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type            Step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session            Step 4: Submit a Grant Application            Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
1.0. Q.263	We tried to register for the February 14 meeting on Child Care Desert grant but were closed out. I believe it was due to limited capacity. I also believe that the meeting was to be recorded and archived so that we would be able to view it at a later date. I am wondering if you know where the archived version is/will be housed
1.0. A.263	<p>You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English Versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p><u>Spanish versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
1.0. Q.266	Good Afternoon I hope all is well. I'm looking to start my own daycare program. I'm in the process of completing the application online. I completed the orientation online. I just wanted to know how I would start the grant application process
1.0. A.266	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:            Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements            Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type            Step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session            Step 4: Submit a Grant Application            Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
1.0. Q.266	Good Afternoon I hope all is well. I'm looking to start my own daycare program. I'm in the process of completing the application online. I completed the orientation online. I just wanted to know how I would start the grant application process
1.0. A.266	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:            Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements            Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type            Step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session            Step 4: Submit a Grant Application            Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>



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1.0.Q.267	Good morning, today February 17 <sup>th</sup> I submitted a request for an application to GFDC program, and I think by mistake I didn't put my apartment number, so I'll appreciate if you can help me to update my complete address which is .... I'm sorry for the mistake but when saw I'll received books and documents I realized about that mistake.
1.0.A.267	Issues or questions about a child care registration application should be directed to the OCFS Regional Office in your area or your local Child Care and Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agency. Contact information for Regional Offices is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php</a> A directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
1.0.Q.268	I'm wondering when the full Q&A will be posted or sent out?
1.0.A.268	The Q&A document is posted on the OCFS website and will be updated as questions are processed. The Q&A document is available at: <a href="http://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">http://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are also available to review at the same location.
1.0. Q.269	We want to open a child care on XXXX street brooklyn ny 11235 is that a needed area? Are we will get some grant? Please e mail us or call us
1.0. A.269	To view child care deserts in New York State, visit the REDC Child Care Deserts map: <a href="https://bit.ly/cc_deserts">https://bit.ly/cc_deserts</a>  Higher scores in child care deserts may be more likely to qualify for funding. However, funding is based on an application's total score compared to the total scores of other applications received in the same REDC and modality (day care centers, school age child care, and home-based). Providers with a minimum base score of 30 (without bonus points) are eligible to apply. See RFA Section 5.2 Application Content and 6.2, Evaluation Process for more information.
1.0. Q.270	I have a couple of questions regarding the grant opportunity. First question is, we have someone who wants to open up her own group family day care for infants in a desert considered area where child care is needed, however her question is, do you in any way help with the purchase of the new location or the grant is pretty much given after you already have the daycare and license?
1.0. A.270	Applicants needing assistance with starting child care programs can contact the OCFS Regional Office for their county ( <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php</a> ) or their local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R).  Applicants can find their local CCR&R here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>  Providers in New York City should visit NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene at <a href="http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/business/permits-and-licenses/children-and-adolescents-childcare.page">http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/business/permits-and-licenses/children-and-adolescents-childcare.page</a> or call 311 and ask for: day care license  This grant cannot be used for major renovations or capital expenses such as purchase of a new building. Applicants seeking assistance with these costs should contact their local <a href="#">Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs)</a> for assistance. Note that child care programs funded under this RFA must be licensed and operating within 120 days of their notice of pre-award.
1.0. Q.271	Hello I want to know if I can qualify for the child care dessert grant my address is XXX Staten Island NY 10303.
1.0. A.271	To view child care deserts in New York State, visit the REDC Child Care Deserts map: <a href="https://bit.ly/cc_deserts">https://bit.ly/cc_deserts</a>  Higher scores in child care deserts may be more likely to qualify for funding. However, funding is based on an application's total score compared to the total scores of other applications received in the same REDC and modality (day care centers, school age child care, and home-based). Providers with a minimum base score of 30 (without bonus points) are eligible to apply. See RFA Section 5.2 Application Content and 6.2, Evaluation Process for more information.
1.0. Q.272	We are a New York State-registered 501(c)3 Community-based Organization providing high-quality Child Care and Early Childhood Education services in the City of New York. We currently operate 20 City-contracted, Article 47, Center-based programs serving children from Birth to 5-years old. We receive 100

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	<p>percent of our funding from public sources including NYC EarlyLearn, 3K and Pre-K programs funded through the NYC Department of Education.</p> <p>Question: <i>Is our organization eligible to apply for a grant under the current Child Care Deserts RFA#1 (New Programs)?</i></p>
1.0. A.272	<p>Programs that receive 100% of their funding from public sources such as Head Start/Early Head Start or publicly funded Pre-K programs are not eligible. If programs are not 100% funded with public sources, they would be eligible to apply. Please note that any expenses claimed under this grant must be substantiated separately from other funding sources. You may not attribute the same expenses to multiple fund sources.</p>
1.0. Q.273	<p>I am in the holtsville area and wanted to stay close to the area I am in . The reason for this is the growing wait list I have in the area. Can you tell me what areas are good in close proximity to this town. Thank you</p>
1.0. A.273	<p>To view child care deserts in New York State, visit the REDC Child Care Deserts map: <a href="https://bit.ly/cc_deserts">https://bit.ly/cc_deserts</a></p> <p>For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a>.</p>
1.0. Q.301	<p>Hi where can I find a recording of the childcare desert grant information session?</p>
1.0. A.301	<p>You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English Versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p><u>Spanish versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
1.0. Q.302	<p>I have completed the General Orientation. Should I be looking for locations or requesting a Grant application or both at this time?</p>
1.0. A.302	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:  Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session  Step 4: Submit a Grant Application  Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
1.0. Q.304	<p>I am trying ti find help with submitting a RFA for tgere Childcare desert grants. I am a new program in the process of being licensed. I would like to apply but am a bit confused on what to do.</p>
1.0. A.304	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:  Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session</p>

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	<p>Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
1.0. Q.310	Could you provide me with information as to which zip codes in NYC are eligible for this program?
1.0. A.310	To view child care deserts in New York State, visit the REDC Child Care Deserts map: <a href="https://bit.ly/cc_deserts">https://bit.ly/cc_deserts</a>
1.0. Q.311	Hey there my name is G.S. I'm contacting you because I'm in the process of opening my childcare and I will like to get an application for the childcare dessert program.
1.0. A.311	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
1.0. Q.313	Hi im trying to find out more about the grant im a New Childcare Provider,I was trying to fo the webinar but all classes was full...i would be so grateful for any information
1.0. A.313	<p>All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p> <p>You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English Versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p><u>Spanish versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
1.0. Q.316	<p>Can I please have the recordings or slides for the Desert Grant information sessions? If it is not available, please kindly let me know the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Once applied, what is the timeline of approval/denial decisions?</li> <li>2. How much can we apply for? Will it be depending on the scope of the work?</li> </ol>
1.0. A.316	<p><b>See 1.0 A.10 - *update with link for February 14<sup>th</sup> session now posted on website and 5.0 A.30 and 5.0 A.39(a.)</b></p> <p>You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English Versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> </ul>

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1.0. Q.404	<p>Hello, I would like to know how to access the childcare grant application that will be opening in April. Also, what is the expected date that applications will be accepted. Originally I was told April 11.</p>
1.0. A.404	<p>The application period opened April 11, 2022, and closes May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.</p> <p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
1.0. Q.405	<p>Pls sent to me all information pls</p>
1.0. A.405	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
1.0. Q.451	<p>Good afternoon, my name is R.B. owner of ___ Daycare located in Brooklyn, NY. I wanted to know if it was possible for me to join one of the regional sessions in order to apply for the desert grant. I was told to email you to discuss the options i have currently on joining a class. Please let me know as soon as possible if you can assist me with this as it is very important, it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.</p>
1.0. A.451	<p>You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> </ul>

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1.0. Q.452	<p>Info regarding desert grant Group family day care __ linden st Yonkers ny</p>
1.0. A.452	<p>All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
1.0. Q.453	<p>Good day my is N.D.H. Which areas in the city qualify for the Child Care Grant Program? Before applying for the Child Care Grant Program, what should I do before I submit my application? Where should I submit my information? Can I email it and if so, to whom?</p>
1.0. A.453	<p>All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
1.0. Q.454	<p>Good Morning My name is L.F-L. and I am applying for the Desert Grant however one of the requirements is to take an information session, but they are all booked. Can you please explain how can I get into a session please?</p>
1.0. A.454	<p>You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p>English versions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Spanish versions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
1.0. Q.455	<p>I am in the process of applying for a Family Child Care license. I'd like to apply for the Desert Child Care grant. One of the requirements is to attend a regional session. I live in Painted Post and there are no sessions available in the Southern Tier or Finger Lakes region. Can you please let me know if I can proceed with the application or if there is a way to attend virtually?</p>
1.0. A.455	<p>You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p>English versions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Spanish versions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul>

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	Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
1.0. Q.456	Hi my name is s. i live in the ___ belmont ave bronx ny 10457 i need to know if i qualified for the grant
1.0. A.456	All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>  For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHnqyRfXpk</a> .
1.0. Q.457	Is this funding for new childcare programs or funding for parents needing to pay child care?
1.0. A.457	This opportunity is for the purpose of increasing the number of available child care slots in NYS in those areas identified as areas of need.  Information on how to become a childcare provider is available on the OCFS webpage at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php</a> . Additional resources are also available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a>  In addition, contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agency for help. . A directory of CCR&R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a> . Please find more information on the Grant Application Process at the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.
1.0. Q.458	Good afternoon can i please get the link or website for the orientation training.
1.0. A.458	OCFS Orientation is available online at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php</a>  If you are intending to open a NYC Group Day Care Center the orientation can be found here: <a href="https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action">https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action</a>
1.0.Q.460	Buenas deseo poner un Day care y deseo saber dond hacer los cursos correspondientes y si el gobierno me.ofrece alguna ayuda para ponerlo  Hello, I want to set up a day care and I want to know where to do the corresponding courses and if the government offers me any help to set it up.
<b>1.0.A.460</b>	All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
<b>Section 2.0 Executive Overview</b>	
2.0. Q.15	Good evening, I have a few questions about the grant. If I already have a day care center open am I allowed to apply for this grant to open another? If so, do I also have to do the orientation again? I'm trying to figure out if where I want the new day care will be okay for the grant.
2.0. A.15	Yes, as a currently licensed Day Care Center you would be eligible to apply for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 as a new program if you open a new child care program. Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . Regarding the orientation, for purposes of this grant, completing an orientation is required when requesting licensure of a new facility, even if you have previously taken the orientation.

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2.0. Q.16	Hi I would like to open day care center at zip code 11385 and 11218 and 11367 would that consider to liable to open
2.0. A.16	Applicants should enter their address into the Child Care Desert mapping tool to find out what an estimated score on the RFA might be. <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a>
2.0. Q.17	Good morning, I was interested in obtaining more information about the Desert grant. I'm from the finger lake region. I would like a better understanding about it Thank u I can be reached at xxx.
2.0. A.17	<p>For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.</p> <p>An informational session on the grant was held in February and a recording of the presentation is available to view on the OCFS website. You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p><u>Spanish versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
2.0. Q18	Hi would like to know more about the grant, What would it cover like helping buying a building? Construction? Or something else? And how much money can I get?
2.0. A.18	<p>This grant cannot be used for major renovations or capital expenses. For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.</p> <p>Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
2.0. Q.19	My name is H B-Y. I own a Group Family Day care in Oneonta, NY. I am very excited about the desert grant because I am in the process of expanding to a much needed child care center. The center will be open from 6am until 12 am M-F. My goal is to eventually offer overnight care also. I am writing to ask about what I am allowed to do before April to prepare for the application. The building that I have been preparing needs to be furnished and I have to start paying rent before April 2022. Am I allowed to acquire a loan to start purchasing equipment and supplies? I don't want to start any activities that will prevent me from qualifying for the grant when it opens in April. I tried to research what was allowed prior to April, but it wasn't clear to me. Thanks in advance for clarifying the details for me.
2.0. A.19	Providers who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license as of January 28, 2022. If awarded, funds from the child care desert grant can only be spent on allowable expenses dating back to the date of application submission.
2.0. Q.20	After owning a group family day care for 14 years I could not afford to stay open. I closed my group family day care last July 2021 and submitted back my license. I have not done anything with the space. If I try to re-open my group family daycare with this grant Money apply? I unfortunately lost \$15,000 last year and had to close my doors. I was also interested in the summer camp. Can you please send me information on opening a summer camp?
2.0. A.20	Providers that held a license within the year preceding the issue date of RFA #1 are not eligible to apply. For more information on operating a summer camp, please contact your local department of health or NYS Department of Health.

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2.0. Q.65	I'm reaching out because I read today about the new child care grant opportunity. I recently purchased land in Phoenicia, NY where I currently run a day care center. I intend to put new buildings on the property and create two preschool and one toddler classroom (in the long run). I tried to look online and it looks like our area may not be considered a desert area, even though I have a waiting list twice what I can currently accommodate. Is this a grant that I could apply for and potentially be eligible for to do this?
2.0. A.65	This grant is specifically for providers opening new programs in areas of the state that are identified as child care deserts, based on available data. If your day care center is within an area designated as a desert, you may qualify to apply under the next grant opportunity for existing programs seeking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit. If your area is not in a desert you would not qualify to apply.
2.0. Q.66	I am in the process of opening up a childcare program in Westchester, New York. I recently heard about this wonderful opportunity and would really appreciate if someone could give me a call at so that I can ask specific questions about how to read the map.
2.0. A.66	For more information on the Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a> .
2.0. Q.67	I would like to know if my area is considered a desert area. (I couldn't figure it out on the map). I live in Brooklyn, NY 11219 - Kings County. Can you please advise?
2.0. A.67	For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a> .
2.0. Q.68	How can I find out what specific zip codes that fall within various census tract ID #. For example, what zip codes fall within Census Tract ID1146.03. I googled trying to find this information and was unsuccessful. Thank you
2.0. A.68	Census tract boundaries do not correspond to zip code boundaries. A census tract might have one zip code or many, and a zip code might cross census tract boundaries. For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a> .
2.0. Q.69	What is the website for the map?
2.0. A.69	The Child Care Deserts map is available on the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a> .
2.0. Q.70	Greetings. I am currently a daycare provider. To my knowledge we are not allowed to have more than one program. Is this program giving us the opportunity to establish another childcare business in a desert area? Please assist me in clarifying this. Thank you.
2.0. A.70	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>



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2.0. Q.71	I am interested in this program. This is to help and guide me to open up my own daycare? I enrolled in the webinar and was accepted. Now I attends that webinar and from there on you will guide and help me with the process
2.0. A.71	Yes, this opportunity is for the purpose of increasing the number of available child care slots in NYS in those areas identified as areas of need. Please find the Grant Application Process at the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.
2.0. Q.72	Good morning. My name is M.L and I currently have a group family daycare. Can your please tell me how this grant would apply towards me?
2.0. A.72	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate grant opportunity is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
2.0. Q.73	I hope you are doing well and can assist. I am having a hard time understanding the map. I am located in Brooklyn, NY 11218. Is that area eligible?
2.0. A.73	For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk</a>.</li> </ul>
2.0. Q.74	When applying for the RFA what exactly is needed because i have my masters in special and general ed from birth - 2nd grade and certified as well. I did take the online ordination a few months ago and got the certificate of completion. Does this grant help you with opening a childcare business for example like a pre-k for all?
2.0. A.74	Yes, this opportunity is for the purpose of increasing the number of available child care slots in NYS in those areas identified as areas of need.  Information on how to become a childcare provider is available on the OCFS webpage at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php</a> . Additional resources are also available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a>  In addition, contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agency for help. . A directory of CCR&R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a> . Please find more information on the Grant Application Process at the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.
2.0. Q.75	What if I offer spots and extended hours and they are not filled
2.0. A.75	In order to receive the bonus, the non-traditional hours slots must be available, and the program must be open, regardless of attendance, as reflected in grant requirements. The program must also be open and operating with required staff ratio to provide the non-traditional hours to the number of slots stated in the application.
2.0. Q.76	Can this new program grant be awarded to property rented not owned?
2.0. A.76	Yes, the proposed program site location site can be a location that is owned or rented by the provider.
2.0. Q.77	Will a program be eligible for the bonus if they *offer* non-traditional hours care but if families don't choose to use it?

