



First Children's Finance

Facility Revitalization Grants Eligible and Ineligible Uses: Updated May 2023

Please Note:

1. All requests must be **NECESSARY** and **directly related to the operation of the child care program**.
2. Any item or service for which a **previous commitment or payment** has been made, **including down payments**, is **not eligible**. Grants **may not be used to repay** any type of debt service such as loans.
3. All **labor** requests must be provided by an individual not related to the child care provider who works as a laborer in the area requested and who provide their name, business name, address, and phone on quotes prior to grant awards and on receipts for work performed.
4. If planning to **relocate** program within 2 years, items paid under a grant that cannot be moved to the new location must be repaid on a prorated schedule.
5. General renovations/repair, minor renovation/improvement to basement or minor external/outdoor repair may comprise a small portion of conversion or renovation of garage, out-building or community facility, including but not limited to church, school, store front, business, vacant house, community center, pod, or senior center.
6. All requests to replace items in the facility need to be for like items - upgrades cannot be made with these funds. Examples of upgrades that are not allowed include (but are not limited to) exchanging a standard window for a bow/bay window or exchanging a laminate countertop for granite.
7. Quotes should be itemized so any portion not eligible can be subtracted from a potential grant award rather than disallowing the entire quote.
8. Any expense found to be in conflict with these guidelines during final report reconciliation will be disallowed.

Items are listed in alphabetical order, and document for what grant funding can and cannot be used.

- **Abatement: Asbestos/Lead/Mold/Radon:**

- **YES:** Abatement/mitigation of existing lead, mold, asbestos or radon. Painting over external lead paint is allowed as abatement with formal documentation of lead paint; purchase of detectors; repairing leaks to prevent/mitigate mold; replacing windows in the child care space, Arsenic removal
- **NO:** Replacing all windows in a home or structure or projects that require major renovation. No test kits.

- **ADA Compliance Features:**

- **YES:** Ramps, grab bars or other indoor ADA-compliance needs for current or wait-list child care families; painting handicap symbol/stripes for designated parking lot spaces
- **NO:** ADA compliance features not necessary for child care program (current/wait-list families)

- **Air Conditioning:**

- **YES:**
 - Purchase of new air conditioner or repair of current appliance – unit only. Quotes must identify purchase price of the appliance(s) separately from the installation requirements as additional piping, venting, ductwork, additional materials, etc. is structural and is not eligible. Cost of appliance only is eligible at 100% in structure entirely dedicated to the child care program; 50% in a shared space (family home or shared organization space).
- **NO:**
 - Labor/installation fees or cost of new/additional ductwork, venting, piping, additional materials, etc.
 - No mini-splits as they require a hole be cut in the wall to install.
 - No extended warranty or service plan fees.

- **Air Purifiers:**
 - **YES:** Air purifying equipment, humidifier, dehumidifiers (100% eligible if used only in child care program, 50% eligible if used in a shared space. Portable units in a shared space are eligible at 50%.)

- **Animal Buildings/Equipment:**
 - **NO:** chicken coops or any item pertaining to animals/pets including but not limited to pet beds, dog runs/kennels or other animal containment uses

- **Appliances:**
 - **YES:** Purchase or repair of appliances – 100% if used only for child care program; 50% if used by family or other organization in a shared space. Eligible appliances include: refrigerator, freezer, stove, dishwasher, microwave, water cooler, washer, dryer, humidifier, dehumidifier, air purifier, sanitizer (such as Zono). Price of units only for furnace, air conditioner, water heater, heat pump, gas boiler, bipolar ionization and reverse osmosis. Price of these units must be listed on quote separately from any other costs including additional parts, installation/labor.
 - **NO:** New/additional materials, ductwork, piping, ventilation, and cost of installation involving new ductwork, etc. Any quote which does not separate the price of appliances separately from additional parts/materials, installation and other associated costs will be ineligible. No small, household or kitchen appliances not listed above, such as vacuum cleaners, garbage disposals or toaster ovens. No extended warranty or service plan fees.

