Section 1.0 General Information/Calendar of Events

Section 2.0 Executive Overview

Section 3.0 Minimum Qualifications to Apply and Prequalification Process

Section 4.0 Program Requirements

Section 5.0 Application Content and Submission
Section 1.0 General Information/Calendar of Events

1.0. Q1 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. A1 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/. 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. Q2 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. A2 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. Q3 When will the RFA for existing centers open?

1.0. A3 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/.

1.0. Q4 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. A4 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php

1.0. Q5 Would you send all this information to our emails?

1.0. A5 All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

1.0. Q6 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. A6 The anticipated date of notification of pre-approval is no earlier than June 15, 2022.

1.0. Q7 What is the deadline for new programs?

1.0. A7 The application period opens April 11, 2022, and closes May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.

1.0. Q8 Can you apply at a later date provided you apply prior to June 2024?

1.0. A8 No, the application period under RFA #1 is April 11, 2022 to May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.

1.0. Q9 How long does it take to find out if you are preapproved?
### 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
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:

- **English versions**
  - [February 14, 2022 Session Video](#)
  - [February 14, 2022 Slide Deck](#)
  - [February 14, 2022 Transcript](#)

- **Spanish versions**
  - [February 14, 2022 Session Video](#)
  - [February 14, 2022 Slide Deck](#)
  - [February 14, 2022 Transcript](#)

Additional information is available here: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

### 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php)

### 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map).

### 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map).

### 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/)

### 1.0. Q.52
When will the expansion grant money be available?
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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/)

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. [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php)

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php)

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 [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php). Additional resources are also available at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/)

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- [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). There you will find
resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHnqyRfXpk.

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 https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/ 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 https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/ 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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 https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/ 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/.

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/. 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/.

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 not 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 child care 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
| **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** | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps) |
| **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** | 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:  
**English versions**  
- **February 14, 2022 Session Video**  
- **February 14, 2022 Slide Deck**  
- **February 14, 2022 Transcript**  
**Spanish versions**  
- **February 14, 2022 Session Video**  
- **February 14, 2022 Slide Deck**  
- **February 14, 2022 Transcript**  
Additional information is available here: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1) |
| **1.0 Q.213** | My name is Z. A., and I am planning on moving to New York City in the next months and I came across this new opportunity to invest in a new daycare. My question is if before applying for the grant I would need to have the location or I would only need to be licensed and registered. |
| **1.0 A.213** | 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. 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. |
| **1.0 Q.214** | Hi what means no slots? I searched on the desert tool map for the area I’m planing to make my daycare and it says no slots |
| **1.0 A.214** | For the purpose of this funding opportunity, a desert is considered 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. If the deserts map indicates an area has no slots, it would meet this desert definition. 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). |
There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - [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) and Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRIXpk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRIXpk).

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php).

1.0. Q.215
Re: 1.0 General Information
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. **This RFA is ONLY for newly licensed programs, not for existing programs.** A future, separate RFA will be released for existing programs looking to expand.

1.7 RFA Definitions
**New Program:** An individual or entity that is not licensed and is applying for licensure to operate a child care program at a specific location.

**Question:** Can you further define “new?”
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?
Thank you.

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 #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/). 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/).

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/permited 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: [https://bit.ly/cc_deserts](https://bit.ly/cc_deserts)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.0. Q.251</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0. A.251</td>
<td>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&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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0. Q.254</td>
<td>Where can I see the Frequently Asked Questions and REsponses?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0. A.254</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0. Q.261</td>
<td>Donde puedo aplicar ? thank you</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0. A.261</td>
<td>Where can I apply? Thank you 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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0. Q.262</td>
<td>Good Morning, Can you please let me know where to find the application for the Child Are Dessert. I have searched the OCFS website and I could not find it. Thank you so much and God Bless you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0. A.262</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.0. Q.263</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1.0. A.263 | 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: English Versions • February 14, 2022 Session Video • February 14, 2022 Slide Deck • February 14, 2022 Transcript Spanish versions • February 14, 2022 Session Video • February 14, 2022 Slide Deck • February 14, 2022 Transcript Additional information is available here: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1
### 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**
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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

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### 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**
There are 5 steps to applying for a grant:
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- 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

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### 1.0. Q.267
Good morning, today February 17th 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php A directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php

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### 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: http://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/ Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are also available to review at the same location.

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### 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: https://bit.ly/cc_deserts

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.

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### 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 (https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php) or their local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R).

Applicants can find their local CCR&R here: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php

Providers in New York City should visit NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene at http://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/business/permits-and-licenses/children-and-adolescents-childcare.page 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 Regional Economic Development Councils (REDCs) 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: https://bit.ly/cc_deserts

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 percent of our funding from public sources including NYC EarlyLearn, 3K and Pre-K programs funded through the NYC Department of Education.

Question: Is our organization eligible to apply for a grant under the current Child Care Deserts RFA#1 (New Programs)?

1.0. A.272  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.

1.0. Q.273  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

1.0. A.273  To view child care deserts in New York State, visit the REDC Child Care Deserts map: https://bit.ly/cc_deserts

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf. And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIIhngyRfxpk.

1.0. Q.301  Hi where can I find a recording of the childcare desert grant information session?

1.0. A.301  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:

**English Versions**
- [February 14, 2022 Session Video](#)
- [February 14, 2022 Slide Deck](#)
- [February 14, 2022 Transcript](#)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.0. Q.302</th>
<th>I have completed the General Orientation. Should I be looking for locations or requesting a Grant application or both at this time?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1.0. A.302 | 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.0. Q.303</th>
<th>Where would I find the Q &amp; A's from the information sessions? The Q &amp; A's that are posted were updated Jan 4th 2022.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1.0. A.303 | 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts  
Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are also available to review at the same location. |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.0. Q.304</th>
<th>I am trying ti find help with submitting a RFA for tigere 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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1.0. A.304 | 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.0. Q.305</th>
<th>Good afternoon I was just wondering if you will be having another session regarding the grant thank you in advance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1.0. A.305 | There are no additional information sessions planned at this time.  
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:  
**English Versions**  
- February 14, 2022 Session Video  
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck  
- February 14, 2022 Transcript  
**Spanish versions**
1.0. Q.306
I know that I will not get a personal response to this but, I asked a question the same day as the first online zoom informational session. I know questions are answered on a rolling basis and I check the Q and A download frequently (at least 2 x a week). It was my understanding that that document would be updated on Fridays, I have printed it and when I check it doesn't seem to have any new questions answered. I have reached out to multiple sources and cannot seem to get an answer to my question. I am hoping that I am able to get an answer to the questions below. Thank you!

Will the application require a specific address to get a preapproval or will it just require an area, as in a zip code? I currently have a family daycare and am considering opening a center. I have looked at 2 properties which are both in the same zip code but the 2 address (although just a mile apart) have very different scores on the RFA map. The one I prefer is scored lower but I would be willing to consider the higher scored one if I couldn't get approved for the lower scored one. It appears the lower scored one is right on the edge of an area that would certainly address the needs of the higher desert area with no problem. I am reluctant to sign a lease without at least a preapproval (although I know that is no guarantee but I believe the preapproval would give me reassurance that I am on the right track to receiving the grant).

Would I be able to submit 2 different applications IF a specific address is required? Or would the application just require a zip code for a preapproval with a specific address only needed to secure final approval?

1.0. A.306
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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are also available to review at the same location.

Applicants are required to have a final site with address selected and included within the submitted application. 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.

Applicants may submit one grant request for each license/registration/permit number only. 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 - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

1.0. Q.307
I live in Brooklyn, NY how can I apply for the child care subsidy program?

1.0. A.307
If you are interested in finding out if you are eligible for a child care assistance (subsidy), or if you would like to apply for a subsidy for your child, contact your local Department of Social Services.
https://ocfs.ny.gov/directories/localdss.php

1.0. Q.308
Hi, how do I apply for the childcare for essential workers?

1.0. A.308
The Essential Worker scholarship is no longer available.

1.0. Q.309
My name is S. S., last year I applied for the Essential Workers grant and got accepted for my two children. Yesterday, I received an email stating that it's been extended another 12 weeks. I am inquiring on the process to do so. I will be using the same provider as last year, Loving Arms Daycare. I would like to use this daycare for the evening hours and weekends as I work rotating shifts at the hospital. Please, let me know what I need to do to start the process and how the provider would proceed and get paid.

1.0. A.309
The NYS Essential Workers Scholarship has not been extended. For the latest information you can go to the website located here https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/COVID-relief/essential-workers.php

1.0. Q.310
Could you provide me with information as to which zip codes in NYC are eligible for this program?
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1.0. A.310</th>
<th>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></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.0. Q.311</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 1.0. A.311 | 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- [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps) |
| 1.0. Q.312 | I am interested in applying for the Child Care Dessert Grant. I already watched your introduction video of how to open a daycare and the different modalities. As listed in your intructions I reached out to my local office in the westchester area and they told me that they are not providing technical assistance for the grant. That they are not authorize to provide any information on the grant. Can you please clarify for me who will be providing assistance with the completion of the grant. I am looking forward to completing my application and opening a daycare center in the New Rochelle Area. |
| 1.0. A.312 | Guidance on opening a Day Care Center and license requirements are 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php) |
| 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 | All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)  
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:  
**English Versions**  
- [February 14, 2022 Session Video](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)  
- [February 14, 2022 Slide Deck](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)  
- [February 14, 2022 Transcript](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)  
**Spanish versions**  
- [February 14, 2022 Session Video](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)  
- [February 14, 2022 Slide Deck](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)  
- [February 14, 2022 Transcript](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)  
Additional information is available here: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1) |
| 1.0. Q.314 | Could you send me the Q & A’s from the informational sessions (Feb 7 and Feb 14). I don’t see those on the website. |
| 1.0. A.314 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts)  
Answers to frequently asked questions (FAQs) are also available to review at the same location. |
| 1.0. Q.315 | I am seeking clarification regarding eligibility for the Child Care Desert Grant. Our agency is a Community Action Program with several different programs (including Head Start, Community Action Centers, Displaced Homemaker Program etc.). I read the eligibility section of the FRA Section 3.1 and noted that we are not eligible because we already have a Head Start Program and receive funds (non-profit sector). |
Our agency also has a for profit sector (Community Economic Development Center) and I would like to know if we are eligible under this sector for the Child Care Desert Grant. Please advise.

1.0. A.315

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. Request for Applications RFA# 2 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for Existing Programs was posted on 5/13/22 and is available on the OCFS website at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

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.

This funding opportunity is available to child care programs newly licensed or registered by OCFS, as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH. For the for-profit Community Economic Development Center, it would be eligible to apply for this grant opportunity under RFA #1 as a new program if you open a new child care program.