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2.0. A.77	In order to receive the bonus, the non-traditional hours slots must be available, and the program must be open, regardless of attendance, as reflected in grant requirements. The program must also be open and operating with required staff ratio to provide the non-traditional hours to the number of slots stated in the application.
2.0. Q.78	Do you get full point credit if you locate a building that is in compliance 1 mile away from the actual Desert if you give the slots to persons who reside in the Desert?
2.0. A.78	Scoring of the RFA is based on the census tract where the child care program is located. RFA scoring does not include points based on the residence of children in care.
2.0. Q.79	But it can be used to rent a new place? The place I currently rent doesn't allow daycare. I am looking for a place nearby.
2.0. A.79	Funds can be used for rent or mortgage expenses, and for home based providers, they should use their provider cost allocation methodology. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.80	How do these points correlate with the amount of a grant one will qualify for?
2.0. A.80	Programs will be scored on their location score and compliance with all eligibility requirements as well as other program details. The points obtained based on this information determine the eligibility for the grant and do not influence the amount of funding. Grant award amounts are based on the modality, geography, capacity of the program and if they will offer infant/toddler slots or non-traditional hours.
2.0. Q.81	Can I use some of the money for sign-on bonuses to attract qualified employees, especially for evening care?
2.0. A.81	Funds can be used for recruitment expenses and retention bonuses. One example is to offer a sign-on bonus paid after the completion of training. Pay increases and retention bonuses are also permitted.  Additional information on how grant funds can be used is available within <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses- https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.82	Can an individual apply for the grant in the NYC AND the Long Island area or can you only apply to one geographical location?
2.0. A.82	The grant is based on the exact physical location of a child care program applying to be licensed in a desert area. Applicants must submit 1 application per facility ID/ in response to this RFA. An individual may apply in multiple geographic locations if applying for a license/registration/permit at more than one site location.
2.0. Q.83	Can I apply for multiple areas to see if I can get approved in a location? Im not set on staying in one town or another I would just love to have this opportunity.
2.0. A.83	The grant is based on the exact physical location of a child care program applying to be licensed in a desert area. Applicants must submit 1 application per facility ID/ in response to this RFA. An individual may apply in multiple geographic locations if applying for a license/registration/permit at more than one site location
2.0. Q.84	Say you are in a zone with a score of 70, if you serve children in a 100 zone (immediately across the street) can that be factored in?
2.0. A.84	Programs will be scored on the program's location score and compliance with all eligibility requirements as well as other program details. RFA scoring does not include points based on the residence of children in care.
2.0. Q.85	Sorry- just saw all of my typos. My question is: How can I find out what specific zip codes fall within the various census tract ID#s, For example, what zip codes fall within Census Tract ID 116.03. I googled to find this information and was unsuccessful. Thank you
2.0. A.85	Census tract boundaries do not correspond to zip code boundaries. A census tract might have one zip code or many, and a zip code might cross census tract boundaries. For more information on the REDC Child Care

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	Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhnqyRfXpk</a> .
2.0. Q.86	If I know my exact address, is the map 100% correct? My location is in a somewhat industrial area, so it rates pretty low with the desert score but if you go over 1 street there are no slots available so it is an additional 40 points. I have already purchased a building and have started the licensing process.
2.0. A.86	The calculated deserts scores provided through the Regional Economic Development Council ( REDC ) map are based upon the exact address in which the facility will be opened, and the census tract of that address.
2.0. Q.87	Is there any consideration for locations that are just on the border of a high desert area? I have a potential site that is in a high need area, but only scores a 50. It is just on the opposite side of the street from an area with an estimated RFA base of 80.
2.0. A.87	The calculated deserts scores provided through the REDC map are based upon the exact address in which the facility will be opened, and the census tract of that address.
2.0. Q.88	Our primary question is about the location of facilities. If a Census tract is a desert, but an adjacent tract is not because it is not as residential (i.e. has businesses), does the childcare facility need to be in the desert, or can it be in the adjacent tract because it would be helpful to parents?
2.0. A.88	The calculated deserts scores provided through the REDC map are based upon the exact address in which the facility will be opened, and the census tract of that address.
2.0. Q.89	Just to clarify, is Kingston part of downstate?
2.0. A.89	Yes, Kingston is in Ulster County and is part of the Westchester region (Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester counties). Downstate includes New York City and Long Island (Nassau and Suffolk counties). and the Westchester region (Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester counties).
2.0. Q.90	Can funds be used to improve facilities?
2.0. A.90	Yes, funds can be used for facility maintenance and minor improvements. Funds cannot be used for major renovations or capital expenses. Additional information on how grant funds can be used is available within <a href="#">RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses</a> - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.91	For bonus related to Non-Traditional Hours- Could that simply mean operating Monday-Friday up until 6:30 pm or 7:00pm (beyond regular business hours); not open on weekends or overnight?
2.0. A.91	Non-Traditional Hours are those hours of care provided after 7 pm until 6 am, as well as weekends and the following federal holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Programs must meet all regulatory and program requirements for these services and obtain license approval to provide services during these hours. For NYC Article 47 Day Care Centers, non-traditional hours are defined consistent with the RFA definition and threshold. Programs wishing to offer overnight care must comply with NYC Night Child Care program requirements, defined as "a child care program that accepts children for care starting at 5 P.M., provides child care services between 5 P.M. and 8 A.M., and operates more than one night per week, for more than 30 days in a 12-month period. Non-Traditional hours of care as defined in the RFA must be available a minimum of 15 hours per week for all modalities of care except for SACC. SACC programs must have care available during 75% of all school breaks and holiday breaks in accordance with their local school calendar. Summer hours are not included in this percentage for SACC to be eligible for non-traditional hours.
2.0. Q.92	For SACC - would an afterschool program be considered "providing non-traditional hours"?
2.0. A.92	For SACC programs to meet the RFA requirements for providing non-traditional hours, such programs must have care available during 75% of all school breaks and holiday breaks in accordance with their local school calendar. Summer hours are not included in this percentage for SACC to be eligible for non-traditional hours.

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2.0. Q.93	Can non-traditional hours cover part of the night (for example till 11pm or from 5am) and/or part of legal holidays?
2.0. A.93	<p>Non-Traditional Hours: those hours of care provided after 7 pm until 6 am, as well as weekends and the following federal holidays: New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. Programs must meet all regulatory and program requirements for these services and obtain license approval to provide services during these hours.</p> <p>For NYC Article 47 Day Care Centers, non-traditional hours are defined consistent with the RFA definition and threshold. Programs wishing to offer overnight care need to comply with NYC Night Child Care permit program requirements, defined as “a child care program that accepts children for care starting at 5 P.M., provides child care services between 5 P.M. and 8 A.M., and operates more than one night per week, for more than 30 days in a 12-month period. Non-Traditional hours of care as defined in the RFA must be available a minimum of 15 hours per week for all modalities of care except for SACC. SACC programs must have care available during 75% of all school breaks and holiday breaks in accordance with their local school calendar. Summer hours are not included in this percentage for SACC to be eligible for non-traditional hours.</p>
2.0. Q.94	Does it cover to hire staff?
2.0. A.94	Yes, funds can be used for personnel, payroll, and recruitment expenses as well as retention bonuses. Additional information on how grant funds can be used is available within <a href="#">RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses</a> . - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.95	Can you repeat, are funds paid as reimbursement?
2.0. A.95	This is not a reimbursement-based grant but awarded providers are required to keep a record of how funds are used to support their child care program. Written or electronic record of all receipts must be available throughout the grant period in case of an audit and kept available for at least 6 years following the end of the grant. More information on how grant funds can be used, review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses. - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0.Q.105	Could you please explain the desert areas a bit more for me. For instance I am looking at opening a daycare in Latham or Clifton Park. Do either of these areas qualify for a grant? If so, could you tell me approximately how much I would be eligible for?
2.0. A.105	Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site’s score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> .
2.0.Q.106	I am a licensed Group Family Daycare Center In Wantagh NY. Do I qualify to open a new Center in the desert area?
2.0. A.106	Yes, as a currently licensed center you would be eligible to apply for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 as a new program if you open a new child care program. Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site’s score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> .
2.0.Q.107	In the RFA Section 3.1 in the paragraph following paragraph twelve. It says the following providers are not eligible. Existing programs with a license/ registration /permit. My facility it an article 28 health center. We are considering adding on a childcare service as part of a respite program. Does having the article 28 bar us from qualifying for the childcare grant for a new program?
2.0. A.107	This funding opportunity is available to OCFS licensed and registered child care programs as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH, which will collectively be referred to as “licensed” in this funding opportunity. If your Health center does not already hold a license/registration/ permit under these and are applying to obtain a License/ registration/permit as outlined in the RFA your program may apply. Any potential restriction, conditions under Article 28 notwithstanding.

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2.0.Q.108	<p>My name is LB. I previously operated and OCFS licensed group family day care but had to close in 2020 due to the pandemic and a personal health crisis. I'd like to reopen and would like to know more about this grant opportunity.</p> <p>One of the major challenges that I am facing is finding a space to operate. I had previously been renting and could not renew the lease when I stopped offering childcare. Are there resources for finding space to rent?</p> <p>My program, BCH, was a very successful and loving community that I hope to rebuild!</p>
2.0. A.108	<p>OCFS is not able to assist applicants with locating a child care site. If you have questions dealing with licensing requirements and selecting a facility site, please reach out to your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&amp;R). A directory of CCR&amp;R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></p>
2.0.Q.109	<p>I will have a DOH permit for 2-5 years old. Can i still offer an Infant or toddler slot ?</p>
2.0. A.109	<p>For NYC Article 47 day care centers, infant/toddler programs are defined as a child care program that provides care to children younger than 24 months of age. An additional permit must be obtained to care for this age group.</p>
2.0. Q.110	<p>Are the grant awards based on region or a set number of awards for the RFA?</p>
2.0. A.110	<p>Application answers will be automatically scored via the electronic application. Award recommendations will be made in score order to all eligible provider modalities (program types) out of the funding available for each program type and REDC. After the application submission deadline, applications will be ranked in final average score order (from highest to lowest) within each REDC and pre- approvals will be issued. Awards will be made in score order (from highest to lowest) to licensed programs with a minimum base score of 30 (not including bonus points) until funding is exhausted. Scores below 30 will not be funded.</p>
2.0.Q.111	<p>Good morning I have 3 group family day care in westbury ny 11590 aver 8 years and 16 kids in each program and this child care desert program will allow me to have another group family day care or child day care center?</p>
2.0. A.111	<p>An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
2.0.Q.112	<p>Is there a difference in the grant total depending on the kind of daycare? What is the range of the grant? Also, I currently have a daycare but I'm renting and my landlord is selling the house. As I understand it, I have to apply for a new daycare license when I move. Will I qualify for a grant if I'm just moving locations?</p>
2.0. A.112	<p>Yes, there is a difference in grant amounts between the different modalities. An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
2.0. Q.113	<p>I am currently a licensed Group Family Child Care provider in Queens, NY. I am licensed to have up to 12 kids in my home. Is there an opportunity to "expand" my license and be able to use the second floor of my home as additional spots and increase capacity. ?</p>
2.0. A.113	<p>A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
2.0. Q.114	<p>Good morning my name it's G G, I'm an owner of a child daycare I received an email about the grants for a new child program I was trying to get the orientation but my borough which is Queens it's not showing in the list, how can I do it.</p>
2.0. A.114	<p>OCFS Orientation is available online at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php</a></p>

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	<p>If you are intending to open a NYC Group Day Care Center the orientation can be found here: <a href="https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action">https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action</a></p>
2.0. Q.115	<p>Good afternoon, I'd like to find out more information on this childcare desert program and the areas on Staten Island that are considered a desert. We are a group family day care in business for over 13+ years, that would love to either expand or open another location where necessary.</p>
2.0. A.115	<p>Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>.</p> <p>An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
2.0. Q.116	<p>a. Will the \$3,000 grant bonus for non-traditional hours be paid regardless of enrollment or will we only be paid the bonus for children who are enrolled? b. Will the \$3,000 grant bonus for infant/toddler slots be paid regardless of enrollment or will we only be paid the bonus for children who are enrolled? c. As a provider will I be listed as a 'desert area childcare provider' in order to fill the children slots?</p>
2.0. A.116	<p>a. Programs will be paid the bonus amount after proof of deliverable is met, that can happen without active enrollment. Providers must also provide documentation of child enrollment fire drills and/or shelter in place drills, request for additional shift of care, staffing plan/work schedules, staff qualifications and staff attendance log documentation to meet the staff/child ratio for the awarded slots. b. To be eligible for this bonus, providers must provide staffing plan/work schedules, staff qualifications and staff attendance log documentation to meet the staff/child ratio for the awarded slots. In addition, the program must report on their quarterly report the number of infant/toddler enrolled for each quarter of the grant to receive the quarterly payment for providing these slots. The bonus will also be paid after proof of deliverable is met regardless of enrollment. c. Awardees of this grant will not be identified On the OCFS website</p>
2.0. Q.117	<p>Intentionally omitted.</p>
2.0. Q.118	<p>Thank you for putting this together! We have a Family Group Day Care. Q - Is it possible to have two daycare programs in the same house? Background - We recently moved our daycare from the main floor to the elevated basement. We are hoping to open a second program in the same house. We would split infant/toddlers on one floor/program, and the school age children on the other floor/program, and if needed/required each managed by a different director. Thank you!</p>
2.0. A.118	<p>No, Under no circumstances may there be more than one licensed or registered child day care program in any one dwelling unit in a personal residence.</p>
2.0. Q.119	<p>how much for after school program or daycare center?</p>
2.0. A.119	<p>There are many factors that contribute to the grant amount including how many children will be in care and where the program is located within the state. Information about the grant amounts can be found on the RFA located here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf</a></p>
2.0. Q.120	<p>Do they give start up funds?</p>
2.0. A.120	<p>Funds will not be provided in advance. Upon licensure and award, grant payments can be applied to allowable project expenses that applicants paid beginning on the grant application submission date. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>

