



COVID-19 Child Care Relief Funding: Timeline & Deadlines



FIRST FIVE YEARS FUND

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a devastating impact on child care providers, causing widespread layoffs and closures nationwide. Significant declines in enrollment paired with steep increases in operating expenses have created an unsustainable financial situation for an industry that traditionally relies on razor-thin margins. Recognizing the essential role of child care for children, working families, and the economy, Democrats and Republicans in Congress have sought to prioritize funding and other relief opportunities for child care providers as part of ongoing COVID-19 recovery efforts.

In each of the four major relief packages Congress has passed, the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) has been a primary mechanism for providing funding to child care providers and for ensuring access to child care for thousands of working families – including essential workers. This timeline details when the bills were enacted, when the Administration for Children and Families (ACF) allocated funds and provided guidance to states, and deadlines for reporting and spending the dollars.

	Coronavirus, Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act	Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA) Act	CCDBG – American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act	Stabilization Grants – American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act	
2020	Mar. 27	\$3.5 billion appropriated			
	Apr. 14	ACF allocated funds to States, Territories, and Tribes			
	Apr. 29	ACF issued overview and guidance on CARES supplemental discretionary funds			
	Dec. 27		\$10 billion appropriated		
2021	Feb. 3		ACF allocated funds to States, Territories, and Tribes		
	Feb. 12		ACF issued Program Instructions (PI) with requirements and directions for States, Territories, and Tribes to submit Planned Use of CCDF Funds Reports within 60 days of CRRSA enactment		
	Mar. 11			\$14.99 billion appropriated	\$23.975 billion appropriated
	Mar. 24		ACF published CRRSA 60-Day Planned Use Reports		
	Apr. 14		ACF issued overview and guidance on CRRSA supplemental discretionary funds	ACF allocated funds to States, Territories, and Tribes	ACF allocated funds to States, Territories, and Tribes
	TBD			ACF to issue non-regulatory guidance	ACF to issue non-regulatory guidance
	Dec. 11				Lead agency must notify ACF if it is unable to obligate <50% of funds
	2022	Sep. 30	Obligate	Obligate	Obligate
2023	Sep. 30	Liquidate	Liquidate	Obligate	Liquidate
2024	Sep. 30			Liquidate	