1.0. Q.316

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:
1. Once applied, what is the timeline of approval/denial decisions?
2. How much can we apply for? Will it be depending on the scope of the work?

1.0. A.316

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:

English Versions
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

Spanish versions
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

Additional information is available here: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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.

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.”

1.0. Q.401

good evening. I am interested in opening a day care in my home. I will start my CPR classes and the 15-hour health and safety course in April. The question is to be able to apply for the child care desert subsidy, I must have the courses certified, to be able to request the book or I can request the book while I finish my courses, I am attentive.
1.0. A.401

Before you can submit an application for licensure, you must complete the OCFS Child Day Care Orientation. After completing this course, you may request an application for licensure, and once you request an application for licensure, you can apply for the grant. To apply to the Invest in NY Child Care grant, you are not required to have CPR training completed. Trainings required for licensure must be completed prior to becoming licensed, which can occur up to 120 days after pre-approval.

1.0. Q.402

I am looking into opening a child care center in Brooklyn, I wonder if you can assist me obtaining my license.

1.0. A.402

For more information on becoming a provider go to: How to Get Started/ Day Care Orientation

For programs applying to become an NYC DOHMH Article 47 day care center, you must attend a pre-permit orientation - https://a816-healthps.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action. 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.

For assistance with licensing requirements, 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php

1.0. Q.403

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 gfc 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.

1.0. A.403

If you have not received your application, please contact your local Child Care and Resource and Referral Agency. Please refer to the CCR&R directory to identify your local CCR&R and their contact information, available at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php

1.0. Q.404

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.

1.0. A.404

The application period opened April 11, 2022, and closes May 19, 2022 at 11:59 p.m.

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

1.0. Q.405

Pls sent to me all information pls

1.0. A.405

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

1.0. Q.451

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.
1.0. A.451
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:

**English versions**
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

**Spanish versions**
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

Additional information is available here: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

1.0. Q.452
Info regarding desert grant
Group family day care
linden st
Yonkers ny

1.0. A.452
All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

1.0. Q.453
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?

1.0. A.453
All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

1.0. Q.454
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?

1.0. A.454
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:

**English versions**
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

**Spanish versions**
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

Additional information is available here: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

1.0. Q.455
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?

1.0. A.455
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:

**English versions**
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
### 1.0. Q.456

**Hi my name is s. i live in the ___ belmont ave bronx ny 10457 i need to known if i quialified for the grant**

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**1.0. A.456**

All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

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 - [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - [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) And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIIhnyRTfXp](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIIhnyRTfXp).

### 1.0. Q.457

**Is this funding for new childcare programs or funding for parents needing to pay child care?**

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**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 [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php). Additional resources are also available at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/)

In addition, contact your local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agency for help. A directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php). Please find more information on the Grant Application Process at the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/) to read the requirements and information.

### 1.0. Q.458

**Good afternoon can i please get the link or website for the orientation training.**

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**1.0. A.458**

OCFS Orientation is available online at [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php)

If you are intending to open a NYC Group Day Care Center the orientation can be found here: [https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMService.action](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMService.action)

### 1.0. Q.459

**I'm applying for the dessert grant and have a few questions! I'm operating an article 47 center base program.**

1) Do I need to submit a floor plan guide in addition to the architectural plan?
2) Who do I contact to complete the Environmental Hazards Inspection?
3) Where can I find the Applicant Compliance Agreement?
4) Can I submit a temporary certificate of occupancy (my site is a new construction) ?

---

**1.0. A.459**

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php)

For providers within New York City, the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

### 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.
1.0.A.460 | All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)
---
1.0. Q.461 | What do you mean “providing Infact Toddler Slots”
---
1.0. A.461 | Infant/Toddler slots are child care services 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. 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. 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.462 | Hello, what does the desert level children slot represent?
---
3.0. A.462 | A child care desert is determined through information gathered from the census tract and the ratio of available child care slots to children.

### Section 2.0 Executive Overview

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). 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.
---
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. [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/)
---
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 | For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/) 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:

**English versions**
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

**Spanish versions**
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

Additional information is available here: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)
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
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 https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/ to read the requirements and information.

Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses-
https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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.

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 Grant section on the Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant website- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf
And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhngyRIXp.

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.0 Q.68</td>
<td>How can I find out what specific zip codes fall within Census Tract ID1146.03? I googled trying to find this information and was unsuccessful. Thank you.</td>
<td>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=LHhnyRfXpK">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHhnyRfXpK</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 A.68</td>
<td>What is the website for the map?</td>
<td>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=LHhnyRfXpK">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHhnyRfXpK</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 Q.70</td>
<td>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 attend that webinar and from there on you will guide and help me with the process.</td>
<td>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 child care business in a desert area? Please assist me in clarifying this. Thank you.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0 A.70</td>
<td>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>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0 Q.71</td>
<td>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 attend that webinar and from there on you will guide and help me with the process.</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0 A.71</td>
<td>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?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0 A.72</td>
<td>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?</td>
<td>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>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0 Q.73</td>
<td>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?</td>
<td>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=LHhnyRfXpK">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHhnyRfXpK</a>.</td>
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<td>Q.74</td>
<td>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?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.74</td>
<td>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&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>. 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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q.75</td>
<td>What if I offer spots and extended hours and they are not filled</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.75</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<td>Q.76</td>
<td>Can this new program grant be awarded to property rented not owned?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.76</td>
<td>Yes, the proposed program site location site can be a location that is owned or rented by the provider.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q.77</td>
<td>Will a program be eligible for the bonus if they <em>offer</em> non-traditional hours care but if families don't choose to use it?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.77</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q.78</td>
<td>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?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.78</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q.79</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.79</td>
<td>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></td>
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<tr>
<td>Q.80</td>
<td>How do these points correlate with the amount of a grant one will qualify for?</td>
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<tr>
<td>A.80</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q.81</td>
<td>Can I use some of the money for sign-on bonuses to attract qualified employees, especially for evening care?</td>
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<td>Question</td>
<td>Answer</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. A.81</td>
<td>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 RFA 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></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.82</td>
<td>Can an individual apply for the grant in the NYC AND the Long Island area or can you only apply to one geographical location?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. A.82</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.83</td>
<td>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.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.83</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.84</td>
<td>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?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.84</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.85</td>
<td>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</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.85</td>
<td>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=LHmgYRFxkp">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LHmgYRFxkp</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.86</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. A.86</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.87</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. A.87</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.88</td>
<td>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?</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. A.88</td>
<td>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.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.89</td>
<td>Just to clarify, is Kingston part of downstate?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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 RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses - https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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.

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  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. 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 program 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.

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 RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses - https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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 - [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

| 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). |
| 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). |
| 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. |
| 2.0.Q.108 | 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. 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? My program, BCH, was a very successful and loving community that I hope to rebuild! |
| 2.0. A.108 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php) |
| 2.0.Q.109 | I will have a DOH permit for 2-5 years old. Can i still offer an Infant or toddler slot? |
| 2.0. A.109 | 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. |
| 2.0. Q.110 | Are the grant awards based on region or a set number of awards for the RFA? |
| 2.0. A.110 | 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. |
| Q.111 | Good morning I have 3 group family day care in westbury ny 11590 ave r 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? |
| Q.111 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/). |
| Q.112 | 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? |
| A.112 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/). |
| Q.113 | 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. ? |
| A.113 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/). |
| Q.114 | 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. |
| A.114 | OCFS Orientation is available online at [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php). If you are intending to open a NYC Group Day Care Center the orientation can be found here: [https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHServic.action](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHServic.action). |
| Q.115 | 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. |
| A.115 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/). |
| Q.116 | 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? |
| A.116 | 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. |
| **2.0. Q.117** | Intentionally omitted. |
| **2.0. Q.118** | 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! |
| **2.0. A.118** | 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. |
| **2.0. Q.119** | how much for after school program or daycare center? |
| **2.0. A.119** | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/Childcare-Deserts.pdf](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/Childcare-Deserts.pdf) |
| **2.0. Q.120** | Do they give start up funds? |
| **2.0. A.120** | 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- [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1) |
| **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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/Childcare-Deserts.pdf](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/Childcare-Deserts.pdf) |
| **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. |
<p>| <strong>2.0. Q.124</strong> | is the award yearly or that's the total max amount? |
| <strong>2.0. A.124</strong> | The first of 8 quarterly payments will be made at 1/8th 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. |
| <strong>2.0. Q.125</strong> | 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? |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.125</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.126</td>
<td>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 awarded for those 4 spots available?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.126</td>
<td>This amount is based on the number of slots a center-based program has (capacity) up to the maximum grant award.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.127</td>
<td>The $90000 award is per child per year or per 2 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.127</td>
<td>The base award amount varies based on the modality of care and location of the program. It is a maximum annual amount.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.128</td>
<td>Does the grant cap include the bonus piece as well?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.128</td>
<td>Yes, the grant cap includes any bonuses the program may be eligible for.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.129</td>
<td>The $9000 award is per child attending the program or per maximum license capacity?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.129</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.130</td>
<td>I own a daycare already and I am at full capacity, can I use the grant to open a second location? Thanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.130</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.131</td>
<td>As a current GFDC Provider who wants to change to a DCC in a separate location, am I eligible for the grant?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.131</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.132</td>
<td>How about a site that is closing and we would like to relicence a new center and definitively increasing infant and toddler slots from the previous owner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.132</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.133</td>
<td>Would it pay for college reimbursement for staff looking to go back to school?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.133</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.134</td>
<td>What specific items this grant will cover? Windows, floors, doors make more space??</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.134</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.135</td>
<td>If we would like to install a fence to our outside play area, is that an allowable expense?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.135</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.136</td>
<td>Can we use it to pay for rent / security deposits for new locations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.136</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.137</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.137</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.138</td>
<td>what happened if you are not located in a child care desert Census track but thinking about opening another site and have a already a waiting list for that new site. That the score changes?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.138</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.139</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.139</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.140</td>
<td>For the infant toddler bonus, can we have only toddlers (18 months to 36 months) or must we have birth to 36 months?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.140</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. Q.141</td>
<td>For GFDC setting: 4 infants slots will add 3000 per slot even in the case that not all 4 slots filled up?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.0. A.141</td>
<td>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.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
### Responses to Questions for RFA 1 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs – Last updated on 05/27/2022

| 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. |
| Q.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. |
| Q.143 | Can a new provider open a 3K or Pre-K program? |
| Q.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. |
| Q.144 | were areas surrounding child care deserts taken into consideration so as to not take enrollment from centers in adjacent areas? |
| Q.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. |
| 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? |
| Q.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. See 4.0 A.25 |
| Q.146 | Understand the "desert" concept; definitely true; however, finding/hiring staff is a larger DESERT dilemma. Any solutions for this aspect? |
| Q.146 | Grant funds can be used for payroll and personnel costs. Please see the RFA, RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses. [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1) |
| Q.147 | What if you are opening in a non traditionally diverse area but plan to serve a diverse targeted population. |
| Q.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. |
| 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? |
| Q.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. |
| 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? |
| Q.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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf

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.