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2.0. Q.121	how much will after school program or daycare center receive ?
2.0. A.121	There are many factors that contribute to the grant amount including how many children will be in care and where the program is located within the state. Information about the grant amounts can be found on the RFA located here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf</a>
2.0. Q.122	Does the bonus mean \$3,000 in addition to the base amount already offered per slot?
2.0. A.122	Yes, providers who receive a bonus will receive an additional \$3,000 per slot annually.
2.0. Q.123	Am I understanding it correctly that SACC programs can or will be \$2500.?
2.0. A.123	The SACC annual award per child care slot is \$2,500 or \$3,300 depending on the program's location. Funding is made in quarterly payments depending on the awardee meeting all deliverables.
2.0. Q.124	is the award yearly or that's the total max amount?
2.0. A.124	The first of 8 quarterly payments will be made at 1/8 <sup>th</sup> of the total award amount after the license has been issued to the new program and all pre and post-award requirements are met. The additional 7 payments will be made quarterly after the initial payment as long as the awardee is meeting all deliverables. Funding is currently anticipated to be available for the duration of the grant but depends on continued availability of federal funds which are not guaranteed.
2.0. Q.125	Is the bonus on top of the original per slot award for toddler slots? In other words, do toddler slots essentially get 12,000 per slot?
2.0. A.125	The bonus is an additional \$3,000 per slot annually to the base annual grant. The base award amount varies based on the modality of care and location of the program.
2.0. Q.126	My question is in reference to the per slot method. Is it per child's availability in the daycare? And if so, what happened if the daycare only has 4 spots available? is the provider being award for those 4 spots available?
2.0. A.126	This amount is based on the number of slots a center-based program has (capacity) up to the maximum grant award.
2.0. Q.127	The \$9000 award is per child per year or per 2 years
2.0. A.127	The base award amount varies based on the modality of care and location of the program. It is a maximum annual amount.
2.0. Q.128	Does the grant cap include the bonus piece as well?
2.0. A.128	Yes, the grant cap includes any bonuses the program may be eligible for.
2.0. Q.129	The \$9000 award is per child attending the program or per maximum license capacity?
2.0. A.129	For center-based care, the base award amount per slot varies based on modality of care and location of program. This value is based on the number of slots a program has, based on its licensed capacity, up to the maximum grant award.
2.0. Q.130	I own a daycare already and I am at full capacity, can I use the grant to open a second location? Thanks
2.0. A.130	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
2.0. Q.131	As a current GFDC Provider who wants to change to a DCC in a separate location, am I eligible for the grant?

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2.0. A.131	As a currently licensed Group Family Day Care seeking to expand to become a Day Care Center, you would be considered a new program for this grant opportunity and eligible to apply under RFA #1. The new program must have a greater capacity than the current program. Guidance on opening a Day Care Center and license requirements is available through your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agency. Please refer to the CCR&R directory to identify your local CCR&R and their contact information, available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
2.0. Q.132	How about a site that is closing and we would like to relicence a new center and definately increasing infant and toddler slots from the previous owner
2.0. A.132	An individual or entity applying for licensure to operate a child care program at a specific location that it is not currently operating is eligible to apply. The location may be the same as long as the individual or entity is new.
2.0. Q.133	Would it pay for college reimbursement for staff looking to go back to school?
2.0. A.133	Award funds may be used for Training and technical assistance expenses, including professional development, business trainings, and business services. You can also review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.134	What specific items this grant will cover? Windows,floors,doors make more space??
2.0. A.134	The grant can be used for minor renovations. Funds cannot be used for construction or major renovations such as structural changes, extension of a facility to increase floor area, or extensive alteration of the facility. For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.135	If we would like to install a fence to our outside play area , is that an allowable expense ?
2.0. A.135	Funds can be used for minor renovations, but funds cannot be used for construction or major renovations such as structural changes, extension of a facility to increase floor area, or extensive alteration of the facility. For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.136	Can we use it to pay for rent / security deposits for new locations
2.0. A.136	For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.137	.Can one buy an existing daycare within a desert and get a new license to operate it; improve it and receive the desert grants to help?
2.0. A.137	An individual or entity applying for new licensure to operate a child care program at a specific location that it is not currently operating is eligible to apply. The location may be the same as long as the individual or entity and license is new.
2.0. Q.138	what happened if you are not located in a child care desert Census track but thinking about opening another site and have a alredy a waiting list for that new site. That the score changes?
2.0. A.138	Programs will be scored on the program's location score and compliance with all eligibility requirements as well as other program details. If the proposed program site location must change after the site visit, applicants must provide a new site location meeting site requirements by the Section 1.2 Application Submission Deadline, to be eligible for funding. Failure to update the new program location and information (# to be served may change, etc.) in the application by Application Submission Deadline will eliminate the program from being funded. For program requirements, please review section 3 of the RFA, Minimum Qualification to Apply and Prequalification Process - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>



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2.0. Q.139	You said that this grant cannot be used or applied to new construction center. Does this mean if we wish to apply, we would have to complete the construction phase in its entirety first prior to applying?
2.0. A.139	Funds can be used for minor renovations, but funds cannot be used for construction or major renovations such as structural changes, extension of a facility to increase floor area, or extensive alteration of the facility. You do not need to wait to apply, but the program must be operating no later than 120 days after receiving a notice of grant award.
2.0. Q.140	For the infant toddler bonus, can we have only toddlers (18 months to 36 months) or must we have birth to 36 months?
2.0. A.140	Applicants may apply to serve the age groups it chooses within the program licensure. Infant/Toddler slots are provided to a child between the ages of birth up to 36 months. Such services and staffing must meet all regulatory and program requirements for this age group. Awardees are not required to serve children of all age groups.  For NYC Article 47 day care centers, infant/toddler programs are defined as a child care program that provides care to children younger than 24 months of age.
2.0. Q.141	For GFDC setting: 4 infants slots will add 3000 per slot even in the case that not all 4 slots filled up?
2.0. A.141	Providers who receive a license for infant/toddler capacity will receive an additional \$3,000 per infant/toddler slot annually. To be eligible for this bonus, providers must provide staffing plan/work schedules, staff qualifications and staff attendance log documentation to meet the staff/child ratio for the awarded slots regardless of enrollment. In addition, the program must report on their quarterly report the number of infant/toddler enrolled for each quarter of the grant to receive the quarterly payment for providing these slots.
2.0. Q.142	I currently live in an apartment building and not allowed to have a home daycare here. I am currently working on buying a home. In order to be eligible for the grant, when should i be in a home/apartment that is allowable to have a home daycare? I am planning on doing non- traditional hours. Can i get financial help towards a new home or apartment? In the past I have had trouble finding an apartment where the landlord will allow me to operate the daycare.
2.0. A.142	The OCFS status of “Application Requested” or “Application Received” must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.
2.0. Q.143	Can a new provider open a 3K or Pre-K program?
2.0. A.143	Programs that receive 100% of their funding from public sources such as Head Start/Early Head Start or publicly funded Pre-K programs are not eligible. If programs are not 100% funded with public sources, they would be eligible to apply. Please note that any expenses claimed under this grant must be substantiated separately from other funding sources. You may not attribute the same expenses to multiple fund sources.
2.0. Q.144	were areas surrounding child care deserts taken into consideration so as to not take enrollment from centers in adjacent areas?
2.0. A.144	Applications will be scored on the location and other factors within the area of the proposed program. Any child care centers within the same census tract was considered. The centers outside of those areas were not.
2.3. Q.145	if one applies for a different borough, ie: Queens, but gets a location on the Bronx. Can the grant still be used for the Bronx site?
2.0. A.145	If the proposed program site location must change after the pre-license site visit, applicants must provide a new site location meeting site requirements by the Section 1.2 Application Submission Deadline, to be eligible for funding. Failure to update the new program location and information (# to be served may change, etc.) in the application by Application Submission Deadline will eliminate the program from being funded.

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	See 4.0 A.25
2.0. Q.146	Understand the "desert" concept; definitely true; however, finding/hiring staff is a larger DESERT dilemma. Any solutions for this aspect?
2.0. A.146	Grant funds can be used for payroll and personnel costs. Please see the RFA, RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses. <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.147	What if you are opening in a non traditionally diverse area but plan to serve a diverse targeted population.
2.0. A.147	Applications will be scored on the location and other factors within the area of the proposed program. The diversity of the area of the program was considered. The demographic information of the children in care is not apart of that calculation.
2.0. Q.148	The 70 Million is allocated for the State and City of NYC does this mean programs that will be awarded could be around 10-15 programs ?
2.0. A.148	New York State identified \$100M to build and expand child care capacity in areas with the least supply. For this funding opportunity, the geographic area used to measure population is a census tract. An area is identified as a child care "desert" if there are three or more children under the age of five per available child care slot in licensed/registered day care centers, family day care, or group family day care programs. Programs throughout the state are eligible to apply.
2.0. Q.149	During Covid, our town and region has had a huge influx of young families with children. Therefore our census numbers are now pretty far off. We have lots of infants and toddlers and only 1 childcare provider in town. Is there any way to update the census data?
2.0. A.149	There is not an update to Census numbers at this time.
2.0. Q.150	rephrased question: Can this grant be used to open an Early Intervention Center?
2.0. A.150	This grant is for OCFS licensed/registered child care programs or those programs that are permitted by NYC as Article 47 day care centers. To find out if you are eligible read section 3.0 of the RFA, Minimum Qualifications to Apply, section 7.0 Mandatory Award Requirements, and section 8.0, Program-Specific Requirements and Forms: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf</a>
2.0 Q.151	DO you have to live in the desert zone to open up a daycare?
2.0. A.151	No. However, to be eligible for this grant opportunity the proposed child care location must be located in a desert. The grant is based on the address of the child care program, not the residential address of the owner or staff.
2.0. Q.152	How long do programs have to spend the financial award? For example, will centers be able to use training/professional development funds later into year 1? Is it a multiple year grant?
2.0. A.152	Once a grant is awarded, program costs such as training and professional development expenses can be incurred and paid until 9/30/2024.
2.0 Q.153	What date are we expected to open or start after awards are announced?
2.0 A.153	All programs must be licensed/registered/permitted and open within 120 days of their pre-award letter. To achieve this timeline, applicants must submit all required documentation to their licensing entity within 60 days of pre-award.  All programs must meet and continue to meet all licensing requirements throughout the grant, including deliverable 1: program is open and operating.  Please Note: Programs that are licensed after 9/30/2022 will not receive all eight quarterly payments. That is because the grant period ends on 6/30/2024 and no payments will be made beyond that date. Additionally, funding is currently anticipated to be available for the duration of the grant but depends on continued availability of federal funds which are not guaranteed.

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2.0. Q.218	Can you explain the map more clearly- the lighter the zone the more need or vice versa?
2.0. A.218	For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk</a> .
2.0. Q.222	My name is T.T-C. I received my license for family daycare June/2021. If I decided to become a group daycare would I qualify for “invest in NY Child care Desserts Grant” ?
2.0. A.222	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by <b>either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality</b> . A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
2.0. Q.223	I hope all is well. I'm writing to find out if I qualify to partake in the desert grant. I have applied for a new license and I am still under the review stage. I am uncertain of what other requirements or expectations I need to meet in order to qualify. If you can provide me with information or even give me a call so I know if I'll be eligible to partake m, that'll be wonderful. I look forward to talking with you soon. Thank you again advance.
2.0. A.223	Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.  There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
2.0. Q.274	Can I accept ACS/HRA child care vouchers while receiving Desert funding?
2.0. A.274	Yes, if awarded, providers are strongly encouraged to accept families using child care subsidy (voucher) as part of their program, to the extent they request to attend the program.
2.0. Q.275	I'm wondering when the application process will start for the RFA second part for current existing providers. The 30 million part of it.
2.0. A.275	A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
2.0. Q.276	I wanted to clarify one point regarding this grant opportunity offered thru OCFS. This is available to NEW providers only, yes? We are a currently operating child care program (licensed by the NYC DOH) in a zone designated as a child care desert. Can we also apply for this grant?
2.0. A.276	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
2.0. Q.277	I attended the webinar this afternoon "Invest in NY: Childcare Deserts, had a question in reference to not opening a daycare, but to expand. Please let me know when they will be a webinar for expanding your daycare. When are the applications be available for expanding your daycare.

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2.0. A.277	A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
2.0. Q.278	Is there anything in the new grant for existing providers? Everything I read says for new providers what about the existing home daycares and group family daycares. We would love to help provide care for more children to help with the shortages.
2.0. A.278	A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
2.0. Q.318	1. I am interested in opening a day care center. What is the maximum grant award a day care center applicant can receive? 2. What is the maximum grant award a group family day care can receive?
2.0. A.318	The grant amounts are set amounts or amounts per slot for each modality (program type) as explained in RFA Section 2.3 Purpose and Funding Availability in the chart labeled “2022 Child Care Desert Grant Awards.”
2.0. Q.323	I would like to know if the grant funds would be once application is completed and accepted? Do the daycare center have to be ready to open before receiving the grant?
2.0. A.323	The grant amounts are set amounts or amounts per slot for each modality (program type) as explained in RFA Section 2.3 Purpose and Funding Availability, in the chart labeled, “2022 Child Care Desert Grant Awards.”  The OCFS status of “Application Requested” or “Application Received” must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application, and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.
2.0. Q.324	Good day, My name is _____ and I would like to know if this property that was once a daycare center falls under the desert location in Nassau County where we are looking to start a DayCare program. xx Nassa Rd. Roosevelt, NY  Does this location meet the Child Care Desert requirement. Please feel free to contact me at _____. Thank you for your time and assistance.
2.0. A.324	For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a> .
2.0. Q.325	Good morning, What score is Eligible to apply for grant? When I enter address it says not a desert but still has a score of 50.
2.0. A.325	Locations need to score at least a base score of 30 points (without bonus points) to qualify for the award. Since applicants are competing against each other for ranking, it is unknown what scores will actually be awarded.  For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a> .

