

**All In For
Kansas Kids**



Child Care Zones

INFORMATIONAL WEBINAR JANUARY 27, 2025



AGENDA

- Introductions
- Overview of Child Care Zones
- Application Timeline and Guidance
- Technical Assistance
- Questions

Child Care Zones



INTRODUCTIONS

- Kansas Department of Health and Environment
 - Derik Flerlage
 - Melissa Schoenberger
 - Jarvis Doleman
- University of Kansas Center for Public Partnerships and Research
 - Sara Gardner
 - Meghan Kluth

Child Care Zones



OVERVIEW OF CHILD CARE ZONES

- Communities may apply to develop a Child Care Zone this spring and summer.
- A Child Care Zone is a self-defined geographic areas that serves a minimum of two Kansas counties.
- Grantees will receive funding and state-level support to address locally-defined child care challenges.

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OVERVIEW OF CHILD CARE ZONES

- The Child Care Zones are made possible through a federal Preschool Development Birth through Five Renewal Grant issued to the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Funds in 2024.

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IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- Projects must support a minimum of two full Kansas counties. These don't need to be adjacent.
- Child Care Zones are meant to support a community's needs across the child care sector and are not intended for a single facility or organization.
- Projects may support any type of licensed child care for children birth to five. Early childhood is the focus of these funds.
- Applications must include a 25% match. Match can include in-kind.

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IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

- Child Care Zones are focused on building/strengthening regional level child care ecosystems (e.g. workforce, family needs, etc.).
- Successful applicants must show commitment to collaborative approach and understanding of local child care needs.
- There will be two rounds of funding. For round one (spring), applicants must be invited to apply following an interview. Any interested group may apply in the summer round.

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OVERVIEW OF CHILD CARE ZONES

- Applicants will determine what their child care ecosystem means to them. Applicants should take a multi-strategy approach. This could include:
 - Strategies to increase child care provider wages and/or benefits
 - Development of pooled resources such as a substitute pool, bulk purchasing or centralized administrative supports
 - Provider recruitment and retention strategies
 - Professional development to improve quality

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OVERVIEW OF CHILD CARE ZONES

- Additional ideas:
 - Consultation and technical support to help new and existing providers with business practices, managing administration of subsidy or Child and Adult Care Food Program, meeting Child Care Licensing requirements, etc.
 - Development of mentorship, peer support or business succession planning
 - Development of ongoing feedback loops with local child care providers and families with young children
 - Strengthening support to help providers and families navigate early childhood services and resources

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ELIGIBLE ENTITIES

- Eligible applicants may include but are not limited to:
 - Licensed child care providers, non-profits, community-based organizations and libraries, economic development entities, county or city governments, university partners, and/or community coalitions with demonstrated partnerships and connections to center-based and/or family-based child care providers

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APPLICATION TIMELINE

- January 27, 2025 – Informational Webinars
- January 28, 2025 – Release of Application Guidance
- February 3, 2025 – Online Application Opens
- February 3 – August 18, 2025 – Technical Assistance Available
- **February 28, 2025 – Letters of Interest Due**
 - Must be [submitted online](#) by 5:00 pm CST on February 28

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APPLICATION TIMELINE

- March 3 – March 14, 2025 – Interviews with Prospective Applicants
 - Selected applicants will be notified of invitation to apply following interview
- April 7, 2025 (by 5:00 pm CST) – Round One Applications Due
- Week of April 21, 2025 - Announce First Round of Grant Awards
- August 25, 2025 (by 5:00 pm CST) – Round Two Applications Due
- Week of September 15, 2025 – Announce Second Round Grant Awards

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FUNDING TIMELINE

- Child Care Zones grants are intended to align with Kansas PDG grant timeline. Each PDG year budget is pending congressional approval.
 - Year One: May 1 – September 29, 2025 (Round One Grantees)
 - Year Two (pending funding): September 30, 2025 – September 29, 2026
 - Year Three (pending funding): September 30, 2026 – August 1, 2027

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INELIGIBLE USE OF FUNDS

- Child Care Zones may be not expended for:
 - Purchase of land, buildings or vehicles
 - Construction, capital improvements or capital expenditures
 - Food or beverage
 - Supplanting for personnel

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APPLICATION GUIDANCE

- Applications will be submitted online using the Kansas Grant Management System (KGMS) portal.
- Application guidance document will be live on AllInforKansasKids.Org on January 28.
- It will include outline of application and review process.
- This document will be updated as needed with frequently asked questions and clarifications.

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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Questions and requests for Technical Assistance must be submitted using [Online Request Form](#).
- Grant information will be available on AllInforKansasKids.org.
- Please use Technical Assistance as you think about if this funding opportunity is right for you.

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QUESTIONS

- Please put your question in the chat or come off mute to ask.
- Thank you for your interest in this opportunity!

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