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LhHygRfXpk.

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 Deserts 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 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

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 - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

| Q.224 | Good Evening, I just opened my own family daycare in October 2021. Is there any way that I can apply for this grant as well? I am in an desert area that is in need for daycare. |
| A.224 | 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. Request for Applications RFA# 2 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for Existing Programs was posted on 5/13/22 on the OCFS website at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/ |

| Q.225 | Hi if we want to open a daycare center by a high point desert but we didn’t find the right place to lease. Can we lease a place in a different COUNTY and serve the location we want to serve? |
| A.225 | The desert score is based on the site address of the program applying. The grant is not based on the locations the families reside in. 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 - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps |

| Q.226 | 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? What happens if I become approved for this grant and I have to move? Does the grant carry to the new location? Can I still receive this grant if I am only open on the weekends? |
| A.226 | OCFS has no other grants currently available for new child care providers. The grant will be awarded to the location in the grant application. A program that closes before the end of the grant period will not be eligible for grant funds after the date of program closure and will be required to return any unpent grant funds received to OCFS. Programs only open on weekends that otherwise meet eligibility requirements can receive a grant award. |

| Q.227 | I am a daycare licensor out of the Albany Regional Office and currently have a program that is right on the cusp of being approved to be licensed. I did not them miss out on the Desert Grant do you know how I should proceed? T. J. Day Care Licensor – DCCS/Albany Regional Office |
| A.227 | Providers who are in the process of applying for a license are eligible as long as they have not secured a license before January 28, 2022. If awarded, applicants have 120 days from the date of the pre-approval letter to complete the licensure/registration/permitting process. |

| Q.228 | Good morning, I will like to know, I am a property owner of 2 gfdc in same house, one is active under my niece name and the other Im about to request the license to be under my name but is there any lisence that I can apply for to get both programs under the same program or name or it has to apply for each floor indvidually. I will like to know how can I use my whole property for childcare. In advance THANK YOU for any info. |
| A.228 | Contact your regulator to discuss your request. Programs must adhere to the licensing requirements set by the applicable regulations. |

| Q.229 | - Could the grant be used to pay for additional staffing for the new center? - Do you need to submit a business plan? - Could the grant be used to pay for a new lease for a building? |
2.0. A.229 Funds can be used for staffing along with rent or mortgage expenses. Funds can be used for facility maintenance and minor improvements. Funds cannot be used for major renovations.

Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses:
https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

2.0. Q.230 Can this funding opportunity be used to create a new 4410 special education preschool program?

2.0. A.230 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.

Funds can be used for rent or mortgage expenses, and for home based providers, they should use their provider cost allocation methodology. Funds can be used for facility maintenance and minor improvements. Funds cannot be used for major renovations.

Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses:
https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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:
https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

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:
https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

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.

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:
https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

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:
https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

2.0. Q.317 I would like to know whether the maximum funding request for this application is $500,000/$400,000 per applicant or per new site. In other words, if I’m interested in opening two sites in desert locations, would I be
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.0. A.317</strong></td>
<td>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. If you would like to open two sites and are seeking a grant for each, you will need to complete 2 applications (one for each site) as funding and documentation are assigned to each individual program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.0. Q.318</strong></td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.0. A.318</strong></td>
<td>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.”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.0. Q.319</strong></td>
<td>I am interested in opening new GroupFamily Daycare and would like to apply for this grant. I am confused on the awarded amounts. I have 12 slots available so its $9000 per slot since I am in NYC and 3000 extra for non traditional care. So it would be $12000 per slot. If that is correct than award amount would be $144,000 annually. I see that it states that for group Family daycare that annual award amount is $30,000 please explain.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.0. A.319</strong></td>
<td>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.” Home-based child care awards are calculated on a flat rate program basis for licensed capacity and are not adjusted by slots. Please see the chart outlining the maximum total for the base grant that may be awarded under this RFA by Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) and program type.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.0. Q.320</strong></td>
<td>I was previously licensed as a GFDC. My license expired 6/2020 and I closed my program due to the pandemic. I am looking forward to reopening. I believe that I am eligible for the childcare deserts grant. I have given up the location I was previously using and will need to find a new location - due to not having a location at this time. Being that I do not have a location yet, how would the child care desert score be determined? I have not yet applied for an application but will be using my current address which would not meet requirements for licensing, I will be moving once I find a proper location.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.0. A.320</strong></td>
<td>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. Applicants are required to have a final site selected and included within the submitted application. 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. 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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2.0. Q.321</strong></td>
<td>Following up on the email from Dr. A.P., here are questions we have regarding this OCFS grant for new childcare centers. If you can help us figure out the answers or connect us with someone at OCFS who knows the answers, that would be greatly appreciated. Located at UB’s north campus, the Early Childhood Research Center (ECRC) is an NYS licensed center that is affiliated with UB’s Graduate School of Education. We are interested in opening a new center on the south campus (as a satellite location) to provide childcare and other wrap-around services to families. Are we eligible for this grant since it seems to be directed toward opening a new child care center?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.0. A.321
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.

Request for Applications RFA# 2 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for Existing Programs was posted on 5/13/22 and is available on the OCFS website at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/)

Scoring of the RFA is based on the census tract where the child care program is located. The grant does not provide points based on the residence of children in care.

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.

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.

The first quarterly payment will be made at 1/8th of the total award amount after the license has been 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.

2.0. Q.322
Hello,
I hope all is well. My name is ________ and I am reaching out to obtain more clarity regarding the Child Care Desert Program and have listed some questions below. It would be greatly appreciated if someone can review the questions and reply back with any feedback. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at ________.

Questions

1. Does the grant fund construction initiatives such as:
   1. Putting up walls
   2. Creating rooms
   3. Creating Bathrooms for Staff and Children
   4. Storefront signs (appearing on glass window and awning)
2. Does the grant fund site upkeep, repairs, and required updates due to inspection
3. Will the grant cover all fees associated with lease / mortgage (i.e.: taxes)
4. Does the grant fund the use of an interior designer who will architect the layout of the site?
5. Is there a list of payment dates available for review?
6. There was a mention that this grant is catered towards new centers and that there will be another program catered towards existing programs and large centers. I am in the process of opening up a large center. Would I be eligible for the 2nd program rather than the 1st as I am a large program. Additionally, since I am opening a large center, will I be allocated the maximum amount or a larger funding?
7. I intend to franchise my day care centers. Will this be the only time for this grant opportunity?

I. If we are awarded this grant for the designated two years, will there be any additional years for this particular grant?

In terms of awards, will there be a separate allocation of funds for the children, and another allocation for operating and construction expenses or will they both pull from the amount calculated based on the number of slots?

2.0. A.322

1, 2, 3, & 4) 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. The grant can be used for minor renovations, signage, and rent or mortgage expenses based on cost allocation methodology. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses at https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

5. The first quarterly payments will be made at 1/8th of the total award amount after the license has been 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.

6. This grant is specifically for opening new programs (large and small) in areas of the state that are identified as child care deserts, based on available data. Request for Applications RFA# 2 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for Existing Programs was posted on 5/13/22 and is available on the OCFS website at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

7. Additional grant opportunities for new child care programs are unknown at this time.

8. 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.” There will not be a separate allocation of funds for costs associated with serving children versus general operating costs.

2.0. Q.323

I would like to know if the grant funds would be once application is completed and accept? 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 you 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 - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.325</th>
<th>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.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.325</td>
<td>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.pdf">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.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>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.325B</td>
<td>Good afternoon. I am very interested in applying for the desert grant program. I have a few specific questions. 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... Would the grant money be able to pay for:</td>
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<td>sinks to be installed</td>
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<td>a wall to be moved to create the correct square footage</td>
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<td></td>
<td>an exterior door installed for an infant room</td>
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<td></td>
<td>new carpeting or flooring</td>
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<td></td>
<td>having the walls painted</td>
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<td></td>
<td>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. Would the grant money be able to pay for:</td>
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<td>lawyers fees as far as zoning or town applications for the building</td>
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<td></td>
<td>insurance that is needed, liability, workers comp, disability</td>
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<td></td>
<td>supplies such as toys, rest mats, items needed by children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>office supplies, such as desks, printers, computers, file cabinets, chairs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.325B</td>
<td>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></td>
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<tr>
<td>Q.406</td>
<td>Hello, I came across the Desert Grant and I would like to open a daycare center outside of my home. Does the grant cover purchasing a commercial space to operate the daycare?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.406</td>
<td>This grant cannot be used for capital expenses but it can be used to assist with the cost of paying rent or a mortgage. For more information, review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Eligible Expenses at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.407</td>
<td>Hello i would like to know, if i have 2 potential daycare center locations, does the square foot impact the amount i can receive from the grant? so in other words if i choose the bigger location versus the smaller location does this grantee a larger grant amount?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.407</td>
<td>The amount of square footage does not correlate to a larger award for the grant. However, the size of the proposed site may impact the number of children you may serve and therefore could impact the grant amount awarded. Please note that programs must comply with any and all square footage requirements in regulation for licensure.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
There are many factors that may 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/RFA1/RFA1-Childcare-Deserts.pdf)

2.0. Q.408

Hi my name is LD and I am interested in the daycare center program. I wanted to know if the grant covers for obtaining a lease on a commercial property?

2.0. A.408

Yes, this grant can be used to cover the cost of renting a commercial space to operate a daycare center. For more information, review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Eligible Expenses at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

2.0. Q.409

Good morning, 
Regarding the Child Care Desert grant: 
For SACC programs in NYC, is the total Award amount of $300,000 per child care program distributed over two years, meaning, $150,000 per year for two years (assuming licensing is valid)? Or is it a total award of $300,000 per year for two years?

2.0. A.409

The SACC annual award per child care slot is $2,500 or $3,300 depending on the program’s location. The maximum funding is $300,000.00 over the two year period of the grant. Please note that grant funds are issued on a quarterly basis based on compliance with all grant requirements and no quarterly payments will be issued past June 30, 2024.

2.0. Q.410

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 desert on the map". Does this matter or just the RFA score?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Desert Level</th>
<th>1.04 children/slot, Not a Desert, 0 points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>REDC Desert Level</td>
<td>60% of CTs are deserts, Low, 10 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diversity Index</td>
<td>75.2, High, 20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam &lt;200% Poverty</td>
<td>33.47%, High, 20, points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Base RFA Score</td>
<td>50 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.0. A.410

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- [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - [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)

And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRFXpk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRFXpk). If FCC providers need additional assistance with the child care desert map, they can contact their local CCR&R who can provide a walkthrough.