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<p>2.0. Q.325B</p>	<p>Good afternoon. I am very interested in applying for the dessert grant program. I have a few specific questions.</p> <p>I have found a building in Queensbury. I found it years ago, but due to Covid, I was unable to get the ball rolling and lease it. I know what I would have to do to the building to make it work with the OCFS regulations. SO my questions are...</p> <p>Would the grant money be able to pay for:  sinks to be installed  a wall to be moved to create the correct square footage  an exterior door installed for an infant room  new carpeting or flooring  having the walls painted</p> <p>These are items that I would need in order to open, and they would be done by a general contractor. As far as I can see, it will not cover construction, but these are minor items needed in the building, not an addition or change to the structure of the building itself.</p> <p>Would the grant money be able to be pay for:</p> <p>lawyers fees as far as zoning or town applications for the building  insurance that is needed, liability, workers comp, disability  supplies such as toys, rest mats, items needed by children  office supplies, such as desks, printers, computers, file cabinets, chairs</p>
<p>2.0. A.325B</p>	<p>This grant cannot be used for major renovations or capital expenses. For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.  Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
<p>2.0. Q.410</p>	<p>Hello, I'm interested in beginning a child daycare center. I'm eager to begin and hope the grant will assist me in the process. I would like to make sure I meet all the qualifications and assist those who need it most. However, I'm having some difficulty understanding where I can place the center. I am willing to place my center anywhere in the Westchester area. This is New Rochelle's data below. New Rochelle is an option with a base score of 50, however, it also says "not a dessert on the map". Does this matter or just the RFA score?</p> <p>Desert Level                      1.04 children/slot, <u>Not a Desert</u>, 0 points  REDC Desert Level              60% of CTs are deserts, Low, 10 points  Diversity Index                    75.2, High, 20 points  Fam &lt;200% Poverty              33.47%, High, 20, points  Estimated Base RFA Score    50 points</p>
<p>2.0. A.410</p>	<p>Locations need to score at least a base score of 30 points (without bonus points) to qualify for the award. Since applicants are competing against each other for ranking, it is unknown what scores will actually be awarded.</p> <p>For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk</a>. If FCC providers need additional assistance with the child care desert map, they can contact their local CCR&amp;R who can provide a walkthrough.</p>
<p>2.0. Q.412</p>	<p>What percentage of the desert area your daycare has to be in order to qualify for the grant</p>

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2.0. A.412	Locations need to score at least a base score of 30 points (without bonus points) to qualify for the award. Since applicants are competing against each other for ranking, it is unknown what scores will actually be awarded.
2.0. Q.414	Hi, I would like to start a family daycare in my apartment through this new program, but I'm not understanding what the score 74 means when I type in the search box?
	<p>Applications with higher child care desert scores are more likely to qualify for grant funding than applications with lower estimated base RFA scores. A minimum base score of 30 (without bonus points) is required to be eligible for funding. See answer to 5.0.A.44 below to determine the score of a location.</p> <p>For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a>. If FCC providers need additional assistance with the child care desert map, they can contact their local CCR&amp;R who can provide a walkthrough.</p>
2.0. Q.419	Hi there, I had a few questions before I jump in feet first to this program. I have wanted for quite some time to start a childcare center. I carry certifications as an elementary teacher, school psychologist, and educational leader. I could open one in either Oswego or Jefferson county as I am close to both counties. Could this funding cover the costs of the actual building too? If I developed a business plan covering all costs- building, materials, staffing, etc. would it cover everything? This is my dream and I am willing to go in 100 percent. Furthermore, there is a building in Oswego county in Pulaski NY that was formerly a daycare and is already equipped to meet regulations but is \$700,000 for sale. Is it possible to try to ge the funds for something like that ? I use to work at that center and there is an extreme need for childcare in that area. If it's a possibility, I will get to work immediately !
2.0. A.419	<p>This grant cannot be used for major renovations or capital expenses, but it can be used to assist with the cost of renting a commercial space to operate a daycare center. For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.</p> <p>Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p> <p>OCFS is not able to assist applicants with locating a child care site. If you have questions dealing with licensing requirements and selecting a facility site, please reach out to your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&amp;R). A directory of CCR&amp;R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></p>
2.0. Q.463	<p>I'm reaching out regarding the OCFS Desert Grant opening today. I already have an application to open a new center in process and am excited for the opportunity to apply for the funding. However - on the desert map - I see that the street my new center is located on coincides with a boundary line for the desert regions.</p> <p>My building is located at 122 West Ave., Brockport NY 14420. I see the following information given when that address is put in:  <b>Census Tract ID 152, Monroe County, Finger Lakes REDC</b>  Desert Level 2.81 children/slot, Not a Desert, 0 points  REDC Desert Level 66% of CTs are deserts, Med, 15 points  Diversity Index 25.4, Med, 14 points  Fam &lt;200% Poverty 11.28%, Med, 14, points  Estimated Base RFA Score 43 points</p> <p>However - when I enter the address of the building across the street at 121 West Ave, Brockport NY 14420 I get a significantly different output with a much higher level of need for childcare calculated.</p>

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	<p><b>Census Tract ID 153.04, Monroe County, Finger Lakes REDC</b></p> <p>Desert Level 18.00 children/slot, Med, 35 points</p> <p>REDC Desert Level 66% of CTs are deserts, Med, 15 points</p> <p>Diversity Index 29.2, Med, 14 points</p> <p>Fam &lt;200% Poverty 32.25%, High, 20, points</p> <p>Estimated Base RFA Score 84 points</p> <p>I find this slightly discouraging as I know the need for childcare can't possibly change that greatly by just crossing the street. Please let me know if there is anything that can be done to adjust the boundary line, or a way I could submit the application to be considered in this higher need category that is legitimately feet away from my building.</p> <p>I thank you in advance for your consideration and help.</p>
2.0. A.463	The calculated deserts scores provided through the REDC map are based upon the exact address in which the facility will be opened, and the census tract of that address.
2.0. Q.465	Good day my is N.D.H. Which areas in the city qualify for the Child Care Grant Program? Before applying for the Child Care Grant Program, what should I do before I submit my application? Where should I submit my information? Can I email it and if so, to whom?
2.0. A.465	<p><b>See 5.0 A.44 and 5.0 A.31</b></p> <p>For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a>.</p> <p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:  Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session  Step 4: Submit a Grant Application  Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
2.0. Q.467	Is funding released for an approved grant only after the license application is approved? I'm asking this because I am trying to plan to pay for the lease of space to house the program.
2.0. A.467	Funds will not be provided in advance. Upon licensure and award, grant payments can be applied to allowable project expenses that applicants paid beginning on the grant application submission date. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.468	I am a new provider and would like to apply for a Desert Grant. Is there the Desert Grant amount limit? I'm looking to spend around \$250-350K for the architect's fee, interior fire alarm, construction, etc. Will the Desert Grant cover this amount?
2.0. A.468	Funds cannot be used for major renovations or capital expenses.  Additional information on how grant funds can be used is available within <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses</a> - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.469	Good afternoon,

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	I am hoping to get some additional information regarding the Invest in NY – Child Care Deserts Grant. Is there a set number with respect to how much grant funding an individual grant applicant can receive? Or does it vary based upon the application. Thank you for your assistance.
<b>2.0. A.469</b>	The grant amounts are set amounts or amounts per slot for each modality (program type) as explained in RFA Section 2.3 Purpose and Funding Availability, in the chart labeled, “2022 Child Care Desert Grant Awards.” Programs who are selected for an award will be provided funding on a per slot basis or per program basis as outlined in the RFA. Scores do not impact award amount.
2.0. Q.470	Good Afternoon, I reached out to the helpline in hopes of receiving some clarification regarding the following question, but unfortunately no one was able to elucidate. We are in the construction process for a new site that we are opening, to provide care for children in an area which has been confirmed to be in a desert zone. We wish to proceed in a manner which guarantees we are in compliance with all necessary criteria and procedures, to maintain eligibility for this grant. However, we are a bit confused about how to apply for this grant, when we are not yet permitted, and cannot proceed with the application, without entering a permit number. Also, can you please inform us regarding the amount of time we have from when we apply, if we are able to do so, until we must be permitted? Thank you in advance for your time and assistance. We look forward to hearing from you.
<b>2.0. A.470</b>	The OCFS status of “Application Requested” or “Application Received” must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.
2.0. Q.471	Hello I have a question I did xxx Bragg st Brooklyn NY and it shows a score of 44 and then when I put in xxxx Avenue V Brooklyn NY which is literally around the corner is showing a score of 85. Can you please help me out with the scores. I lived in the area and know it's a child desert location and I have secured a building to help the community out but with the score of the actually building I don't know if I will still qualify?
<b>2.0. A.471</b>	The calculated deserts scores provided through the REDC map are based upon the exact address in which the facility will be opened, and the census tract of that address.
2.0. Q.472	Hello! Question: if a program is chosen and approved for the desert grant, and given notice of approval in June. Will the expenses the program accrued from the date of submitting the application on 4/11/22 to receiving approval (June) be eligible expenses (payroll , furniture, crafts , curriculum, rent etc)? Please advise ! Thank you!!
<b>2.0. A.472</b>	Funds will not be provided in advance. Upon licensure and award, grant payments can be applied to allowable project expenses that applicants paid beginning on the grant application submission date. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
2.0. Q.473	I have a question about my location ! It says I'm not in a Desert area but I'm directly across the street from being in the desert area ... Is this correct,? Or is this something that I can have adjusted so that I'm in the desert area!
<b>2.0. A.473</b>	The calculated deserts scores provided through the REDC map are based upon the exact address in which the facility will be opened, and the census tract of that address.
<b>Section 3.0 Minimum Qualifications to Apply and Prequalification Process</b>	
3.0. Q.21	I just received an email regarding the new grant available for new providers looking to start up a day care program. I am wondering if you can qualify for this grant if you are a new provider that just recently opened?
	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their



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3.0 A.21	current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.22	hola tengo ya la orientacion y tengo cuenta creada ocfs , cuales lugare es que necesito estar para poder participar  English: "I already have the orientation and have a created OCFS account, where are the places where I need to be to be able to participate?"
3.0. A.22	The application process has five components, please visit the Invest in New York: Child Care Deserts website for details: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a> Applications will begin to be accepted on April 11, 2022.
3.0. Q.23	If I'm being certified the license now, am I eligible to get the grant?
3.0. A.23	Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.
3.0. Q.24	Do you qualify for this grant if you run a child care program in a public school building?
3.0. A.24	Programs that receive 100% of their funding from public sources such as Head Start/Early Head Start or publicly funded Pre-K programs are not eligible. If programs are not 100% funded with public sources, they would be eligible to apply. Please note that any expenses claimed under this grant must be substantiated separately from other funding sources. You may not attribute the same expenses to multiple fund sources.
3.0. Q.96	Hi, do I have to live in New York to start a childcare? Also, I'm a licensed provider in Milwaukee Wisconsin. Would I be able to eligible another home daycare or close my current home daycare to start one there? Thank you
3.0. A.96	Applicants do not have to live in New York, but the child care program must be located in New York State. For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.
3.0. Q.97	Hi there, I am a licensed childcare provider in Milwaukee Wisconsin and was wondering do I have to live in New York? Also, if I want to open up a daycare there would it have to be a home daycare or a center?
3.0. A.97	Applicants do not have to live in New York, but the child care program must be located in New York State. For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information. This funding opportunity is available to applicants of licensed and registered child care programs as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH.
3.0. Q.98	I hope this email finds you well. I am wondering if this new grant will be available for legally exempt programs as well?
3.0. A.98	Legally exempt programs that will become licensed or registered are eligible to apply if they are located in a desert area. For eligibility and application requirements see the RFA visit the Invest in New York: Child Care Deserts website for details at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a>
3.0. Q.154	I currently operate a group family daycare in my home and on 10/14/2021 I applied to become a SACC program at a new location near my home at a local church. I have not completed the process yet. My FAMS number is XXXXXX.....and I have less than 90 days to complete the process. Does a School age program qualify for the grant ? Also since I applied before the grant program began do I have to reapply and do everything all over again? If I don't have to reapply, please tell me if there is anything else I have to do such as pre-orientation etc.....
3.0. A.154	Those who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license as of January 28, 2022 and do so within 120 days of their pre-award letter, including school age child care program applications. If awarded, funds from the Child Care Desert Grant can only be spent on allowable expenses dating back to the date of application submission.

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3.0. Q.155	I have been looking for a location to open a Daycare Center in the Mid-Hudson Region. I have not yet found a location for my program but am going to attend the orientation and request an application. Do I need to have the location established before requesting the application? Do I have to have the location established before submitting the Grant application?
3.0. A.155	A site location is not required to request a child care license application, however the application process and eventual awarding of a license is connected to a specific location. Applications for the grant are scored based on the proposed location of the child care program. Grant applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/permitted by the application submission date in May, but they are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application. If you require assistance with licensing requirements and selecting a site, your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R) is available to provide support. A directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
3.0. Q.156	I'm currently in the process of opening a Infant/Toddler daycare center in Hunts Point Bronx New York. I recently had the preliminary inspection with DOHMH, and also with the Department of Buildings to omit the C of O, which was approved to care for Infants/Toddlers. Because I have a head start on the requirement process, what are the next steps for my program? And should I submit documentation for proof of daycare status?
3.0. A.156	The grant application process has five components. Please visit the Invest in New York: Child Care Deserts website for details: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a> and review the Request for Applications (RFA) <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a> on the OCFS website.  Questions about the process for your application for a child care license should be directed to your regulator.
3.0. Q.157	Is there a difference in the grant total depending on the kind of daycare? What is the range of the grant? Also, I currently have a daycare but I'm renting and my landlord is selling the house. As I understand it, I have to apply for a new daycare license when I move. Will I qualify for a grant if I'm just moving locations?
3.0. A.157	Yes, there are different grant amounts based on the modality and location of the program. For exact information on these amounts, please refer to the RFA. Programs adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality are considered a “new program” and are eligible to apply. For example, a Family Day Care (FDC) that is going to become a Group Family Daycare (GFDC) is eligible to apply. Programs or providers that held a license within the year preceding the issue date of this RFA or are current license holders and are changing locations or their legal entities but not, in fact, expanding their licensed capacity are not eligible to apply.
3.0. Q.158	I have a question in reference to eligibility for RFA1 - Invest in NY Child Care Emergency/Child Care Deserts RFA. We have a child care center licensed to serve children ages 2 to 5. We are in the process of applying for a license for our infant-toddler center. This center will operate in a room within our child care center but will be taken off our preschool license when the infant-toddler license is received. Would we be considered an eligible applicant if we applied on behalf of our infant-toddler center?
3.0. A.158	Programs adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality are considered a “new program” and are eligible to apply. For example, a Family Day Care (FDC) that is going to become a Group Family Daycare (GFDC) is eligible to apply. Programs or providers that held a license within the year preceding the issue date of this RFA or are current license holders and are changing locations or their legal entities but not, in fact, expanding their licensed capacity are not eligible to apply.
3.0. Q.159	I have a question on the grant program and if I am eligible. I have a home-based group day care already and looking to expand into a center. Am I eligible for this? Also, it mentions that I have to be under a certain requirement for locations DESERT. Can you explain this is to me as well?
3.0. A.159	Programs adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality are considered a “new program” and are eligible to apply. For example, a Family Day Care (FDC) that is going to become a Group Family Daycare (GFDC) is eligible to apply. The location of a child care center is an important factor in the grant. The Invest in NY Child Care RFA defines child care deserts as a census tract where there are 3 or more children under 5 years of age for each available child care slot, or there are no available child care slots in the census tract. To see if your location is within an area designated as a child care desert, visit the REDC Child Care Deserts map at: <a href="https://bit.ly/cc_deserts">https://bit.ly/cc_deserts</a>
3.0. Q.160	Good afternoon my name is M T. I am extremely interested in this grant opportunity I just had a few questions I currently have a family group daycare that I am interested in expanding in making into a daycare center I

