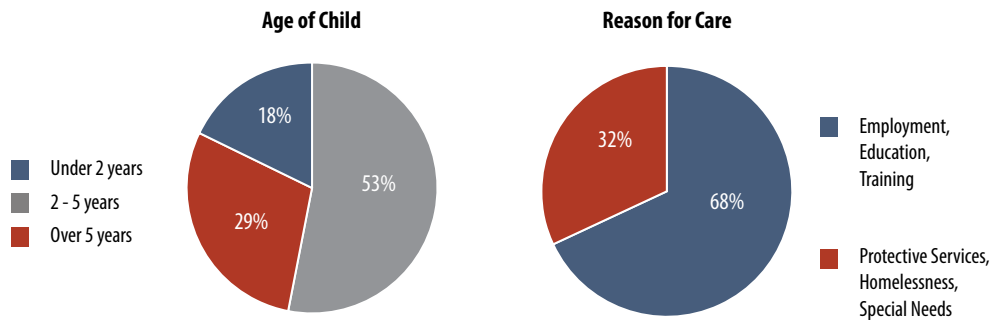


# Missouri's Child Care Assistance Program

Access to high quality, affordable childcare not only creates a solid foundation for children to thrive but is also an essential component of developing a strong workforce. The Missouri Child Care Assistance Program offsets the costs of childcare for working families with low wages, as well as for children who are receiving protective services.

**Eligibility:** Low-income Missourians are eligible for childcare assistance if their income is below 138% of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) - or \$30,304 for a single mother with two children. Families are responsible for paying fees based on a sliding scale of as much as ~\$100 per child/per month for full-time care, as well as any fees charged by the provider to compensate for the difference between the facility rate and the state subsidy rate. Families who have received the full child care benefit are eligible for a phased-out benefit with incomes up to 215% of the Federal Poverty Level.

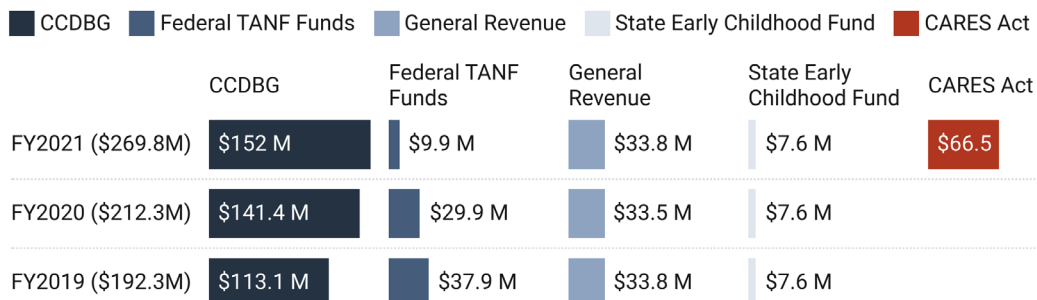
**Enrollment:** Each month, 37,960 children (whose parents may not otherwise be able to work or go to school without this support) receive child care assistance in Missouri.<sup>1</sup>



*Based on 12 month average, March 2020-February 2021; Early Childhood & Prevention Services Block Grant Child Care Monthly Management Report, February 2021.*

**Funding:** The Missouri Child Care Assistance program is supported by a combination of state and federal funding. The bulk of the funding is federal, with the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) serving as the largest source of support.

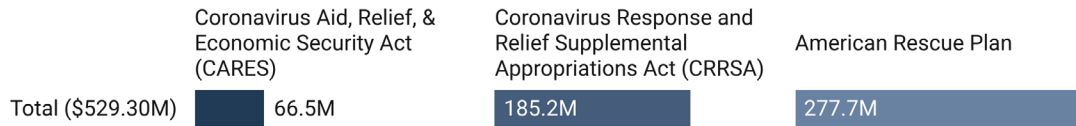
## Child Care Assistance Total Appropriations by Fund



# Federal Stimulus Funds

The Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG) will receive three separate funding allotments through federal COVID-19 stimulus bills, totaling nearly \$529.4 million to supplement child care assistance in Missouri. This infusion of federal stimulus dollars into Missouri’s child care assistance program provides an opportunity to invest in an equitable economic recovery and to make transformative, forward-thinking investments in Missouri’s child care system.

## Missouri CCDBG Allocations from Federal Stimulus Bills



## Spend Plans

CARES act funds were appropriated in the FY2021 budget and were allocated primarily toward expanded eligibility for child care assistance and full authorization payments which reimburse child care providers for slots regardless of attendance.<sup>ii</sup> Recommendations for the CRRSA spend plan were released in April 2021 and will be used primarily to expand capacity and increase financial stability among providers.<sup>iii</sup> (For more information on funding received through the American Rescue Plan visit [www.mobudget.org/arpa-child-care](http://www.mobudget.org/arpa-child-care))

### CCDBG Federal Stimulus Spend Plans

Item	CARES	CRRSA
Child Care for Families Engaged in Job Search	\$14.4M	\$9.5M
Expanded Eligibility for Transitional Assistance	\$12.8M	
Payments to Providers Serving Essential Workers	\$3.5M	
Stipend for Providers with Non-Traditional hours	\$4.2M	\$5M
Full Authorization Payments	\$19.8M	
Expanding Capacity at Higher Ed Institutions	\$10M	\$25M
Increased Access for Foster Care Children		\$15.35M
Expansion and Upgrades for Existing Childcare Providers		\$30M
Expansion for New Providers		\$20M
Paycheck Protection for Childcare Providers		\$33.95M
Child Care Professional Development		\$1.55M
Youth Development Credential		\$1.15M
Child Care Administration		\$9.26M
Child Care Technical & Business Assistance		\$10M
Additional Sliding Scale Fees		\$17.3M
Teaching Childcare at DESE career centers		\$2.1M
Higher Education Grants to Students Needing Childcare		\$5M

Legend: \$ (lightest), \$\$, \$\$\$, \$\$\$\$ (darkest), \$\$\$\$\$ (black)

## Notes

- i. Based on FY2022 projected enrollment; Department of Social Services Children's Division: Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Request.
- ii. Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act Child Care Plan: May 6, 2020. Available at <https://dss.mo.gov/covid-19/pdf/CARES-act-child-care-plan.pdf>.
- iii. CRRSA Act Funding – Child Care Spend Plan Recommendations. Obtained from Department of Social Services 4.8.2021.