2.0. Q.411

Hello, If an FDC opens and receives the Desert Grant, but need to temporary become 'inactive' due to maternity/paternity leave-how would that effect their grant?

2.0. A.411

Funding is based on programs meeting ongoing eligibility criteria which includes being open and operating. Program grant eligibility may continue but funding will not be awarded when programs have a period of noncompliance with the requirements.

2.0. Q.412

What percentage of the desert area your daycare has to be in order to qualify for the grant

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.413 | 1) On page 12, the RFA shows a slot amount of $9,000 for New York City GDC, but not for other areas of the state, yet, in the Base Grant Available Funding chart on page 11, there shows available Base Grant Funding outside of NYC. Is there GDC funding in the rest of the state, and if so, what would be the amount per slot and what would be the maximum award cap?

2) On page 12 of the RFA, the DCC is divided by LI and Westchester and then the rest of NY. May we assume that “Rest of NY” includes NYC? Thank you in advance for your response. |
| 2.0. A.413 | 1) Group Day Care or GDC is a type of child care program exclusive to NYC. That region does not have NYS Licensed Day Care Centers. Group Family Day Care (GFDC) and Family Daycare (FDC) funding is listed in a separate chart on page 14 of the RFA.

2) No, rest of New York means regions outside of Long Island, Westchester, and NYC. |
| 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? |
| 2.0. A.414 | 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.

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 - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf. And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1hngyRfXpk. If FCC providers need additional assistance with the child care desert map, they can contact their local CCR&R who can provide a walkthrough. |
| 2.0. Q.415 | I am looking at a building to open a daycare that is only 27 points and I know I need a minimum of 30 to apply. All the building directly across the street are 70 points. Is there any way at all I can still apply for the grant since I would obviously be servicing kids in the desert across the street! Thank you |
| 2.0. A.415 | Grant applications will be scored based upon the exact physical location and other factors within the area of the proposed program. The demographic information of the children in care is not a part of that calculation. |
| 2.0. Q.416 | Good morning, is the 500K cap per center in NYC an annual cap or a total for both years. I watched the webinar but still trying to get this straight. I'm attaching the page from the RFP which looks like the 9K per student was changed to yearly from bi-yearly... was the 500K cap also adjusted to per year or not? I would appreciate if you could clarify this for me. Thank you! |
| 2.0. A.416 | The cap is a total over two years. The per slot rate is yearly. If applied over the term of the grant, the per slot rates could be doubled. That total two-year amount, plus any award grant bonuses, cannot exceed the cap for the modality and region. |
| 2.0. Q.417 | Hello, I hope this email finds you well.

I am interested in starting a new program and I have the below questions:

1. RFA section 1.7 Desert Census Tract: I am using the map to try to figure out whether Buffalo, NY is a dessert place. It appears to me that it is, however, there are some sections of Buffalo that are darker than others and thus more of a dessert. How can I figure out what certain parts of Buffalo have a greater need from looking at the map? https://bit.ly/cc_deserts |
2. Location. Grants will not be approved or denied until around June 15th as per the Calendar of events in section 1.2 page 2. Are we to incur all of the expenses, such as acquiring a building for the daycare center, furnishing the building, hiring staff and conducting background checks, marketing the new daycare beforehand out of pocket in hopes of our application getting accepted? I am just trying to get an idea of the process and how things are expected to happen.

3. Lastly, can the grant be used for leasing of a building or mortgage of a building to be used as a daycare? Be blessed.

2.0. A.417

1. 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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRfXpk.

2. There is no guarantee of award and an advance of funds is not possible. However, upon licensure and award, grant payments can be applied to eligible 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 https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

3. Yes, this grant can be used to cover the cost of renting a commercial space to operate a daycare center and for mortgage obligations. For more information, review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Eligible Expenses at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

2.0. Q.418

Hi Good Afternoon,

In response to the new child care grant opportunity, and in order to help out NY with the Child Care desert, we are interested in opening a new Child Care based program that will operate on Non Traditional Hours.

My question is, if you operate ONLY on Non-Traditional Hours AKA from 6:00 PM - 12 AM, or any other 30 hours a week) would we be eligible for the full grant + the $3,000 for non Traditional hours? Please let me know, so i can plan accordingly.

2.0. A.418

Other than the threshold to meet the criteria for the non-traditional hour bonus, there is no minimum required operating hours to be eligible for this grant. If you fulfill the requirements to be eligible for the non-traditional hours bonus based on your modality and you otherwise meet eligibility requirements, you can receive the full grant amount plus the non-traditional hour bonus.

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

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
Responses to Questions for RFA 1 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs – Last updated on 05/27/2022

2.0. Q.463

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.

My building is located at 122 West Ave., Brockport NY 14420. I see the following information given when that address is put in:

**Census Tract ID 152, Monroe County, Finger Lakes REDC**

- 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 <200% Poverty: 11.28%, Med, 14, points
- Estimated Base RFA Score: 43 points

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.

**Census Tract ID 153.04, Monroe County, Finger Lakes REDC**

- Desert Level: 18.00 children/slot, Med, 35 points
- REDC Desert Level: 66% of CTs are deserts, Med, 15 points
- Diversity Index: 29.2, Med, 14 points
- Fam <200% Poverty: 32.25%, High, 20, points
- Estimated Base RFA Score: 84 points

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.

I thank you in advance for your consideration and help.

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.464

Hello OCFS, Last week the desert map provided a score above 70 for ___ Crystal Run Road. When checking that same address in the desert map today, the address received a score of 44 points.

This is not the only occurrence of this happening, as properties in Cornwall were scoring 76's last week and are currently scoring at 40 points.

Was the algorithm updated to more accurately express the childcare deserts of New York State? As accuracy is always appreciated, this adaptation on the day of the application opening is confusing and misleading to potential providers looking to apply.

Any insight you can provide on this matter would be helpful.

2.0. A.464

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.
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  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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf And Child Care Deser ts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRfXpk.

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

2.0. Q.466  Hello—I have a question to submit: $7000.00 is the Annual Award Amount per slot for a Child Care Center in Rest of State—outlined on page 13 of the RFA.
On page 16 of the RFA it states that Invest in NY Child Care awards are made for up to 2 years. Does this mean the grantee would receive $14000 for each slot?

2.0. A.466  Yes, If the program continues to comply with the required deliverables of the grant. However, funding is not guaranteed and is based on meeting ongoing deliverables. Also please note payments cannot be made following 6/30/24 regardless of the amount of funding received and compliance.

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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 RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses- https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

2.0. Q.469  Good afternoon,
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.

2.0. A.469  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.

2.0. A.470
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?

2.0. A.471
The calculated desert 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!!

2.0. A.472
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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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!

2.0. A.473
The calculated desert 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.

Section 3.0 Minimum Qualifications to Apply and Prequalification Process

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?

3.0. A.21
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 current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

3.0. Q.22
hola tengo ya la orientacion y tengo cuenta creada ocfs, cuales lugares 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps Applications will begin to be accepted on April 11, 2022.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q/A #</th>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q23</td>
<td>If I’m being certified the license now, am I eligible to get the grant?</td>
<td>Yes, 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 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.23</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>Yes, 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 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q24</td>
<td>Do you qualify for this grant if you run a child care program in a public school building?</td>
<td>No, 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.24</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>No, 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q96</td>
<td>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</td>
<td>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 Urban 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.96</td>
<td>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 Urban 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.</td>
<td>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 Urban 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q97</td>
<td>Hi there, I am a licensed child care 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?</td>
<td>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 Urban 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.97</td>
<td>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 Urban 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.</td>
<td>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 Urban 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q98</td>
<td>I hope this email finds you well. I am wondering if this new grant will be available for legally exempt programs as well?</td>
<td>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> to read the requirements and information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.98</td>
<td>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> to read the requirements and information.</td>
<td>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> to read the requirements and information.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q154</td>
<td>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 XXXXXXX…..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…..</td>
<td>If awarded, funds from the Child Care Desert Grant can only be spent on allowable expenses dating back to the date of application submission.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.154</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q155</td>
<td>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?</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.155</td>
<td>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.</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php).
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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps) and review the Request for Applications (RFA) [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1) 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: [https://bit.ly/cc_deserts](https://bit.ly/cc_deserts)

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 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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.161</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.161</td>
<td>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>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.162</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.162</td>
<td>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/permitted 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.163</td>
<td>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”?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.163</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.164</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.164</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.165</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.165</td>
<td>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>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.166</td>
<td>Good Afternoon Can this grant be used for Group Family Day Care?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.166</td>
<td>All newly licensed, regulated, and permitted child care programs that meet the eligibility criteria are eligible to apply, this includes group family day care.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 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 quality 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/).

### 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 too soon. 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps).

### 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/permited 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php)

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 this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/).

### 3.0. Q.171
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
3.0. A.171 | There are no exemptions to the grant scoring.
---
3.0. Q.172 | Am I able to start the process of expanding before April and still qualify to apply when then the application opens in April?
---
3.0. A.172 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/).
---
3.0. Q.173 | Just confirming... If I currently have a center and am opening a GFDC to add infant/toddler spots, I'm eligible?
---
3.0. A.173 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/).
---
3.0. Q.174 | Intentionally omitted.
---
3.0. Q.175 | 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?
---
3.0. A.175 | All newly licensed, regulated, 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 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/).
---
3.0. Q.176 | Is this only for new providers?
---
3.0. A.176 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps). 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/).
---
3.0. Q.177 | Are programs considered Group family daycare able to apply for this RFP?
---
3.0. A.177 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/).
---
3.0. Q.178 | So will you need to already have a location in order to be eligible for this grant?
---
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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php)
---
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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map