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	have the space already I have everything all lined up already I just wanted to know if I was qualified to apply for this grant if I already have a daycare establish or is this grant just for new daycare centers and that being said would I be able to start a whole new daycare center and still apply for this grant.
3.0. A.160	Programs adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality are considered a “new program” and are eligible to apply. In your situation, if you are currently a licensed Group Family Day Care Center seeking to become a Day Care Center, you would be eligible to apply. An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality.
3.0. Q.161	I am currently a registered family daycare provider in Onondaga County (Jordan-Elbridge School District). I am currently the only registered or licensed daycare provider in my zip code (13112). Would I qualify for the grant, or would I have to switch to a group license and take on more children in order to qualify for the Deserts grant? Any information would be appreciated
3.0. A.161	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. Programs adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality are considered a “new program” and are eligible to apply. For example, a Family Day Care (FDC) that is going to become a Group Family Daycare (GFDC) is eligible to apply. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.162	I have some questions about the Invest in NY childcare deserts grant 1) does it only apply to new group family daycare, or can it be an Child Care Centers that is not at home base"? 2) for the grant to apply that means that we need to have a location there and then it needs to be approve and license before getting the grant or will the grant come before all of that?
3.0. A.162	All newly licensed, regulated, and permitted child care programs that meet the eligibility criteria are eligible to apply, this includes child care centers. Applications for the grant are scored based on the proposed location of the child care. A proposed location must be determined and shared with your regulatory agency prior to the grant application deadline. Programs must be licensed/registered/permited to meet the eligibility requirements of the grant and receive funding. Programs have 120 days from the pre-award letter to complete the license application process and open the program.
3.0.Q.163	My name is T T-C I received my license for family daycare June/2021. If I decided to become a group daycare, would I qualify for “invest in NY Child care Desserts Grant”?
3.0.A.163	Programs adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality are considered a “new program” and are eligible to apply. In your situation, if you are currently a licensed Family Day Care seeking to become a Group Family Day Care, you would be eligible to apply. An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality.
3.0. Q.164	My name is M L and I’m looking to apply for the child care desert grant. My program is not open as of yet but prior to this grant I completed the OCFS orientation videos and at the end I requested a booklet to apply for a license. My question is can I use the same orange booklet to apply for this grant or do I have to request another new licensor booklet? Thank you
3.0. A.164	There is a time limit to submit your application after it was requested. You should contact your regulator/ regional office to determine if the application you have is still allowed to be submitted.
3.0. Q.165	I am looking to see if I can be a part of the Child Care Desert Grant program. I currently have 2 licensed centers, but my second one was just licensed at the end of November 2021, so I have only been open for 1 1/2 months. Before I opened the program there was no centers in my area. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to be a part of this.
3.0. A.165	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand

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	capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.166	Good Afternoon Can this grant be used for Group Family Day Care?
3.0. A.166	All newly licensed, regulated, and permitted child care programs that meet the eligibility criteria are eligible to apply, this includes group family day care.
3.0. Q.167	Good afternoon, I recently became a licensed Group family daycare Provider 10/2021. I am interested in applying for the grant and would like to know if I qualify to do so since I just receive my license a few months ago. Thank you
3.0. A.167	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.168	Good morning, I'm just days away from obtaining a license to open a new childcare center and according to the RFA I would not qualify for this grant as a result of being open <u>too soon</u> . In other words, there is a financial incentive with the grant for me to withdraw my application and wait to reapply, which defeats the purpose of what the grant is trying to accomplish. Can I get clarification on who qualifies? I certainly want to open as soon as possible as we are located in a childcare desert and we already have a waitlist but I also don't want to miss out on this grant opportunity. Please advise.
3.0. A.168	The grant is for new programs, an individual or entity that is not licensed and is applying for licensure to operate a child care program at a specific location. Applicants who were granted a license after January 28, 2022 are eligible to apply for the grant. For eligibility and application requirements visit the Invest in New York: Child Care Deserts website for details at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a> .
3.0. Q.169	Good afternoon, I am seeking clarity regarding the application. I plan to open a Center, but I have not secured a location yet. The application states individual with proposed Daycare program can apply; however, the application asks for an address and diagram of the space. I do not have that information. What can I do? This is a bit confusing. Do i have to have a daycare that has already been licensed before applying for the grant?
3.0. A.169	Grant applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/permitted by the application submission date in May, but they are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application. If you require assistance with licensing requirements and selecting a site, your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R) is available to provide support. A directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>  This grant is specifically for opening new programs in areas of the state that are identified as child care deserts, based on available data. It is not a prerequisite to have already been a licensed child care provider.
3.0. Q.170	a. Do you have to live in the zip code in which there is a daycare desert?  b. If you have an existing group family childcare, can you apply for this grant to expand to a centerbase daycare?  c. Or, if you have an existing in-home daycare, can you apply for the grant for program development costs, short-term operating expenses, training and technical assistance expenses.
3.0. A.170	a. No, however, to be eligible for this grant opportunity the proposed child care location must be located in a desert. The grant is based on the address of the child care program, not the residential address of the owner or staff.  b. & c. An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. If you are currently a licensed Group Family Day Care Center seeking to become a Day Care Center, you would be eligible to apply. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later

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	<p>this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0. Q.171	<p>I was told by my licensor (for my current center) to reach out to your office to see if I can get a 'points' exemption. My points only 26 but is less than 1 mile from areas that are over 60 points. My desired location is west of the "allowed" areas but is in the direction of those people traveling to Rochester for work. The local schools are located to the west of the Victor Village area (outlines on the attached map) and are on the way of the parent's commute. Although my intended area is west of the "allowed" area, I would like to be granted a "point" exemption as it is a more feasible and accessible area for working families. Your understanding of this matter would be most appreciated. If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience.</p>
3.0. A.171	<p>There are no exemptions to the grant scoring.</p>
3.0. Q.172	<p>Am I able to start the process of expanding before April and still qualify to apply when then the application opens in April?</p>
3.0. A.172	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license as of January 28, 2022. If awarded, funds from the Child Care Desert Grant can only be spent on allowable expenses dating back to the date of application submission. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0. Q.173	<p>Just confirming... If I currently have a center and am opening a GFDC to add infant/toddler spots, I'm eligible?</p>
3.0. A.173	<p>An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0 Q174	<p>Intentionally omitted.</p>
3.0. Q.175	<p>We have a upk DCC that is currently funded by the school district however the Wrap program is not funded and is parent pay. Would we be able to apply?</p>
3.0. A.175	<p>All newly licensed, regulated, and permitted child care programs that meet the eligibility criteria are eligible to apply.</p>
3.0. Q.176	<p>Is this only for new providers?</p>
3.0. A.176	<p>The grant is for new programs. Applicants who were granted a license on or after January 28, 2022 are eligible to apply for the grant. For eligibility and application requirements visit the Invest in New York: Child Care Deserts website for details at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>. An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0. Q.177	<p>Are programs considered Group family daycare able to apply for this RFP?</p>
3.0. A.177	<p>All newly licensed, registered, and permitted child care programs that meet the eligibility criteria are eligible to apply, this includes group family day care. An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity, such as adding on a classroom, within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0. Q.178	<p>So will you need to already have a location in order to be eligible for this grant?</p>

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3.0. A.178	Grant applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/permitted by the application submission date in May, but they are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application. If you require assistance with licensing requirements and selecting a site, your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R) is available to provide support. A directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
3.0. Q.179	Intentionally omitted.
3.0. Q.180	What if I'm a newly licensed, am I still eligible to apply?
3.0. A.180	The grant is for new programs. Applicants who were granted a new license on or after January 28, 2022 are eligible to apply for the grant.
3.0. Q.181	If we are already in construction mode, are we still able or eligible to apply for this grant?
3.0. A.181	Providers who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license as of January 27, 2022. If awarded, funds from the Child Care Desert Grant can only be spent on allowable expenses dating back to the date of application submission.
3.0. Q.182	If we get licensed between today and the RFA application date (4/11/22), and we are in a desert and satisfy the RFA will we be eligible ?
3.0. A.182	Providers who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license as of January 28, 2022.
3.0. Q.183	What if we are only applying for our license from DOHMH after 6/30/22, are we will able to apply?
3.0. A.183	No, all grant applications must be received by May 19, 2022 at 11:59 PM ET and the license application must be requested to apply. Eligible providers are those that have requested a license application and submitted their grant application by the May submission deadline.
3.0. Q.184	Can I apply for both the school age and infant and toddler grant if I'm planning on opening both programs?
3.0. A.184	Yes, you may apply for both programs if they meet the eligibility requirements. If a provider is submitting an application for multiple program sites, a separate application must be submitted for each program site.
3.0.Q.185	funding for school age program before and after-school 12 months a year?
3.0. A.185	Funding is provided on a quarterly basis for all awardees, provided the required deliverables are met which includes programs being open and operating. Funding is not provided for quarters in which deliverables are unmet.
3.0. Q.186	If we have a few slots of ACS/HRA voucher children. Will grant cover them as well?
3.0. A.186	Funds can be used in several ways to support an awarded child care program. Additional information on how grant funds can be used is available within RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses. Note that the grant is not for existing programs to care for children currently participating in the program and if awarded, programs must accept families in receipt of child care assistance, to the extent they request to attend the program.
3.0. Q. 187	For a SACC program, can these fund be used to start an after-school program located in a partnering school for the hours of 2:30-5:30pm?
3.0. A.187	Programs adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality are considered a "new program" and are eligible to apply. Creation of a newly licensed School Age Child Care program would be eligible to apply for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 as a new program. Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>
3.0. Q.188	Can providers apply for the grant while they are in the process of opening a program? I have heard from some providers that it took them 6 months to receive their license. In that case the grant application will be closed before their application is approved.

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3.0. A.188	Grant applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/permitted by the application submission date in May, but they are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application. If awarded, applicants are required to obtain a license/registration/permit within 120 days of the pre-award letter.
3.0. Q.189	What was the discussion behind giving a much larger pool of money to brand new programs, as opposed to reputable programs who want to expand? This doesn't make sense. I hear from CCR&R's all the time that people don't follow through once they see how challenging this all is. Where does that money go then?
3.0. A.189	A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.190	Hello I opened a group family daycare December 27 2021. Am I eligible to apply for the grant? I am a new program. Thank you
3.0. A.190	No. The program is not eligible because it was licensed prior to the date the RFA was released.  A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.191	Hi my name is AG and i wanted to know how do i go about opening another center based even though have one already with the new grant?
3.0. A.191	Visit the Invest in New York Child Care Deserts website for application information. All interested parties must complete the OCFS Child Day Care Orientation before applying for the Invest in NY Child Care grant opportunity. After completing the orientation, applicants can request a licensing application. Programs applying to become an NYC DOHMH Article 47-day care center must attend a pre-permit orientation.
3.0. Q.192	What happens to the providers that received a license after March 2021 and before Jan 28th 2022? They were not eligible for the stabilization grant neither despite the hardship of trying to open during Covid times. We received our license in October 2021 and are not eligible for none of these grants!
3.0. A.192	A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.193	Would you provide us the places where we can start our daycares? This opportunity applies to Staten Island as well?
3.0. A.193	Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts Map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . If you require assistance with licensing requirements and selecting a site, your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R) is available to provide support. A directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
3.0.Q.194	Do you need to have a location or space in order to use this grant?
3.0. A.194	Grant applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/permitted by the application submission date in May, but they are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application. If you require assistance with licensing requirements and selecting a site, your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R) is available to provide support. A directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
3.0.Q.195	if we have now a doh article 43 licnce and now we will get a article 47 licnse is that considered a new program
3.0.A.195	NYC DOHMH permitted Article 47 day care centers must have applied to become a new licensed day care program but not yet received a license before the Application Submission Date. Newly permitted article 47 programs or programs who have submitted an application for permit are eligible to apply for the grant.

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3.0. Q.198	How will you address delays in NYC's licensing system that are beyond the providers' ability to control? Often there are backlogs in moving licensing paperwork forward. Providers aren't told the reasons for delay, but they occur for internal reasons. It seems like providers will be penalized for something they can't control.
3.0. A.198	Programs must be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter date unless there are extenuating circumstances, and the provider submits documentation demonstrating that the delay is out of the providers control for OCFS final determination.
3.0. Q.199	Hello, I just received an email stating that applicants must notify their regulators NOW about their proposed location. I applied for a licensing application for a gfdc in brooklyn on february 23rd and have yet to receive an application and therefore do not know my regulator or how to contact them with my proposed location.
3.0. A.199	If you do not have your regulators information, you should contact your OCFS Division of Child Care Services Regional Office for assistance. A directory of OCFS Regional Offices and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php</a>
3.0. Q.200	Can two towns partnered with a local nonprofit space (church-run NPO camp - with available indoor and outdoor facilities) apply as a group?
3.0. A.200	This funding opportunity is only available to be applied for by one applicant under their legal business name at a facility address to become a new program that will become a licensed and registered child care program by OCFS or Article 47 group day care program issued a permit by NYCDOHMH. See Section 3.1 for eligibility information. Programs not meeting these requirements are not eligible to apply. If awarded, to receive payments, providers must remain open, provide in-person care (or have staff on site to provide care for approved slots), be "in good standing" and whose quarterly inspection or desk review shows grant deliverables (in Section 4.1) are met for the quarter.
3.0. Q.231	If a provider is currently app received and will be registered before April 11, can they apply?
3.0. A.231	Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA issuance (January 28), are eligible to apply.
3.0. Q.232	If i already have a family daycare, how can I apply to this grant, can I apply only if I am opening another location?
3.0.A. 232	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.236	We can apply for this even though we just open the day care around may 2022? Thanks
3.0. A.236	Providers who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license as of January 28, 2022. If awarded, funds from the child care desert grant can only be spent on allowable expenses dating back to the date of application submission.  All programs must be open within 120 days of their pre-award letter. To achieve this timeline, applicants must submit all required documentation to their licensing entity within 60 days of pre-award. All programs must meet and continue to meet all licensing requirements throughout the grant, including deliverable 1: program is open and operating.
3.0. Q.244	Additionally, I believe I am clear in understanding that if (as an established child care organization) we were to add a new center in a Child Care Desert area, we would be eligible as this would be a completely newly permitted program. Is that correct?
3.0. A.244	Yes, as a currently licensed Day Care Center you would be eligible to apply for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 as a new program if you open a new child care program. Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . Regarding the orientation, for purposes of this