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.
---|---
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.
### Responses to Questions for RFA 1 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs – Last updated on 05/27/2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.</th>
<th>A.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.189</td>
<td>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&amp;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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.189</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.190</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.190</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.191</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.191</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.192</td>
<td>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!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.192</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.193</td>
<td>Would you provide us the places where we can start our daycares? This opportunity applies to Staten Island as well?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.193</td>
<td>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&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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.194</td>
<td><a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">Grant applicants are not required to be licensed/registered/allowed 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&amp;R) is available to provide support. A directory of CCR&amp;R Agencies and contact information is available at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0.Q.195</td>
<td>If we have now a doh article 43 licnce and now we will get a article 47 licnse is that considere a new program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.195</td>
<td><a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">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. A directory of CCR&amp;R Agencies and contact information is available at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.196</td>
<td>I am in the process of building new classrooms at a new location, but my anticipated opening date is not until January 2023. Can I still apply for this grant?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.196</td>
<td><a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php">Programs that have applied for or been granted a license/registration or permit on or after 1/28/22 are eligible to apply. Programs must be licensed within the timeline identified in section 4.1 of the RFA.</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.197</td>
<td>What if you want to build a childcare center and the building will not be ready until 2023 how do you proceed with the process?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.197</td>
<td>All pre-approved programs must be licensed within 120 days of their pre-award letter. These letters are expected to be issued in June of 2022.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.198</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.198</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.199</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.199</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.200</td>
<td>Can two towns partnered with a local nonprofit space (church-run NPO camp - with available indoor and outdoor facilities) apply as a group?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.200</td>
<td>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 NYCDOMHM. 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.231</td>
<td>If a provider is currently app received and will be registered before April 11, can they apply?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.231</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.232</td>
<td>If i already have a family daycare, how can I apply to this grant, can I apply only if I am opening another location?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.232</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.233</td>
<td>Do you need to own the building for a RFA#1? Or can it be a leased space?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.233</td>
<td>It is not required that a provider own the space they are operating out of.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.234</td>
<td>Can I apply for this grant if I serve children 5 through 12?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.234</td>
<td>This grant is for new programs only that will be licensed/registered by OCFS or an Article 47 group day care program issued a permit by NYCDOMHM 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: Invest in NY – Child Care Deserts Request for Application (RFA)- <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> The ages of children served will impact an applicant score and potential award eligibility.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.235</td>
<td>What if the childcare is tied to a school based program and does not run in the summer? Does that impact deliverable #1?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.0. A.235 If the program is a SACC program and is not active during the summer this will impact deliverable #1. The program must stay in ‘active’ status (not including temporary closures related to COVID Quarantine or vacation days) in order to be paid for that quarter.

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.237 Can you open a FDC or GFDC with the RFA#1, and also apply for RFA #2 if you wanted to expand to an OCFS license at child care facility?

3.0. A.237 Applicants may only submit 1 application per facility ID in response to either this RFA or RFA #2 for existing programs. An individual may submit multiple applications if applying for more than one site location.

3.0. Q.238 Do i have to live at the desert area before applying? What if i rent a location and not get chosen?

3.0. A.238 Eligibility is based on the physical location of the child care program. It is not required that a provider own the space they are operating out of. A physical location must be selected prior to the Application deadline.

3.0. Q.239 What if we can’t complete the licensing process within 120 days after pre-approval? We are building a new building and we won’t be finished within that time frame. We have been working with OCFS already but building the building takes time.

3.0. A.239 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.240 Am I considered a new program if I am currently a GFDC but I am moving and need a new license for my new home?

3.0. A.240 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.241 Good afternoon my name is D. D., 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 at the book. What’s the next step?

3.0. A.241 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.

3.0. Q.242 I am a certified early childhood educator in NYC who is interested in applying for the New Program RFA Grant. I have a few questions regarding this grant. Do I need to get a location with a license/permit for the location (identified as child care deserts) before the application submission start date which is on April 11,2022 or will the grant help me with funds to get a location in an identified child care desert? Additionally, some of the links are not working. For instance, “Invest in NY Child Care Grant Informational Session will take place on February 14, 2022 at 2:00 p.m”, link does not work. The link for Programs applying to become an
NYC DOHMH Article 47 day care center, must attend a pre-permit orientation (check the box next to “Group Child Care and Summer Camp Orientation Sessions”, states there are no scheduled orientations. Please assist. I am very interested in this grant because I know I can make a huge impact on the community, families and of course our little ones by providing high quality instruction and fostering mutual respect, trust, and connection among families and the community. Thank you in advance.

3.0. A.242
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.

The February 14 information session was recorded and you can find the recordings, slide deck, and transcripts about the Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs here:

English versions
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

Spanish versions
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

3.0. Q.243
Hello! Can you please confirm the soonest I could turn in my Group Family Daycare Application and still qualify for the Child Care Desert Grant? The way I read it, I cannot submit my license application until the Grant opens April 11th. Is that correct? I don't want to submit my daycare license application too early and be disqualified. However, I also don't want to delay longer than necessary. What is the window to APPLY for a license, and still meet the grant requirements for license application submission?

3.0. A.243
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.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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. 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.

3.0. Q.279
Hello, I owned and operated a group family daycare for 15 years. My tuition when I first opened 15 years ago was six dollars an hour and minimum wage was $11 an hour. I now charge seven dollars an hour and my average tuition when when I closed was $18 an hour. And there went my profit margin. I closed in July and submitted my license back to the office of children and family services. It appears that I will be bypassed for an opportunity to open my group family daycare in which I serve the community for 15 years. I did not receive any of the stabilization money given to the group family daycare. It seems unfair to me that I would be bypassed with this opportunity when I labored so long and hard to keep my business afloat.

3.0. A.279
Providers that held a license within the year preceding the issue date of RFA #1 are not eligible to apply if they are not opening an additional program or changing modalities to supply more care.
3.0. Q.280

Good Morning,
Can you clarify 2 things for me?
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?

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?

3.0. A.280

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.

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.

3.0. Q.281

Hello, I have two questions regarding the "Invest in New York - Child Care Deserts Grant"

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?

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 >100 the childcare deserts in your view or are the areas with scores <22 the childcare deserts?

3.0. A.281

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRfXpk.

3.0. Q.282

Pray you are healthy, safe and surrounded with love and laughter. 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.

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.

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:

XXX
Baldwin, NY 11510

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
Fam <200% Poverty 12.97%, Med, 14 points
Estimated Base RFA Score 44 points
Responses to Questions for RFA 1 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs – Last updated on 05/27/2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Questions</th>
<th>Answers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Most of the siblings that we would accommodate live in Baldwin Harbor which starts at the address below</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Desert Level</td>
<td>5.79 children/slot, Low, 30 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>73.8, High, 20 points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fam &lt;200% Poverty</td>
<td>6.47%, Low, 6, points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Base RFA Score</td>
<td>66 points</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.0. A.282

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&R) to discuss your situation. Contact information for OCFS Regional Offices is available at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php and a directory of CCR&R Agencies and contact information is available at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php

2) The program applying will be scored based upon site address, not the residential address of the children being served.

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

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.

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.285

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. Can you please provide further clarification regarding eligibility for this grant. We appreciate your assistance. 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 before the application closes in May, are we still eligible for the grant?

3.0. A.285

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.

All information about the RFA opportunity for new providers can be found at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.287</td>
<td>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: 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? 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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.287</td>
<td>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. 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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.288</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.288</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.289</td>
<td>My questions are: 1. My school is under review to get a permit now, am I qualified for the grant? 2. If I open another one, what exactly are the documents I need to submit for the grant? 3. Will grants be given upfront or on a reimbursement basis?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.289</td>
<td>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. 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> 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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3.0. Q.290 | I'M WRITING TO INQUIRE REGARDING SUBMITTING AN APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT AS A NEW PROGRAM IN PRE PERMIT STAGE. 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
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.

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

3.0. Q.293
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.

On Wednesday, January 5th, 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 28th.

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.

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
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 https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php. Additional resources are also available at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php

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?

3.0. A.295
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- [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps)

#### 3.0. Q.296

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.

A grant opportunity is available and I want to apply for the grant. I would love the opportunity to speak with you.

#### 3.0. A.296

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- [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps)

#### 3.0. Q.297

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.

1. What type of program would I be eligible to open under my name? Daycare center or school age program only?
2. Which RFA would I be eligible to apply for, New Provider or Existing Provider expansion?
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.
4. When would the funds be distributed?
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?

#### 3.0. A.297

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/)

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.