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	grant, completing an orientation is required when requesting licensure of a new facility, even if you have previously taken the orientation.						
3.0. Q.280	<p>Good Morning, Can you clarify 2 things for me?</p> <p>1. What is the earliest date you can get your license/registration and still be able to apply for the grant? Is it 1/29/22?</p> <p>After a provider closes and relinquishes their license/registration, Is there a timeframe that a provider needs to wait to get a new license/registration in order for them to be eligible for this grant?</p>						
3.0. A.280	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license as of January 28, 2022. If awarded, funds from the Child Care Desert Grant can only be spent on allowable expenses dating back to the date of application submission.</p> <p>Providers that held a license within the year preceding the issue date of RFA #1 are not eligible to apply. For more information on operating a summer camp, please contact your local department of health or NYS Department of Health.</p>						
3.0. Q.281	<p>Hello, I have two questions regarding the "Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant"</p> <p>1. My nonprofit - Project MOST, Inc., is an afterschool program licensed by NY State as a School Age Child Care Program. But in addition to our current childcare, we are in the process of launching a new and expanded childcare program in a particular part of our town. Should we be applying for a grant under the current RFP or be waiting for a subsequent RFP for existing programs?</p> <p>2. The town we work in - East Hampton, NY - is large geographically and includes several small townships of varying economic status. I'm confused by the meaning of your childcare deserts map. Are the areas with a total score of &gt;100 the childcare deserts in your view or are the areas with scores &lt;22 the childcare deserts?</p>						
3.0. A.281	<p>1) The new childcare program you are launching may qualify for RFA#1. However, the existing SACC program referenced is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p> <p>2) The higher the score, the more significant the desert area is which will increase the probability of being awarded this competitive grant opportunity. For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a>.</p>						
3.0. Q.282	<p>Pray you are healthy, safe and surrounded with love and laughter. <b>I am wondering if we would be able to offer the same high level, quality care that offers non-traditional hours, in the same building we are currently located in based on the information below.</b></p> <p>At present we are licensed as a School Aged Program. We would like to take advantage of the RFP to offer daycare to the siblings of the children that are currently enrolled in our program. The Desert locations surrounding our physical building begin about 1.1 miles away. Most of the siblings that we would accommodate, directly live in the Desert locations.</p> <p>Presently, the building that we occupy currently has space upstairs for us to start a new program. It is in compliance with all requirements and regulations which would make the process seamless for all involved and it would assist our families in so many ways while ensuring sustainability beyond the two years of the grant. The issue is that the physical building that we are in is located at:</p> <p>XXX Baldwin, NY 11510</p> <table> <tr> <td>Desert Level</td> <td>2.29 children/slot, Not a Desert, 0 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>REDC Desert Level</td> <td>63% of CTs are deserts, Low, 10 points</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diversity Index</td> <td>82.9, High, 20 points</td> </tr> </table>	Desert Level	2.29 children/slot, Not a Desert, 0 points	REDC Desert Level	63% of CTs are deserts, Low, 10 points	Diversity Index	82.9, High, 20 points
Desert Level	2.29 children/slot, Not a Desert, 0 points						
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	<p>Fam &lt;200% Poverty 12.97%, Med, 14, points  Estimated Base RFA Score 44 points</p> <p>Most of the siblings that we would accommodate live in Baldwin Harbor which starts at the address below</p> <p>Desert Level 5.79 children/slot, Low, 30 points  REDC Desert Level 63% of CTs are deserts, Low, 10 points  Diversity Index 73.8, High, 20 points  Fam &lt;200% Poverty 6.47%, Low, 6, points  Estimated Base RFA Score 66 points</p>
3.0. A.282	<p>1) The new child care program you are launching may qualify for RFA 1. To know whether the program is able to be located within the same building as the SACC program requires additional information. Please reach out to your local OCFS Regional Office or Child Care Resource and Referral Agency (CCR&amp;R) to discuss your situation. Contact information for OCFS Regional Offices is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php</a> and a directory of CCR&amp;R Agencies and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></p> <p>2) The program applying will be scored based upon site address, not the residential address of the children being served.</p>
3.0. Q.283	Hello, Will centers that have newly opened within the last year qualify for the grant?
3.0. A.283	Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.
3.0. Q.284	Hello, I just have a few questions. We are literally to the point where we can be certified there is a grant that is coming out but it says you can't apply till April. So does this mean if we want the grant we can't get certified till April??
3.0. A.284	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.</p> <p>The OCFS status of "Application Requested" or "Application Received" must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application, and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.</p>
3.0. Q.285	<p>Thank you for coordinating the Invest in NY Child Care Desert Grants. We have attended the webinar and interested in submitting an application to expand child care capacity in NY.</p> <p>Can you please provide further clarification regarding eligibility for this grant. We appreciate your assistance.</p> <p><i>Question – We currently have an open application for a child care license. If we submit our grant application in April, then receive our child care license <u>before</u> the application closes in May, are we still eligible for the grant?</i></p>
3.0. A.285	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.</p> <p>All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
3.0. Q.286	Does the Desert Grant apply to SACC programs?
3.0. A.286	If you are required to apply for a new license/permit/registration to care for preschool children, you could be eligible based on the criteria of RFA 1 - Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs.

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3.0. Q.287	<p>I have completed the new daycare orientation, have requested an application for a new daycare center and I have attended the desert grant informational webex meeting that was held on Monday 2/7/22. I also currently have a licensed group daycare in my home. At this point I have 2 questions</p> <p>1. Will the application for this grant need to have an exact address? In other words, I know that I would like to open a center in Fairport NY and I have looked at a couple buildings but, I do not want to sign a lease until I know if I get at least a pre approval for some money from this grant. My question specifically is ..... Will the application for a grant require giving a general location ( as in a town) where I plan to open a new daycare or is it a very specific address with a particular building?</p> <p>My second question is, Am I able to send in more than one location request? As I stated I specifically would like to open a daycare center in Fairport NY but when I look at the points of the surrounding towns in my area I can see that East Rochester gets a much higher point rating than Fairport. If I wouldn't get the grant for Fairport, but would get the grant for East Rochester, then I would like to consider that option. Am I able to submit 2 applications for the grant for 2 different areas?</p>
3.0. A.287	<p>A site location is not required to request a child care license application; however the application process and eventual awarding of a license is connected to a specific location. Applications for the grant are scored based on the proposed location of the child care program. Grant applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/permitted by the application submission date in May, but they are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application.</p> <p>There can be one grant application for each proposed license/ registration/ permit number. If you require assistance with licensing requirements and selecting a site, your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&amp;R) is available to provide support. A directory of CCR&amp;R Agencies and contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></p>
3.0. Q.288	<p>I'm in the process of applying for the childcare desert grant and have a question. Assuming a childcare facility receives pre-approval for the grant and then receives a license, when is it required to begin operating the childcare facility?</p>
3.0. A.288	<p>The OCFS status of "Application Requested" or "Application Received" must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application, and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.</p>
3.0. Q.289	<p>My questions are :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. My school is under review to get a permit now, am I qualified for the grant?</li> <li>2. If I open another one, what exactly are the documents I need to submit for the grant?</li> <li>3. Will grants be given upfront or on a reimbursement basis?</li> </ol>
3.0. A.289	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.</li> <li>2. An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></li> <li>3. This is not a reimbursement-based grant but awarded providers are required to keep a record of how funds are used to support their child care program. Written or electronic record of all receipts must be available in case of an audit for at least 6 years following the end of the grant period. More information on how grant funds can be used is available within RFA 1 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses.</li> </ol>
3.0. Q.290	<p>I'M WRITING TO INQUIRE REGARDING SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT AS A NEW PROGRAM IN PRE PERMIT STAGE.</p>

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	I ALREADY APPLIED, AND ATTENDED THE REQUIRED ORIENTATIONS. NOW I'M READY TO APPLY FOR THE PERMIT BUT HAVE NOT YET CHOSEN A LOCATION AS I WOULD LIKE THE GRANT TO HELP WITH SECURING THE LOCATION. I CANT APPLY FOR A PERMIT WITHOUT A LOCATION. WILL THIS HOLD ME UP? HOW DO I APPLY FOR PERMIT WITHOUT IT SO I CAN SHOW MY APPLICATION IS IN PROCESS?
3.0. A.290	NYC Article 47 day care centers, must submit their application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application. If the proposed program site location must change after the pre-license site visit, applicants must provide a new site location meeting site requirements to their licensor/regulator by the Section 1.2 Application Submission Deadline, to be eligible for funding. The grant application process and eventual awarding of the grant is connected to a specific location. Applications for the grant are scored based on the proposed location of the child care program. Additionally, awardees are not eligible to receive funding until the license/registration or permit is obtained.
3.0. Q.291	Will 4410 programs that require a OCFS license number to operate be eligible for RFA #1?
3.0. A.291	<p>If your Program receives 100% of their funding from public sources such as Head Start/Early Head Start or publicly-funded Pre-K programs, the program is not eligible.</p> <p>An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0. Q.292	Is this for ONLY new daycares or is there any part of this for currently open daycares? The Desert one?
3.0. A.292	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.293	<p>I am reaching out today, because I tried calling the Invest Child Care hotline regarding a question I have, but have been unsuccessful to speaking with someone.</p> <p>On Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup>, I received a confirmation regarding my NYS Group Family Day Care application had been received by the NYC Department of Health. I have a pending application approval, as I still have documents to update, fingerprinting to get done and inspection. I read in order for me to apply for the competitive grant, the application had to be submitted on/after January 28<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>I wanted to confirm, if I would still be eligible to apply for the grant as I have not been approved for the license as of yet. The Group Family Daycare will be located in the Bronx, NY.</p>
3.0. A.293	Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.
3.0. Q.294	I am currently working in a group family daycare as an assistant, and my license reflects as such. Am I eligible for this rfa?
3.0. A.294	<p>Employees of existing child care programs are able to apply to create their own child care program under RFA# 1. Information on how to become a childcare provider is available on the OCFS webpage at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php</a>. Additional resources are also available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a></p> <p>In addition, contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&amp;R) Agency for help. A directory of CCR&amp;R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></p>
3.0. Q.295	Hello, for me to be able to apply on April 11 I must have a new child care license with a space, can I explain, should I open a new day care before applying on April 11?

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3.0. A.295	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:  Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session  Step 4: Submit a Grant Application  Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
3.0. Q.296	<p>I am interested in participating in the Invest in NY: Child Care Desert Program. I would like to open a child care program and I am reaching out to you for your assistance so that I can begin and follow through with the process.</p> <p>A grant opportunity is available and I want to apply for the grant. I would love the opportunity to speak with you.</p>
3.0. A.296	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:  Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session  Step 4: Submit a Grant Application  Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
3.0.Q.297	<p>Today I listened to a webinar regarding the childcare desert grants, and read general information about them on the website. However, I still have some questions and was hoping you could answer them. I want to make sure I am understanding the eligibility requirements and the grant stipulations correctly before moving forward. I am currently a NYC licensed group family daycare provider and I have been in business for 13 years. My program is located in Ridgewood, Queens. I am ready to expand or to open a new daycare center.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What type of program would I be eligible to open under my name? Daycare center or school age program only?</li> <li>2. Which RFA would I be eligible to apply for, New Provider or Existing Provider expansion?</li> <li>3. If I apply for the grant, does the new business already have to be licensed and approved? If not, by when would I need to select a potential location for a daycare center or school age program, and be pre-approved and licensed in order to receive funding? I have heard that it can take a year or more to select a location and get pre-approved and licensed.</li> <li>4. When would the funds be distributed?</li> <li>5. Can someone who has never opened a group family daycare before apply for this grant if they want to open one? (I am thinking of an employee who is looking to open her own group family daycare.) By when would the group family daycare need to get preapproved and licensed in order to be approved for the grant, and receive the funding?</li> </ol>
3.0.A.297	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. and 2. All modalities of care are eligible for the grant opportunity. An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></li> <li>3. The OCFS status of “Application Requested” or “Application Received” or licensed on or after January 28, 2022 must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. The application is scored, in part, by the address of the program. An address must be provided to be eligible for the grant. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.</li> <li>4. The first quarterly payment will be made at 1/8th of the total award amount after the license has been</li> </ol>

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	<p>issued to the new program and all pre and post-award requirements are met but no earlier than June 2022 when awards will be announced. The additional payments will be made quarterly after the initial payment as long as the awardee is meeting all deliverables. Funding is currently anticipated to be available for the duration of the grant but depends on continued availability of federal funds which are not guaranteed. No payments may be made after June 30, 2024.</p> <p>5. Yes, someone who has never opened a child care center before can apply for this grant. There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:</p> <p>Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session  Step 4: Submit a Grant Application  Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website:  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
3.0. Q.298	<p>I have a specific question to ask. I am a group family daycare provider in Bronx, NY and I received my license in July 2021. I currently do not have a year with my license as of yet and I was wondering if I qualify to apply for the dessert grant? I did not qualify for the stabilization grant either because I was not licensed prior to 3/11/21.</p>
3.0. A.298	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.</p>
5.0. Q.299	<p>Will the wording under 5.2 Application Content, Number 1B be changed to “has not received the license as of the RFA issue date (1/28).”  Under the current wording, Individuals will think they aren’t qualified if they receive their license/ registration between 1/28 and the time they apply for the Grant.</p>
5.0. A.299	<p>Those who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA issuance (January 28), are eligible to apply. OCFS will update the language within the RFA to clarify.</p>
3.0. Q.327	<p>I am a site that has two programs, but we are expecting to open a new location with a new DCID #; an Infant Site.  When the application process opens, the portal where we need to apply will be posted on the OCFS website?</p>
3.0. A.327	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:  Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session  Step 4: Submit a Grant Application  Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
3.0. Q.329	<p>This M., assistant at LAC.</p> <p>My wife (Provider) and I are running a in home childcare (Group Family Day Care).</p> <p>On Monday, February 7th at 2:00 p.m., I attended the informational session on the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs.</p> <p>If I understood right NYS will be awarding \$70 million to new providers opening licensed child care facilities in desert areas of New York State and \$30 million to who is already a provider.</p> <p>We have been thinking to expand our business in the last year and go from GFDC to Day Care Center. Are you going to hold an information session for this grant? Can we apply for the NY Child Care grant for this purpose?</p>