4. The first quarterly payment will be made at 1/8th of the total award amount after the license has been 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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.0. Q.298</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.298</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.299</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.299</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.326</td>
<td>Secondly, the second grant opportunity “OCFS will release a second grant opportunity for existing licensed providers looking to expand capacity.” I’d like to find out more information if this is to help providers who already have a current license or how could you expand capacity if the limit is 12 children in a group.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0 A.326</td>
<td>Programs must continue to comply with the capacity limits associated with their license. Request for Applications RFA# 2 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for Existing Programs was posted on 5/13/22 and is available on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.327</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.327</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.328</td>
<td>We are an OCFS licensed nonprofit organization and we operated a school age child care program that was taken over by our school district “under the board of education” in September 2021. Our license was closed as we had no space to relocate too. We are seeking to open a new OCFS licensed group family child care home. Can we apply for this grant? Please advise. It would be a new program as we have not operated group child care or served children ages 6 weeks to 5 years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q.</td>
<td>A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3.0. A.328</strong></td>
<td>Providers that held a license within the year preceding the issue date of RFA #1 are not eligible to apply.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **3.0. Q.329** | This M., assistant at LAC.  
My wife (Provider) and I are running a in home childcare (Group Family Day Care).  
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.  
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.  
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? Can we have more information about it? |
| **3.0. A.329** | 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php  
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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps |
| **3.0. Q.330** | My questions for Invest in NY Child Care Desert Emergency REF for New Programs.  
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?  
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? |
| **3.0. A.330** | 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/ |
| **3.0. Q.331** | I hope you're well! I have a couple of questions:  
• If one of my assistants gets certified to be a provider, would it be possible for them to open a second daycare at the same site as ours (i.e. on a different floor with its own entrance)?  
• Alternatively, would I be able to open a second daycare (FGDC)? |
| **3.0. A.331** | 1. Employees of existing child care programs are able to apply to obtain a license to operate their own child care program under RFA #1. Information on how to become a licensed childcare provider is available on the OCFS webpage at https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/become-a-provider.php. Additional resources are also available at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/  
2. To know whether the new program is able to be located within the same building as the current daycare, please reach out to your local OCFS Regional Office or Child Care Resource and Referral agency (CCR&R) to discuss your situation. Contact information for OCFS Regional Offices is available at: |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.</th>
<th>A.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.332</td>
<td>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 home. I'm a family daycare provider.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.332</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.333</td>
<td>Is there a list of documents that will be required to upload and submit with our application? We are a nonprofit with a board of directors and will need time to review all information with the board before that application officially opens.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.333</td>
<td>Information regarding the grant opportunity, including required documentation to apply, may be found 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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.334</td>
<td>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!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.334</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.335</td>
<td>Hello, I hope all is well today I have the following questions about the grant opportunity: 1. My RFA score is 50. Although my area is not considered a desert area. I plan to offer weekend and evening care which is not offered in my area. Would this increase my chances or should I not be applying based on my score and not being in a desert area? I live in the Bronx, 10457. 2. In addition if I apply to the grant opportunity but I’m not awarded, will my group family daycare still get licensed or would I need to start the process all over? 3. On April 11th would I be scanning documents and uploading them to a portal or I’m in to mail any documents in?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.335</td>
<td>1) The minimum score that is needed to apply is 30. If your area scored 50 and you meet the other minimum eligibility requirements, then you may apply. 2) The licensure process is separate from the grant and the child care program will not be required to restart the licensure process if not awarded a grant. 3) The grant application process is completed through an online portal available on the OCFS website, at <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/</a> If documents need to be submitted, they will be submitted by scanning and uploading them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.336</td>
<td>I am reaching out to receive more clarification regarding section 3.1 Minimum Qualifications. 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 7th stated that programs are eligible as long as they receive their license after January 28th (when the RFA was issued). 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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.336</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.337</td>
<td>Early today I was on the automated system trying to get more clarity about starting a new program and wanted to know as a GFDC could I change the modality to A center base and if so do I need to register for the new orientation? A few years ago I was going to change my GFDC into a center base and I know that to have a centerbase you have to have a Director as well as an Assistant Director. Can someone please give more clarification please.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.337</td>
<td>An existing day care program either creating an additional modality or changing their current modality is eligible to apply for this grant opportunity. To apply you will need to complete the orientation, even if you have previously completed it. A day care center is required to have a director, and if the director is away from the premises, there must be a staff person designated to act on behalf of the director, who is knowledgeable about the programs operation and policies. For information on staffing requirements refer to part 418-1 Child Day Care Center regulations on the OCFS website [Child Care Regulations and Policies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.338</td>
<td>My question relates to timing for completing licensing of a new program. According to the recorded info session, licensing must be completed within 120 days but I was wondering if there is any flexibility. Our nursery school program has been involved in collaboration for the development of an affordable housing project which will include a new child care center with 2 preschool &amp; 1 toddler classroom, which we would lease. Because of the scope of the project, construction of the building is not expected to be complete until sometime in 2023. We didn't plan to apply for licensing until the beginning of 2023. The child care desert funding would be extremely helpful to our program to make the transition from an exempt 3 hour program to a licensed center during 2023-24. Please advise whether it makes sense to go ahead and work through the application process or not knowing we would not have a building to license within the next 120 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.338</td>
<td>All programs applying for the grant must be licensed/registered/permitted within 120 days of their pre-award letter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.339</td>
<td>If I’m a school that is legally exempt from licensure, but am very interested in applying for the desert grant as my location scores very high. How can I get an OCFS ID number if I don’t need licensure?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.339</td>
<td>This funding opportunity is only available to licensed and registered child care programs as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHM. Programs that are exempt from licensure/registration requirements may choose to apply to become licensed/registered.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.340</td>
<td>I wanted to inquire about more info for desert 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 desert grant?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.340</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.341</td>
<td>Can you help me with the following question: I read that if awarded the grant, services have to commence on June 30th, 2022. We are an existing college campus child care center that services student-parents. We want to apply for a infant/toddler license and utilize rooms that are not on existing license. My enrollment is based on student-parents that enroll each semester. We run on an academic calendar. Conceivably, we may not have enrollees until September. Is this feasible with this grant? Hope this is not confusing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.341</td>
<td>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. Such programs must be open and operating in order to meet deliverables for payment. <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a> For current programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, RFA# 2 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for Existing Programs is available on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.342</td>
<td>I see that only information was released for new centers. Is that correct? When will the information be released for existing centers to expand?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.342</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.343</td>
<td>I have a question regarding eligibility. The provider themselves did not apply for the 21st Century grant; they were a partnering organization with a district that did apply. Is said provider able to apply for the Child Care Desert Grant under these circumstances?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.343</td>
<td>This funding opportunity is available to newly licensed and registered child care programs as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH. This RFA is not for existing programs. For current programs that are looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit, RFA# 2 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for Existing Programs is available on the OCFS website at: <a href="https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/">https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/</a> If a child care program participated as a partnering organization on a separate grant, that does not impact their qualifications to apply for this grant. However, 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 funding sources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.344</td>
<td>I have a couple questions about the RFA for new programs. 1) We are currently in the process of launching 3 SACC licensed programs. I want to clarify that 10 month, school based programs are eligible - we do not run the childcare program during the summer. 2) We also have two new summer camps launching this summer with DOHMH licenses in process. Are summer camp (3 month) programs eligible. 3) And to clarify the timeline for the SACC programs - as long as the license is under review 30 days after application we are eligible? We know how long SACC licenses often take and are not sure they will be in place/approved by June 30th.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.344</td>
<td>1. SACC program applicants are eligible for this grant opportunity. Funding is based on programs meeting ongoing eligibility criteria which includes being open and providing care. Program grant eligibility may continue but funding will not be issued when programs are not in operation as a SACC program. 2. DOH summer camps are not eligible for this grant opportunity. This funding opportunity is available to child care program newly licensed or registered by OCFS, as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH. 3. 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. Additional time may be granted if situation outside of applicants control is demonstrated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.345</td>
<td>My name is S. and I have a question about the childcare desert grant and out eligibility. We have a center in Queens, NYC (DOH) opened during the pandemic with a preschool permit (2-6 years old).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
We are hoping to apply for a **NEW afterschool program** at the same location. Would this qualify for the child care desert grant? We really would need the funds for starting the afterschool program in our community.

### 3.0. A.345

This grant is an opportunity to receive assistance to open a new child care program in an area of the state that qualifies as a child care desert. 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map).

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.346

Good morning,
My name is A., and I am opening my child care center in Brooklyn, NY. Since the DOE proposal has not yet been opened, I would like to open my daycare center as a program for children under 3 years of age. And whenever a DOE proposal comes up, I’d like to change my daycare to 3-4K. But I’m not sure that the grant will allow me to change the program in the next 2 years.

Please, let me know if the RFA for New Programs will allow me to do this.

### 3.0. A.346

Any award under this grant is specific to the license/permit/registration. If that program permanently closes, the grant ends. New York City DOHMH requires separate licenses to serve children age birth to 3 and children over 3. In this situation, by obtaining a new permit to serve different aged children, the original child care program would be closed, and the grant would end.

### 3.0. Q.347

Hi
If a site is not permitted, but has a DC ID number (permit process was initiated but not completed) would such a site still be eligible as a new non permitted site? Thank You

### 3.0. A.347

This funding opportunity is available to child care programs newly licensed or registered by OCFS, as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH.

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.348

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 all the book. What’s the next step?

### 3.0. A.348

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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). 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.

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-
https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

3.0. Q.420
I was wondering if new small daycare centers are eligible for the child care desert program.

3.0. A.420
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.

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

3.0. Q.421
Hello, I received my license December 21, 2021. Do I qualify as a new provider?

3.0. A.421
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.

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

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: How to Get Started/ Day Care Orientation

For programs applying to become an NYC DOHMH Article 47 day care center, you must attend a pre-permit orientation - https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHSERVICE.action. 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
See 5.0 A.31, 5.0 A.40 and 5.0 A.46

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-
https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps
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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map. There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/docs/deserts/CCD-Map-Instructions.en.pdf

And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LlhnvyRFXpk.

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.424 hello and thanks for taking the time to read this message. my name is _____. director of XX. a non profit organization in nyc looking to apply for the childcare grant in april. first i will like to submit this question to better prepare the application... i would like to open up a drop in center would this motto still qualify for the child care grant?

3.0.A.424 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. Guidance on opening these types of programs and license requirements are 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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/.

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 current license/registration/permit, later this year. When the grant is available under RFA #2, it will be posted on the OCFS website at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/.

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Q.</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0.Q.428</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0.A.428</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0.Q.429</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0.A.429</td>
<td>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></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0.Q.430</td>
<td>1. Hello, I've been a FDC provider for 24yrs. I just changed my license to a GFD effective on Feb 15 2022. Do i qualify for this grant since my license was issued after 1/28/2022? 2. Also, i signed up for the orientation but can't get in till 5/18/2022. Do i have to wait till that date to submit the application? I'm confused on several details. Would like assistance to move forward please.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0.A.430</td>
<td>1. Yes, you may be eligible as a new provider that increased their capacity by changing modality and received a new license. 2. The orientation required for eligibility of this grant is the online orientation accessed on the OCFS website and available on demand. This link will take you there. [Technical Requirements and Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0.Q.431</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 3.0.A.431 | For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/) 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:  
**English versions**  
- February 14, 2022 Session Video  
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck  
- February 14, 2022 Transcript  
**Spanish versions**  
- February 14, 2022 Session Video  
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck  
- February 14, 2022 Transcript  
Additional information is available here: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1) 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/referral-agencies.php) |
| 3.0.Q.432 | 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? |
3.0. A.432

For more information on this opportunity, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/ 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:

English versions
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

Spanish versions
- February 14, 2022 Session Video
- February 14, 2022 Slide Deck
- February 14, 2022 Transcript

Additional information is available here: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

3.0. Q.433

Hi, We are thinking of opening a Daycare and applying for this new program, however i have a few questions if you can please reply with the answers

- First of all, how does the program work, Do we get paid per child? If yes, how much and how often per child?
- Am I also allowed to charge the parents besides the money I am getting from this grant?
- Can i open more than one location and apply for each location

if you can please clarify these questions would be great

3.0. A.433

1. For a center based program like a Day Care Center, the award is based on the amount of children the program is licensed to care for. Home-based programs receive a flat amount.

2. This grant does not impact what you are allowed to charge parents for care.

3. Yes, you can open more than one center based location and each location will need its own application for the grant. Regulations limit who may own/operate home-based locations.

3.0. Q.434

Hello. I was a licensed daycare provider for 3 years in Nassau County. I am currently seeking adequate housing so that I may reopen my daycare. Does the funds allotted assist in reopening centers? Please advise.

3.0. A.434

This grant is an opportunity to receive assistance to open a new child care program. However, providers that held a license within the year preceding the issue date of RFA #1 are not eligible to apply. 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.435

Good evening.
I am emailing again regarding the Desert grant. I would like to know in order to apply for this grant do I have to have a site already or can I still apply while I'm working on finding a site to setup. No one responded back to me regarding my email I sent on March 29, 2022 at 11am. At your earliest can you reached out to me regarding my email. You can also reach me at _____.

3.0. A.435

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.

3.0. Q.436
Hello,
I'm trying to find out do I already need a site to be qualified for the Desert Grants

3.0. A.436
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.

3.0. Q.437
Good morning,
My name is ___. I currently hold a GFDC license which I will be renewing in a few months and I wanted to know if I qualify to apply for the grant.

3.0. A.437
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 separate RFA was released on May 13, 2022 for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit. RFA #2 is posted on the OCFS website at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

3.0. Q.438
Are you allowed to apply for more than one grant ie opening two centers in two different locations simultaneously?

3.0. A.438
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.439
Hi, 1)We have an existing group family daycare and would consider expanding. Does the grant cover group family daycare as well? 2) to receive a grant it must be what level of child care desert on the map (score)? 3) how much money is expected in the grant and can it used for rent?

3.0. A.439
1) This grant does cover Group Family Daycare. 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 separate RFA was released on May 13, 2022 for existing programs, looking to expand capacity within their current license/registration/permit. RFA #2 is posted on the OCFS website at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/
2) 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.
3) 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.” 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 at https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

3.0. Q.440
Hi, hope all is well. My name is D.M. and I just had a few questions regarding the child care dessert program. I am interested in applying for the grant and would like help with the start up costs/renting a location for the daycare.
Do I need to find a location for the daycare before I could start the process of being licensed?

3.0. A.440
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.

Upon licensure and award, grant payments can be applied to eligible 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 at: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1
### 3.0. Q.441

I am an accountant with a few dozen daycare clients requesting information about the daycare deserts grant.

1. If they want to change from Group Family Daycare license to a School age license will they qualify for the grant?
2. Will they have to first close their current daycare and close the current license in order to get grant for new daycare?
3. School age license requires a commercial location and not home daycare, so will the grant help find and finance the new location?
4. How long does the entire process take? Can they still operate their current daycare while the new license is in process?

#### 3.0. A.441

1) This opportunity is available to programs seeking to expand care by opening a new program. The new program must have a greater capacity than the current program.
2) In the scenario of opening up a center, they would not need to close their home based program. Please note, an owner cannot possess more than one home based license or registration.
3) Funds will not be provided in advance. Upon licensure and award, grant payments can be applied to eligible 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[https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1)

4) This depends on several factors and they should contact their regulator for more precise information. If they do not have the regulator’s information, they should contact their OCFS Division of Child Care Services Regional Office for assistance. A directory of OCFS Regional Offices and contact information is available at: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/regional-offices.php). The licensing process for a new program does not impact an existing program’s ability to operate.

### 3.0. Q.442

I’m interested in opening a daycare and applying for the desert grant. I do have a couple of questions first.

I have completed my orientation and have been sent out a packet for a “family” daycare. 6 kids. I’m in the process of completing it now to turn in.

This week, my current (licensed) daycare provider (for my daughter) asked if she could potentially join me and we could open a group family daycare together.

In order to do that, I know I would have to now complete the orientation for the group family daycare and be sent out another packet….. but my question is this.

Considering April 11th is on Monday, they doesn’t give us a lot of time to think about this decision. So I want to know my options.

If I take the correct steps to apply for the group family daycare and on Monday apply for a group daycare grant…. what will be my options if she backs out or decides not to do it with me (before the checks are sent out)

Would i then be made to reapply for a family daycare and my application will be sent to the back of the line? Or will I then be disqualified for even a family daycare grant because of the mixup?

Is it possible to apply for group daycare and then later (BEFORE the money starts coming) let you guys know I am now doing a family daycare and the money will just be adjusted?

I know it’s possible to have a group family license and Only watch 6 kids…. This question is strictly about the grant and how I would handle applying not having much time to think about this business decision for my family.

What exactly are my options here?

#### 3.0. A.442

Final award amounts and ongoing payments will not exceed the lower of the number of slots proposed as of the application submission date or the capacity approved for the license, and may be adjusted based on quarterly inspections per Section 4.1, Desired Outcomes and Program Requirements.
3.0. Q.443

Good morning, I had a few questions:

1. Are you able to combine this with another revenue source? For example if we were receiving money from another grant for this program is that alright?
2. Requirements: Is there a certain number of days the program must be run? What about for Summer?
3. How does the reimbursement method look?
4. Application Requirements: Do we need to attend the OCFS Child Day Care Orientation? (Wasn't sure if this was just for day cares). Also just to confirm we would have to join the QUALITYstarsNY Start with Stars program?

3.0. A.443

1. 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. The program is required to be open and operating to continue to receive grant funding. Program hours are determined by the operator. If applying for grant funding for non-traditional hours of care the program must meet the minimum threshold for the particular modality as stated in the RFA.

3. This is not a reimbursement 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. If awarded, the first quarterly payment will be made at 1/8th of the total award amount after the license has been 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.

4. You are required to complete the applicable orientation before submitting an application for the grant, either the OCFS orientation for licensed/registered programs or the NYC DOHMH orientation for permitted Article 47 programs.

5. Programs, other than SACCs, must apply to Quality Stars NY within 30 days of the license being issued, and be actively engaged once selected for participation.

3.0. Q.433

Hi, We are thinking of opening a Daycare and applying for this new program, however i have a few questions if you can please reply with the answers

- First of all, how does the program work, Do we get paid per child? If yes, how much and how often per child?
- Am I also allowed to charge the parents besides the money I am getting from this grant?
- Can i open more than one location and apply for each location

if you can please clarify these questions would be great.

3.0. A.433

1. For a center-based program like a Day Care Center, the award is based on the amount of children the program is licensed to care for. Home-based programs receive a flat amount.

2. This grant does not impact what you are allowed to charge parents for care.

3. Yes, you can open more than one center-based location and each location will need its own application for the grant. Regulations limit who may own/operate home-based locations.

3.0. Q.474

Good Day, We have 3 questions:

1) If you have already submitted an application for a NYC DCC, do you have to watch the orientation video again in order to access the Deserts application? (I watched it in the fall.). Are there any obstacles to accessing the application if you have a daycare application number?

2) Does your own toddler child count as one of the children slots, for purposes of the grant? Will you receive an award for your own child in your GFDC childcare program?
3.0. A.474

1) The online childcare orientation session is required for all applicants. For programs applying to become an NYC DOHMH Article 47 day care center, you must attend a pre-permit orientation - https://a816-healthps.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHService.action. 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.

2) Home based programs will not receive an award based on capacity or enrollment. Those programs are given one flat rate and eligible to apply for bonuses based on other criteria.

3) Recipients of this grant are agreeing to providing financial assistance to families by, reducing or not charging copayments, family share amounts or tuition to the extent possible as determined by the program.

3.0. A.475

Good morning my name is ___ currently started my process in November 2020 as a Childcare provider I received my license end of 2021 I’m currently not open because I ran out of funds and I been trying to find a Education Director .. I have proof from the city saying that I’m currently never open up and still not open .. My question is do I Qualify for the dessert grant?? I don’t want lose my daycare

3.0. Q.475

Hi there, I've been considering starting a new center and struggling to understand if I would be eligible for this RFA. I would love some help getting clarity. I'm looking to open a completely new center, different location, different age group from what I currently have. I have 2 questions pertaining to this:  

1. Would the fact that I have the same Tax ID that I would be using throw anything off in the application process?  
2. If I've been through the orientation process before, is this something I'll need to do again to get a new DC ID that's applicable to the new center?  

Please let me know if I should still consider applying for this RFP.

3.0. Q.476

Hi there, I've been considering starting a new center and struggling to understand if I would be eligible for this RFA. I would love some help getting clarity. I'm looking to open a completely new center, different location, different age group from what I currently have. I have 2 questions pertaining to this:  

1. Would the fact that I have the same Tax ID that I would be using throw anything off in the application process?  
2. If I've been through the orientation process before, is this something I'll need to do again to get a new DC ID that's applicable to the new center?  

Please let me know if I should still consider applying for this RFP.

3.0. Q.477

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.

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.

Can the building be preliminarily approved / inspected prior to full renovation so that we can apply by the May 19 deadline?
3.0. A.477 | 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.478 | 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 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?

3.0. A.478 | 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.

3.0. Q.479 | 1) If you would like to open two permitted programs and are seeking a grant for each, you will need to complete 2 applications (one for each program) as funding and documentation are assigned to each individual program.
2) Questions about the process for your application for a child care license should be directed to your regulator.

3.0. A.479 | 1) If you would like to open two permitted programs and are seeking a grant for each, you will need to complete one for each program. Funding will be assigned to each individual program and grant recipient.
2) Questions about the process for your application for a child care license should be directed to your regulator.

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 aproved.

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: https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/

3.0. Q.481 | I am 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 https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/

3.0. Q.482 | Hello my name is D.H.. I am looking to open up a daycare center and I would like to apply for the grant on the OCFS website. I understand there are steps to take and documents needed. I just have a few questions that you can hopefully clarify for me.
1. On the website itn states that I can apply once I have done the orientation and received a facility ID. I do not recall receiving a Facility ID. Will you be able to tell me what that is?
2. To apply for this grant, do I need to have a space already in order to receive the funding? I am currently looking for a space with the help of a realtor.
3. How is the decision of the grant determined? Is it based on what documents I have? Do I have to be ready to open to be awarded the grant?

3.0. A.482

1) For licensed and regulated programs, you will receive a facility ID when you request the application. It will be clearly indicated on your application materials or online if you are applying through the electronic application. For NYC programs, once you have submitted your application you will receive a DCID number. That will be found on the letter acknowledging receipt. You can also contact your regulatory agency for that information. Their contact information is available on the OCFS website.

2) Applicants are required to have a final site with address selected and included within the submitted application. The grant is based on the exact physical location of a child care program applying to be licensed in a desert area. Applicants may submit one grant request for each license/registration/permit number only. 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 the 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 - https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

3) 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. 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 preapproval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant preapproval 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.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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

3.0. Q.484

Good morning
What would happen if a successful Deserts contractor moves and re-establishes a regulated program in a new home with no break in service. Let's imagine they have been receiving Deserts quarterly payments and it is now 2023 or early 2024. My question is would OCFS terminate their contract Or would they continue to be eligible for the Deserts award. Let's also imagine they re-located to another Deserts hot spot. I understand from reading the FAQs what happens if the location changes before the provider gets licensed or registered. Thanks so much.

3.0. A.484

The grant awards are tied to the license, registration or permit number. Moving to another location would require a new application and result in a new license/registration/permit number and forfeiture of the unspent and remaining grant award.