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	Can we have more information about it?
3.0. A.329	<p>As a currently licensed Group Family Day Care seeking to expand to become a Day Care Center, you would be considered a new program for this grant opportunity and eligible to apply under RFA #1. The new program must have a greater capacity than the current program. Guidance on opening a Day Care Center and license requirements is available through your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&amp;R) agency. Please refer to the CCR&amp;R directory to identify your local CCR&amp;R and their contact information, available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></p> <p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:  Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session  Step 4: Submit a Grant Application  Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
3.0. Q.330	<p>My questions for Invest in NY Child Care Desert Emergency REF for New Programs.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I currently have my license for Family Daycare can I apply for family group under the same LLC, location and name of daycare to qualify for this grant ?</li> <li>2. In the video REF 2 was mention for existing child care provider. Would I follow under the grant if I decided to switch from family to group daycare ?</li> </ol>
3.0. A.330	<p>An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0. Q.332	<p>I'm an registered day care provider. I received My certificate on February 2,2022. Do I qualify for the Desert Grant? I runs a daycare for family day out of my <a href="#">home.im</a> a family daycare provider.</p>
3.0. A.332	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.</p>
3.0. Q.334	<p>Good morning I would like to get information about the child care desserts I just got my license for group family daycare on 02/01/2022. Thank you!</p>
3.0. A.334	<p>All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
3.0. Q.336	<p>I am reaching out to receive more clarification regarding <b>section 3.1 Minimum Qualifications</b>. The section states that providers are eligible to apply if they have applied to become a new licensed program but have not yet received the license. The information session held on February 7<sup>th</sup> stated that programs are eligible as long as they receive their license after January 28<sup>th</sup> (when the RFA was issued).</p> <p>I have applied to open two afterschool SACC programs and therefore have two new OCFS registration numbers. My application has been received, viewed, and almost approved (awaiting inspection dates). Being that it is after January 28th, am I still eligible to apply for the child deserts grant even if I receive the licenses to operate prior to the application opening in April?</p>
3.0. A.336	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.</p>
3.0. Q.340	<p>I wanted to inquire about more I information for dessert grant. I am currently a licensed group family daycare provider. I am also in the process of opening a center daycare. Would I qualify for the dessert grant?</p>
3.0. A.340	<p>As a currently licensed Group Family Day Care seeking to expand to become a Day Care Center, you would be considered a new program for this grant opportunity and eligible to apply under RFA #1. The new program</p>

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	<p>must have a greater capacity than the current program. Guidance on opening a Day Care Center and license requirements is available through your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&amp;R) agency. Please refer to the CCR&amp;R directory to identify your local CCR&amp;R and their contact information, available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></p>
3.0. Q.342	<p>I see that only information was released for new centers. Is that correct? When will the information be released for existing centers to expand?</p>
3.0. A.342	<p>An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0. Q.348	<p>Good afternoon my name is _____, and I would like to know how does the grant application works. I do have 1 daycare, I received the email regarding to the grant I would like to know if I can have another daycare on my name? Also, if so where do I have to go, I read on the website that the application is not open yet, however in ocfs it gives me a list of the deserts are in the maps where it need more daycare and the clear are is where it will be more efficient. Should I do the application online when they open it, and way for the grant to get to me and them open the daycare or should I get the location first and than I will get the grant? I already have watched the videos, and I received al the book. What's the next step?</p>
3.0. A.348	<p>Yes, as a currently licensed Day Care Center you would be eligible to apply for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 as a new program if you open a new child care program. Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>. Regarding the orientation, for purposes of this grant, completing an orientation is required when requesting licensure of a new facility, even if you have previously taken the orientation.</p> <p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
3.0. Q.420	<p>I was wondering if new small daycare centers are eligible for the child care desert program.</p>
3.0. A.420	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.</p> <p>An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></p>
3.0. Q.421	<p>Hello, I received my license December 21, 2021 . Do I qualify as a new provider ?</p>
3.0. A.421	<p>Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA #1 issuance (January 28, 2022), are eligible to apply.</p> <p>An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand</p>



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	capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.422	Hello I am interested in opening a daycare center, I am requesting more information regarding how to begin the training to become the director of a daycare center including cost of the education and where i would go to register for the education
3.0. A.422	For more information on becoming a provider go to: <a href="#">How to Get Started/ Day Care Orientation</a>  For programs applying to become an NYC DOHMH Article 47 day care center, you must attend a pre-permit orientation - <a href="https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action">https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action</a> . Check the box next to “Group Child Care and Summer Camp Orientation Sessions”, then click “Continue” at the bottom of the page before applying for a new permit.
3.0. Q.423	I am very interested in becoming a child care provider and I am about to start my orientation. I will open my day care in a location that will be closed by a previous child care provider. Would I be qualified to apply for a dessert grant? I am no licensed yet I will be In a few weeks hopefully.
3.0. A.423	<b>See 5.0 A.31, 5.0 A.40 and 5.0 A.46</b>  There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>  Locations need to score at least a base score of 30 points (without bonus points) to qualify for the award. Since applicants are competing against each other for ranking, it is unknown what scores will actually be awarded.  For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk</a> . If FCC providers need additional assistance with the child care desert map, they can contact their local CCR&R who can provide a walkthrough.
3.0. Q.425	Good afternoon I have a question regarding daycare . Is grant apply for license provider already , or only for new providers . Or providers will be allow to open another facility but with different provider .
3.0. A.425	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.426	Good afternoon, I'm writing with an eligibility question. We have a site in Brooklyn that is interested in support for an early childhood center. The site doesn't have an early childhood permit but does have a SACC license (and receives support through the Child Care Stabilization grants). Are we eligible to pursue funding?
3.0. A.426	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their

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	current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.427	Good morning, My name is ____ I have a question concerning the desert grant. I want to apply for the grant but I'm not sure if I could because I don't have a site at this moment there is a site that I'm looking at but I'm not able to get in touch with the new landlords. I'm not sure if you are supposed to have a site before receiving this grant. It's been very hard for me to find a commercial space I have been looking around and even called a realtor who deals with commercial space, I have been doing this since last year sometime in Sept. I also was inquiring about daycare centers that have been closed down and can I be able to get that space to open up my daycare. I have taken both orientations I have my certification I have not applied for the application yet for my permit or license because I can't find a space. I don't want to miss out on this opportunity at all please I hope you can assist me with this process this is all new to me and I want to do this correctly. I just want to make sure that I'm doing everything right and I will be qualified for this grant.
3.0. A.427	OCFS is not able to assist applicants with locating a child care site. If you have questions dealing with licensing requirements and selecting a facility site, please reach out to your local Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R). A directory of CCR&R Agencies and their contact information is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a>
3.0. Q.428	Good morning, I am interested in opening up two Child Care sites with two different modalities(Group family daycare and Day Care Center) . Keep in mind these will have two different llc's. Am I to apply for the Grant twice?
3.0. A.428	Providers can receive only one award per licensed program. If a provider is submitting an application for multiple program sites, a separate application must be submitted for each program site.
3.0. Q.429	I received my license on November 2021, I haven't be eligible for any grants, and I need funds for my daycare, do I qualify for this one ?
3.0. A.429	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.431	I'm looking into opening a daycare for employees of a specific Business- I watched the videos for the child day care orientation, and I looked through the website, but im not seeing anything specific towards it- Would we be able to receive any sort of grant if it's within a desert area? And or specifically open a day care for the employees of the day care? And is there any routes that I should go through? Thank you in advanced
3.0. A.431	For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.  An informational session on the grant was held in February and a recording of the presentation is available to view on the OCFS website. You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:  <u>English versions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <u>Spanish versions</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>

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	<p>Guidance on opening a Day Care Center and license requirements is available through your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&amp;R) agency. Please refer to the CCR&amp;R directory to identify your local CCR&amp;R and their contact information, available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></p>
3.0. Q.432	<p>Good Evening, My name is J.B. and I am looking into applying for a grant to assist in opening a new Child Care program in my new home . What type of child care would the grant assist with?</p>
3.0. A.432	<p>For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.</p> <p>An informational session on the grant was held in February and a recording of the presentation is available to view on the OCFS website. You can find the recordings, slide deck and transcripts for the public information sessions about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:</p> <p><u>English versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p><u>Spanish versions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Session Video</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Slide Deck</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">February 14, 2022 Transcript</a></li> </ul> <p>Additional information is available here: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>
3.0. Q.477	<p>Hello, We currently operate a daycare center at full-capacity in a desert area. We are looking at the current "Invest in NY Child Care" grant program but had questions regarding the deadline requirements. We are interested in opening a new daycare center (new director, license #, etc) to help serve our community.</p> <p>The building we are interested in will only be available for lease in June of this year and requires some minor renovations which would obviously go beyond the May 19 deadline. The grant process overview noted that all required inspections (OCFS fire inspection, town/code inspection, etc) for the grant application would need to be completed prior to the May 19 submission deadline.</p> <p><b>Can the building be preliminarily approved / inspected prior to full renovation so that we can apply by the May 19 deadline?</b></p>
3.0. A.477	<p>The OCFS status of "Application Requested" or "Application Received" must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.</p>
3.0. Q.478	<p>Hello, The NYCDOH definition for Infant Toddler is 0 - 23 months. For OCFS it is 0 - 3. The NYCDOH using it's definition caps my eligible spaces for infant/toddlers as 11. However, using the grant definition it is 28. Please tell me how I should answer these questions on your application form? Also, will NYC programs be denied an opportunity to be competitive because the definition of infant toddler is different here?</p>
3.0. A.478	<p>Applicants may apply to serve the age groups it chooses within the program licensure. Infant/Toddler slots are provided to a child between the ages of birth up to 36 months. Such services and staffing must meet all regulatory and program requirements for this age group. Awardees are not required to serve children of all age groups.</p> <p>For NYC Article 47 day care centers, infant/toddler programs are defined as a child care program that provides care to children younger than 24 months of age.</p>

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3.0. Q.480	I have a group family daycare for a few years. Can I submit for the invest program for 2 new centers and another group family daycare? We live in NYC and aren't sure of the exact location and if it will be approved.
3.0. A.480	An existing day care program with a license/registration/permit is not eligible for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 unless they are adding capacity by either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality. A future, separate RFA is anticipated to be released for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a>
3.0. Q.481	I'm reaching out to you regarding the Childcare Desert Grant. I would like to know if a new article 43 legally exempt program would qualify for this grant? Please let me know as soon as you can, as we would like to complete an application.
3.0. A.481	Legally exempt programs that will become licensed or registered are eligible to apply if they are located in a desert area. For eligibility and application requirements see the RFA visit the Invest in New York: Child Care Deserts website for details at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a>
3.0. Q.483	To be eligible for this grant. Do you need to own a home? Or the grant can be towards getting a location at a desert child care area?
3.0. A.483	Funds will not be provided in advance. Upon licensure and award, grant payments can be applied to allowable project expenses that applicants paid beginning on the grant application submission date. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a>
3.0. Q.485	<p>Good Afternoon-</p> <p>I am inquiring about this grant and if we would qualify.</p> <p>We are a corporation who has 3 centers now but are expanding and adding 2 more locations.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1.) We are building a new construction center in a desert location but will not be up and running by this coming September but will be next year. Is there anything we can do for this location?</li> <li>2.) We are also in the process of buying a building but won't have the application process along with getting approved by the state to open within 120 days of applying but will be up and running come fall.</li> </ol> <p>These two new locations will both have different license numbers. It's just impossible to be up and running within the 120 days allotted. It's almost impossible to get the application process, fully furnished, have qualified staff and be approved by OCFS in that amount of time.</p> <p>I just wanted to check to see if we would qualify before I applied for the grant. Thank you</p>
3.0. A.485	The OCFS status of "Application Requested" or "Application Received" must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application, and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.
3.0. Q.486	<p>Hi: I have a timing question concerning the Desert Grant.</p> <p>The grant says that a new site must have its license within 120 days from the date of the grant pre-approval letter - which is on or about June 15th. That puts the license deadline as on or about October 15th.</p> <p>I have a project in Waterloo, NY that will be licensed by October 15th, but the renovation won't be complete until Sept 1st, in more than enough time to meet the October 15th deadline.</p> <p>However, I needed to put in an application by the May 19th deadline. That application expires in 90 days - August 19th. So by the time my renovation is done, my license application has expired. An license application is only good for 90 days. A new license will have a new facility id and will not be associated with the desert grant application.</p> <p>Bottom line - I will be licensed by the Oct 15th deadline but the license application I needed to put in by May 19th will have expired</p> <p>What should I do</p> <p>Thanks</p>

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3.0. A.486	The OCFS status of “Application Requested” or “Application Received” must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application, and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.
3.0. Q.488	Good morning, We are working on opening a new childcare center in Canandaigua in September 2023. May we apply for this funding now? We have not yet applied for our OCFS license because it is not opening until September 2023.  Thank you for information you can provide.
3.0. A.488	The OCFS status of “Application Requested” or “Application Received” must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application, and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.
3.0. Q.490	Good afternoon, I hope this message finds you well. If I am opening multiple sites, should I apply for a separate grant for each site or are providers allowed to only apply for one grant?
3.0. A.490	The grant is based on the exact physical location of a child care program applying to be licensed in a desert area. Applicants must submit 1 application per facility ID/ in response to this RFA. An individual may apply in multiple geographic locations if applying for a license/registration/permit at more than one site location.
3.0. Q.492	Hi , I applied to open a new daycare a while ago and we never finished the job . Can i apply for the grant with the dc number I got then ? I tried applying for the grant and they didn't let me apply with that number ! Can you please explain to me what I need to do ? Thank you !
3.0. A.492	For purposes of this grant, completing an orientation is required when requesting licensure of a new facility, even if you have previously taken the orientation.  OCFS Orientation is available online at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php</a>  If you are intending to open a NYC Group Day Care Center the orientation can be found here: <a href="https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action">https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action</a>
3.0. Q.493	Good afternoon- I have a question regarding the grant and eligibility- I currently am the Director at a DCC- the DCC in the next town over, in the same county, will be closing in June due to staffing. We are looking at potentially acquiring the center in hopes of keeping a center open in the town for the families as well as keeping the UPK-3 program going within that district. Would that center qualify for the grant if it is being reopened (it would have its own license, etc.)?
3.0. A.493	An individual or entity applying for licensure to operate a child care program at a specific location that it is not currently operating is eligible to apply. The location may be the same as long as the individual or entity is new.
<b>Section 4.0 Program Requirements</b>	
4.0 Q.25	What happens if I become approved for this grant and I have to move?
4.0. A.25	If the proposed program site location must change after the site visit, applicants must provide a new site location meeting site requirements by the Section 1.2 Application Submission Deadline, to be eligible for funding. Failure to update the new program location and information (# to be served may change, etc.) in the application by Application

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	Submission Deadline will eliminate the program from being funded. For program requirements, please review section 3 of the RFA, Minimum Qualification to Apply and Prequalification Process - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
4.0. Q.26	How long will the program be enrolled in the Quality Stars Program?
4.0. A.26	A program must join the Aspire Registry and apply to Start with Stars within 30 days of being issued a license/registration/permit. Once selected for participation, programs must participate for the duration of their grant term. Note that SACCs are not currently eligible to participate in Quality Stars but will be required to apply once available.
4.0. Q.99	FCC providers have asked that the application process for Quality STARS be streamlined following the lead of other states. The current system is very cumbersome and time-consuming. We're glad this grant program prioritizes affiliation with stars but hope steps will be taken to ensure FCC providers aren't penalized financially for long delays in the application process that may be beyond the provider's control.
4.0. A.99	OCFS is proud to partner with QUALITYstarsNY for this opportunity. Providers must apply to QUALITYstarsNY for participation in QualityStarsNY or Start with Stars, within 30 days of their license being issued. Programs must work with their assigned quality improvement specialist when identified following the application process. Grant awardees will not be penalized financially for delays beyond their control.
4.0. Q.100	Good evening, I have a few questions about the grant. If I already have a day care center open am I allowed to apply for this grant to open another? If so, do I also have to do the orientation again? I'm trying to figure out if where I want the new day care will be okay for the grant.
4.0. A.100	Yes, as a currently licensed Day Care Center you would be eligible to apply for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 as a new program if you open a new child care program. Desert areas across New York State can be identified using the Child Care Deserts map tool by searching using a specific address or clicking on the location on the map where you would like to open a child care program. Once a location is selected, the site's score will be displayed. The Child Care Desert Map is available at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . Regarding the orientation, for purposes of this grant, completing an orientation is required when requesting licensure of a new facility, even if you have previously taken the orientation.
4.0. Q.245	Did you say you have to be in quality stars to apply?
4.0. A.245	A program must join the Aspire Registry and apply to Start with Stars within 30 days of being issued a license/registration/permit. Once selected for participation, programs must participate for the duration of their grant term. Note that SACCs are not currently eligible to participate in Quality Stars but will be required to apply once available.
4.0. Q.246	When does the new licensed program need to be opened by? How much time do we have to become licensed and start the program?
4.0. A.246	The OCFS status of "Application Requested" or "Application Received" must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application, and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.
<b>Section 5.0 Application Content and Submission</b>	
5.0 Q.27	Can I start the Application for a day care center today or I have to wait until March to start the license process to be eligible for the grant?
5.0. A.27	You may submit your application for licensure before the grant application period opens. However, before you can submit an application for licensure, you must complete the applicable orientation, OCFS Child Day Care Orientation or pre-permit orientation for programs applying to become an NYC DOHMH Article 47 day care center.