3.0. Q.485

Good Afternoon-
I am inquiring about this grant and if we would qualify.
We are a corporation who has 3 centers now but are expanding and adding 2 more locations.
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?
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.
These two new locations will both have different license numbers. It’s just impossible to be up and running within the 120 days allotted. Its almost impossible to get the application process, fully furnished, have qualified staff and be approved by OCFS in that amount of time.
I just wanted to check to see if we would qualify before I applied for the grant. Thank you
**Responses to Questions for RFA 1 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs – Last updated on 05/27/2022**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.0. A.485</th>
<th>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.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.486</td>
<td>Hi: I have a timing question concerning the Desert Grant. The grant says that a new site must have it’s 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. 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. 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. 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. What should I do? Thanks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.486</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.487</td>
<td>Good afternoon, I am considering applying for the Day Care Desert Grant and have the following questions: 1) If a program is awarded the Desert Grant, are there any government restrictions or guidelines for tuition and other fees charged to the families? 2) According to the RFA, in order to comply with the grant requirements, I must “agree to provide relief from copayments and tuition payments for the families enrolled in my child care program, to the extent possible, and prioritize such relief for families struggling to make either type of payment.” How is this need and the amount of relief determined?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.487</td>
<td>1) The tuition rate is set between families and the program. 2) Recipients of this grant are agreeing to provide financial assistance to families by reducing or not charging copayments, family share amounts or tuition to the extent possible as determined by the program.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.488</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. A.488</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.0. Q.489</td>
<td>Good Morning, I hope this email finds you well and that you can assist.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I am trying to research this on previously recorded training but couldn't find it. If one organization/owner is applying for two different license types example: Article 47 and SACC are you eligible for two grant awards? Thank you in advance for your assistance,

3.0. A.489 Yes, grant applications are individual and associated to the individual license, registration or permit number. Applicants may submit one grant request for each license/registration/permit number only.

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.491 Hello, My name is C.V. and I just completed the pre-permit. I still need to pay for the permit. My concern are:

1. The NYC DOHMH Food Protection course is after the Grant Application.
2. When applying for inspection, does the location need to already be fully prepared. IE: Do I need the toilets and sinks installed?

It’s not entirely impossible but I’d have to sign a lease to begin any preparations and that’s an expensive process for a grant that may not be obtained. I don’t know if I’m misunderstanding but I’d like a pointer if it’s possible.

3.0. A.491 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.

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 [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/providers/cdc-orientation.php)

If you are intending to open a NYC Group Day Care Center the orientation can be found here: [https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHS Service.action](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/OnlineRegistration/dohmh/DOHMHS Service.action)

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.

### Section 4.0 Program Requirements

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 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 - [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps) |
| **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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). 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. |
| **4.0. Q.247** | Can I still receive this grant if I am only open on the weekends? |
| **4.0. A.247** | This funding opportunity is available to applicants to become licensed and registered child care programs as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH. Programs only open on weekends that otherwise meet eligibility requirements can receive a grant award. |
### Section 5.0 Application Content and Submission

| 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. |
| 5.0. Q.28 | 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?  
   b. Or am I able to submit the licensing application now and still be able to apply for the grant in April?  
   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. |
| 5.0. A.28 | a. & 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps)  
   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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#deserts-map). There you will find resources for using and understanding the REDC map, including the Child Care Deserts Map Instruction Guide - [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)  
   And Child Care Deserts Map Instructional Video - [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1HnqyRfXpk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L1HnqyRfXpk). |
| 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: [https://www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/findtrainer.aspx](https://www.ecetp.pdp.albany.edu/findtrainer.aspx)  
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 | 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: [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps) |
<p>| 5.0. Q.32 | Is this a first come first serve award? |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.32</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.33</td>
<td>What if you are in a low desert area but your children come from a high desert area?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.33</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.34</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.34</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.35</td>
<td>Does a higher score mean you have a better chance of the overall grant award or does it mean a higher amount, or both?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.35</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.36</td>
<td>a. Also the more points the better chance to get the grant? b. or anyone can apply regardless where you are?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.36</td>
<td>Locations need to score at least a base score of 30 points (without bonus points) to qualify for the award.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.37</td>
<td>Do the points indicate how much money you will get or is it gauge whether or not you can receive funding?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.37</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.38</td>
<td>How is your RFA score used to determine your grant amount?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.38</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.39</td>
<td>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</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.39</td>
<td>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, &quot;2022 Child Care Desert Grant Awards.&quot; 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.40</td>
<td>What is the expected score needed to be awarded?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.40</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.41</td>
<td>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 %?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| 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
Responses to Questions for RFA 1 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs – Last updated on 05/27/2022

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.42</td>
<td>I’m looking at the Desert map, I see points. The higher the points, the more need for a child care program. Correct?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.42</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.43</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.43</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.44</td>
<td>How are you able to identify the region in the map? How are you able to identify the exact address or location?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.44</td>
<td>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=LIhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRfXpk</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.45</td>
<td>What if the map doesn’t show the Fam&lt;200% poverty estimate?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.45</td>
<td>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 &quot;low&quot; poverty score category for 6 points toward the Estimated Base RFA score.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.46</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.46</td>
<td>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=LIhnqyRfXpk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LIhnqyRfXpk</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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.47</td>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.47</td>
<td>Application answers will be automatically scored via the electronic application. Award recommendations will be made in score order to licensed programs until funding is exhausted. A minimum base score of 30 (without bonus points) is required to be eligible for funding. After the application submission deadline, applications will be ranked in final score order (from highest to lowest) within each 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.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. Q.48</td>
<td>If I don’t score a high number can I still get the grant?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.0. A.48</td>
<td>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.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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| 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. |
| 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. Per 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 [https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/](https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/). 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 [https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1). |
| 5.0. Q.248 | I'm trying to open a new daycare center at Great Neck, NY and I have been applied once through OCFS in Nassau County. However, I couldn't pass the site inspection which required a few constructions for the bathroom, doors, and walls to be more secure in the building, lastly, the playground has to be built but application time ran out. Currently, the playground is under construction and I did not start the new application yet. My regulator suggests starting the application once everything is settled. Except for the site inspection, our daycare center has been inspected and passed by the health department and the fire department. I checked the Child Care Desert Map and our daycare region is scored 35 points, med and I want to see if I'm eligible for applying for the grant; RFA. |
| 5.0. A.248 | This funding opportunity is available to applicants to become licensed and registered child care programs as well as Article 47 group day care programs issued permits by NYCDOHMH. Such programs that have not received a license before January 28, 2022 may apply. |
| 5.0. Q.249 | Are allowable trainings only from those trainers listed on the NYS early childhood approved listing? |
| 5.0. A.249 | For information on training visit the OCFS website at [Child Care Training and Professional Development for Licensed and Registered Programs | Division of Child Care Services | OCFS (ny.gov)](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1). Permitted programs can find information regarding training requirements here [What Group Child Care Providers Should Know (nyc.gov)](https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1). |
| 5.0. Q.250 | Who will provide technical support and inspections? |
| 5.0. A.250 | Technical support for this grant opportunity is available through OCFS Regional Offices, local Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) Agencies, and for providers within New York City the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. OCFS or NYC DOHMH will complete inspections and site visits to all providers prior to licensure. |
| 5.0. Q.300 | Donde puedo aplicar? 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 |
4.0. Q.349  For daycare centers, will they be inspected after submitting the application or after pre approval?

4.0. A.349  Programs will be inspected as part of the licensing process but can also request a pre licensing visit to determine the site suitability for care. The program will also be inspected quarterly following grant award to assess compliance with grant and regulatory requirements.

4.0. Q.350  From reading through the RFA, it appears that the payments will start end of Q3, 2022 and finish at the end of Q2, 2024 for a total of 8 quarterly payments. In order to be eligible for the max, we’d have to be licensed by June or so. Now, my question is we are thinking of building a large facility in an approved desert area (map score of 38) that will house 200 children. Our goal is to receive license and CO by Q1 of 2023. Can we still apply and receive the 5 quarterly payments (Q2 2023 – Q2 2024)? The cap is 500K with a maximum of 9K per child slot. In theory, with our capacity, we would be eligible for 225K per quarter. I understand there's a cap, and the maximum over the two years would be 500K, which works out to $62,500 per quarter. The question I have is if we're eligible even if we get our license next year, would we be able to “catch-up” and receive the full 500K or would it be limited to the 62.5K per quarter for the remaining 5 quarters we would be eligible for?

4.0. A.350  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 preapproval letter and be granted a license for a new program within 120 days from the date on the grant preapproval 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.

If the license is not granted within 120 days from the date on the grant pre-approval letter but the applicant is deemed eligible but not open and operating, they would be unable to meet the grant deliverables and ineligible to receive all eight (8) payments. In this scenario, the applicant would not be eligible to receive the full grant award.

This grant cannot be used for major renovations or capital expenses. For more information, visit the Invest in NY Child Care Deserts Grant website at https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts to read the requirements and information. Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1

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- https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

5.0. Q.445  Hi, I'm interested in applying for the Child Care Desert Grant to open a DCC NYC Article 47 program however after finishing the orientation online it tells me the following message.
Your Request Can NOT Be Processed. Day Care Centers and Small Day Care Centers in the five New York City counties are regulated by New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. For information contact them at https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/business/permits-and-licenses/children-and-adolescents-childcare.page
Can you please advise on what I need to do in order to request an application.
Thanks

5.0. A.445  If you are interested in opening a Day Care center within New York City, you need to complete the NYC DOHMH orientation, not the OCFS orientation. You can contact a NYC DOHMH representative or visit their website for new child care programs at: https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/business/permits-and-licenses/children-and-adolescents-childcare.page Day care centers within NYC are not licensed by NYS OCFS but they are eligible for this funding opportunity.
| 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-https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps |
| 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-https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps |
| 5.0. Q.448 | Hi, I submitted my application to NYC DOHMH for a Daycare Permit. I would appreciate it if you can please see the attached photo of my account and confirm if I can move forward with applying for the grant next month. |
| 5.0. A.448 | A NYC Group Day Care applicant must submit their application to NYC DOHMH and have been issued a minimum of a DCID to be eligible to apply for this grant. If you are unsure of the status of your application and require technical assistance, please email childcareinfo@health.nyc.gov |
| 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-https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps |
| 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-https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps |
| 5.0. Q.494 | Hi, We are going to submit the application for Child Care Deserts Program on 4/11, and we already finished the DOHMH per- permit orientation and submit the application for group childcare center. also we have |
Responses to Questions for RFA 1 Invest in NY Child Care Emergency Request for Applications (RFA) for New Programs – Last updated on 05/27/2022

5.0. A.494
No, there are no other documents that will be required when submitting your application for the grant. All required questions will be asked while the application is being completed.

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 -
https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

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 bennentiffial 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 -
https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

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:
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 -
https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/#steps

5.0. Q.499
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?
Can I still apply for a grant after May 19th once my application is submitted?

5.0. A.499
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.

5.0. Q.500
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.

| 5.0. A.500 | 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.

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 https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/deserts/ to read the requirements and information.

Review RFA1 Attachment 4 - List of Allowable Expenses for the full list of allowable expenses- https://ocfs.ny.gov/main/contracts/funding/#RFA1 |