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5.0. Q.28	<p>a. Hello, my name is G P. I'm writing this email because I am interested in the Child Care Deserts Grant. However, I did have a few questions. Before reading about the program opportunity I was already in the process of opening my group family day care. I already took the orientation, the 15 hour health and safety course and I also have the application booklet. All I'm missing is to submit the booklet. However, before submitting my application booklet for licensing, I wanted to know if I can submit my application for licensing now, or would I have to wait until April to first apply for the grant and then submit the licensing application?</p> <p>b. Or am I able to submit the licensing application now and still be eligible to apply for the grant in April?</p> <p>c. Lastly, I also attached the results of the REDC Child Care Deserts map to this email because I am unsure if my address qualifies as a Desert area.</p>
5.0. A.28	<p>a. &amp; b. You may submit your application for licensure now. Providers who are in the process of applying or receive a license after the date of the RFA issuance (January 28), are eligible to apply for desert funding as soon as the funding application is available. For a calendar of events, please review section 1 of the RFA, General Information/Calendar of Events: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p> <p>c. For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a>. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnqyRfXpk</a>.</p>
5.0. Q.29	Where can I take the 15 hour class and will we have to pay or the grant will pay?
5.0. A.29	The 15 hour Health and Safety class can be found here: <a href="https://www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/findtrainer.aspx">https://www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/findtrainer.aspx</a> Upon licensure and award, grant payments can be applied to eligible project expenses that applicants paid beginning on the grant application submission date. Allowable expenses include required training.
5.0. Q.30	Do you have to be licensed before you get the grant?
5.0. A.30	The OCFS status of "Application Requested" or "Application Received" must be met at the time of initial grant application for licensed/registered programs. Applicants for licensure/registration granted pre-approval must meet the minimal threshold of licensing information as defined in OCFS policy within 60 days of date on pre-approval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter. NYC applicants must submit the application for a permit prior to submitting the grant application and must meet all permitting requirements by 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter.
5.0. Q.31	I have started the process of licensing my day care program. What would be the following steps to take to submit my application?
5.0. A.31	<p>There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:</p> <p>Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements</p> <p>Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type</p> <p>step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session</p> <p>Step 4: Submit a Grant Application</p> <p>Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
5.0. Q.32	Is this a first come first serve award?
5.0. A.32	Once the application portal closes, all applications will be scored based on the methodology outlined in the RFA Section 5.2, Application Content and 6.2, Evaluation Process, until all available funds are encumbered. If there are tie scores among applicants, the ties will be resolved by awarding in date/time order of application submission. Final award amounts are not finalized until programs successfully secure licensure.
5.0. Q.33	What if you are in a low desert area but your children come from a high desert area?
5.0. A.33	Grant applications will be scored based on the program's site location score and compliance with all eligibility requirements as well as other program details.

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5.0. Q.34	Do we need to have the required staff working according to our capacity even if we don't have all the children enrolled, in order to meet the deliverable?
5.0. A.34	Yes, program/room must have the required staffing ratio of dedicated staff working to meet the grant deliverable even if the total number of children aren't enrolled for that room.
5.0. Q.35	Does a higher score mean you have a better chance of the overall grant award or does it mean a higher amount, or both?
5.0. A.35	A higher score is only relevant when applicants are ranked for funding. A score has no impact on the total grant amount you are eligible for.
5.0. Q.36	a. Also the more points the better chance to get the grant? b. or anyone can apply regardless where you are?
5.0. A.36	Locations need to score at least a base score of 30 points (without bonus points) to qualify for the award.
5.0. Q.37	Do the points indicate how much money you will get or is it gauge whether or not you can receive funding?
5.0. A.37	A higher score is only relevant when applicants are ranked for funding. A score has no impact on the total grant amount you are eligible for.
5.0. Q.38	How is your RFA score used to determine your grant amount?
5.0. A.38	The RFA score does not determine the award amount. A higher score is only relevant when applicants are ranked for funding. A score has no impact on the total grant amount you are eligible for.
5.0. Q.39	a. In trying to understand the process, if I have a medium point score of like 57 points does that mean I would get a potentially smaller grant? b. Is the amount listed an all or nothing? in other words, if I were to open a center and my capacity would allow for max available but I am in a lower point area would I then be eligible for some of the grant buy not all of it
5.0.A.39	a. No. The grant amounts are set amounts or amounts per slot for each modality (program type) as explained in RFA Section 2.3 Purpose and Funding Availability, in the chart labeled, "2022 Child Care Desert Grant Awards." b. Programs who are selected for an award will be provided funding on a per slot basis or per program basis as outlined in the RFA. Scores do not impact award amount.
5.0. Q.40	What is the expected score needed to be awarded?
5.0. A.40	Locations need to score at least a base score of 30 points (without bonus points) to qualify for the award. Since applicants are competing against each other for ranking, it is unknown what scores will actually be awarded.
5.0. Q.41	is the desert map score determine the percentage of qualifying for the grant.. so if your score is 50 percent, does that mean your chance of receiving the grant is 50 %?
5.0. A.41	No, the Estimated Base RFA score points on the map does not indicate percent chance of receiving an award. Application answers will be automatically scored via the electronic application. Award recommendations will be made in score order to all to eligible provider modalities (program types) out of the funding available for each program type and REDC. After the application submission deadline, applications will be ranked in final average score order (from highest to lowest) within each REDC. Awards will be made in score order (from highest to lowest) to licensed programs until funding is exhausted. A minimum base score of 30 (without bonus points) is required to be eligible for funding.
5.0. Q.42	I'm looking at the Desert map, I see points. The higher the points, the more need for a child care program. Correct?
5.0. A.42	Applications with higher child care desert scores are more likely to qualify for grant funding than applications with lower estimated base RFA scores. A minimum base score of 30 (without bonus points) is required to be eligible for funding. See answer to 5.0.A.44 below to determine the score of a location.



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5.0. Q.43	I understand that the award is based on the need of services in the area. How do I know if my area has a potential to receive the full award?
5.0. A.43	Higher scores are more likely to qualify for funding, but funding is based on an application's total RFA score compared to the total scores of other applications received in the same REDC and modality (day care centers, school age child care, and home-based). Estimated Base RFA Scores (up to 100 points) do not include additional RFA points that are available for infant/toddler care or non-traditional hours, for up to 10 additional points.
5.0. Q.44	How are you able to identify the region in the map? How are you able to identify the exact address or location?
5.0. A.44	For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk</a> .
5.0. Q.45	What if the map doesn't show the Fam<200% poverty estimate?
5.0. A.45	The map reflects data on the number of families with income under 200% of the poverty level from the U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey, 5-year estimates, 2015-19. If there were no Census data on number of families or income in a census tract, a percentage could not be calculated. For the RFA, such census tracts received a "low" poverty score category for 6 points toward the Estimated Base RFA score.
5.0. Q.46	The map is terrific. I'm guessing FCC providers would greatly benefit from additional training in how to use it. Are you open to offering this? It has many uses beyond the grant application process.
5.0. A.46	For more information on the REDC Child Care Deserts map, review the Child Care Deserts Map section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map</a> . There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf</a> And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhngyRfXpk</a> . If FCC providers need additional assistance with the child care desert map, they can contact their local CCR&R who can provide a walkthrough.
5.0. Q.47	How will decisions be made within a region? Will the highest scores be fully funded, and lower scores rejected? Or can lower scores be partially funded?
5.0. A.47	Application answers will be automatically scored via the electronic application. Award recommendations will be made in score order to all to eligible provider modalities (program types) out of the funding available for each program type and REDC. After the application submission deadline, applications will be ranked in final average score order (from highest to lowest) within each REDC and pre- approvals will be issued. Awards will be made in score order (from highest to lowest) to licensed programs with a minimum base score of 30 (not including bonus points) until funding is exhausted. Scores below 30 will not be funded.
5.0. Q.48	If I don't score a high number can I still get the grant?
5.0. A.48	Higher scores are more likely to qualify for funding, but funding is based on an application's total RFA score compared to the total scores of other applications received in the same REDC and modality (day care centers, school age child care, and home-based). Your child care site must be in a census tract with a Base RFA score (not including bonus points) of 30 points or more to be eligible for Invest in NY Child Care funding.
5.0. Q.49	How will awards be decided if there are several applications with the same point value, from the same community?
5.0. A.49	Funding will be awarded to eligible programs based on scores, modality and location (REDC) as explained in Section 2.3, Purpose and Funding Availability and Section 6.0, Minimum Criteria/Evaluation Process. If there are tie scores among applicants, ties will be resolved by awarding in date/time order of application submission.

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5.0. Q.50	Can we obtain assistance from OCFS, seeking high need areas to open new programs, for highest possible points for competitive application success?
5.0. A.50	This grant is an opportunity to receive assistance to open a new child care program. For information on determining the highest scoring desert areas, please see the Child Care Desert Map Instructions, Instructional Video and the detailed REDC Child Care Deserts Map under the header "Find Childcare Deserts in NY" by clicking on this Link <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> . To see if your organization is eligible for this grant and read the grant requirements, please review RFA 1 Invest In New York Child Care Emergency RFA for New Programs available at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a> .
5.0. Q.300	Donde puedo aplicar ? thank you  Where can I apply? Thank you
5.0. A.300	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
5.0. Q.444	Good afternoon, i just washed the orientation to start we the grand application, i would like to continue with the next step to follow.
5.0. A.444	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
5.0. Q.446	I am opening up another daycare center and I was hoping to apply for this grant when it opens up in April. Will I have to wait until after I apply for the grant to turn in my daycare center application, or can I turn it in before?
5.0. A.446	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
5.0. Q.447	Good day. I am hereby requesting an application for the Invest in NY Child Care Initiative. Thank you.
5.0. A.447	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>

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5.0. Q.449	hi my name is ___ and im looking to open up a family daycare . do i apply first to be a daycare provider? do i need my license first before apply to the grant? can u please help me . and how do u get a license to be a daycare provider.
5.0. A.449	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
5.0. Q.450	Hi, I am interested in applying for the grant and I am requesting the application to apply.
5.0. A.450	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
5.0. Q.495	Good morning I'm a new daycare owner, I'm interested in the desert grant application. How do I go about applying? Thank you
5.0. A.495	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
5.0. Q.496	Hi, I was wondering when applications will open. Please advise. Thankyou.
5.0. A.496	The application period opens April 11, 2022, and closes May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.
5.0. Q.497	Good morning, I am looking for an application to open a knew Afterschool Program. The location I want to use is considered a Desert Area so find that it will be very bennifitial to be able to get this process going. Thanks
5.0. A.497	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant: Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session Step 4: Submit a Grant Application Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting  Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website- <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a>
5.0. Q.498	i wanted to know if i got an application to open a gfdc and i send in today the first bundle of paperwork when can i apply for the grant
5.0. A.498	There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:

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	<p>Step 1: Review Licensing and Grant Requirements  Step 2: Determine the Child Care Program Business Type  step 3: Attend a Technical Assistance Session  Step 4: Submit a Grant Application  Step 5: Complete Licensing and Pre-Award Requirements and Contracting</p> <p>Learn more about search step on the Invest in New York – Child Care Deserts website-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps</a></p>
5.0. Q.499	<p>I am in the process of completing an application to open a group daycare in my home. I would like to apply for grants, but it seem you have to submitted the application already?</p> <p>Can I still apply for a grant after May 19th once my application is submitted?</p>
5.0. A.499	<p>The application period opens April 11, 2022, and closes May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. Applications will not be accepted after that time.</p>
5.0. Q.500	<p>To whom it may concern,  My name is N.S.. My desert grant application number is A-XXXXX. I have a question about the grant. Here's our situation which a lot of people are in.  When the grant was sent via email, myself and my partners started researching and were looking for a potential spot (which we found).  We applied for the grant as soon as it became available and are awaiting for the results. We were told once we get results and if we received the grant, we have 4 months to get our permit.  Our concern is this:  We have not signed a lease on the potential spot which we won't until we know if we get the grant. We are hoping to use the funds received to utilize them and fund the architectural, construction and etc. costs. All this requires over 128 days given. If we don't receive the grant we unfortunately won't be able to proceed with the potential site.  Our question is this:  Do we only get 4 months to get permitted ( which is unreasonably unrealistic) or do we get more time since it will require over a year plus to get proper permits from DOB, DOH and fire department. Please advise, thank you so much.</p>
5.0. A.500	<p>Applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/permited by the application submission date in May, but they are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application. Based upon the site included within the application, if awarded, from the date of the pre-approval letter there will be 120 days to complete the licensure/registration/permitting process. The grant application period is April 11, 2022 to May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m. The anticipated date of notification of pre-approval is no earlier than June 15, 2022.</p> <p>This grant cannot be used for major renovations or capital expenses. For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> to read the requirements and information.</p> <p>Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses-  <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></p>