- **Asphalt:** (quotes must be very clear about the price of filling cracks or potholes and be broken out separately from any type of resurfacing as resurfacing is ineligible. Include photos to demonstrate)
 - **YES:**
 - Addition of a small turn-around space in driveway for safety purposes not larger than a standard parking space (10x12) in which cars may back into to turn around. Eligible only when required or recommended by licensing due to location on a busy road (such as a highway) – documentation required
 - Fill of minor cracks and/or potholes in parking lot, driveway or apron if posing health/safety risk (photo documentation of needed repairs is required in the application)
 - Restriping handicap stall(s) in parking lot for ADA compliance
 - **NO:**
 - Removal and/or haul-away of asphalt
 - Cutting out sections of asphalt for repair
 - Repaving, re-surfacing, sealing or repairing large sections of parking lot or driveway
 - Repainting full parking lot stripes
 - Adding a turn-around space for which need/recommendation by licensor is not documented.
 - Adding a circular drive, widening driveway or any turn-around space larger than 10x12 space or any concrete surface/space even if turn-around space is recommended by licensor.
 - Addition or repair to culverts under asphalt drive
 - Adding an apron between driveway and garage or adding a driveway apron

- **Attic Office Space:**
 - **YES:** Minor renovation of attic for office space dedicated to child care program
 - **NO:** Structural renovation including insulation/venting in wall or roof

- **Basement Finishing/Renovation**
 - **YES:** A portion of the overall project (i.e., framing/sheetrocking/painting or flooring or adding kitchenette or bathroom – not all.)
 - **NO:** Complete finishing/renovation of basement. No concrete/masonry work or moving of load-bearing walls.

- **Bathrooms:**
 - **YES:** Adding a child-care specific bathroom or repair/renovation of damaged items in bathroom used by child care program including toilet(s), handwashing sink, vanity, faucet, flooring, ceiling, door, standard handle/hardware
 - **NO:** Mirrors, showers, shower heads, shower inserts, tubs, tub enclosures, replacement of light fixtures for style, decorative upgrade or aesthetic purposes (damage must be documented)

- **Breakroom/Meeting Space:**
 - **YES:** Create a meeting space or breakroom in child care center including lunch or meeting table, business chairs
 - **NO:** Adult-size furniture not specifically allowed, including but not limited to couches, loveseats, stuffed chairs, rockers, recliners, occasional tables, decorative furniture, beds, dressers

- **Business, Program, Other Expenses:**
 - **NO:**
 - Architect, Attorney, Accountant, Advertising, Land Surveys
 - Business expenses including taxes, training, hiring, licensing fees
 - Cleaning services (all types, including but not limited to house cleaning, appliance, and duct cleaning)
 - Curriculum, Training
 - Grant writing or administrative fees
 - Food, Gift cards
 - Lawn care or snow removal equipment or services
 - Learning and play, toys
 - Monitoring equipment
 - Pest control service
 - Program expenses or operating support
 - Relocation/moving expenses
 - Rent/Mortgage, Utilities, Insurance
 - Safes of any kind (business, gun)
 - Salaries, Licenses, Staff support, Hiring/recruiting costs
 - Transportation

- **Ceilings:**
 - **YES:** Repairing/replacing drywall or ceiling tiles, studs other than load-bearing to repair damage in child care program space, and adding a false ceiling in a child care space.
 - **NO:** Ceiling removal; moving load-bearing studs; adding insulation; structural projects that require cutting into drywall such as for new ventilation.

- **Concrete:**
 - **YES:** Fill of minor cracks; mudjacking or grinding small area to repair tripping hazard; purchase of cement mix for small repair projects providers will do themselves or as part of fencing installation.
 - **NO:**
 - Demolition of or removal and/or haul-away of existing concrete

- Adding/replacing rebar
 - Pouring new concrete for any purpose
 - Adding/repairing apron between driveway and garage or adding a driveway apron
 - Adding a concrete turn-around space
 - Concrete stamping (wood stamping) for floors/foundation
 - Repair/changes/correction to concrete floors, foundation, walls or steps.
- **Construction:**
 - **NO:** on-site building or expansion of any facility or building
 - **Conversion of space:**
 - **YES:** A small portion of complete renovation/conversion project
 - **NO:** Complete conversion or renovation of garage, out-building, or community facility, including but not limited to church, school, store front, business, vacant house, community center, pod, or senior center
 - **COVID 19 Supplies:**
 - **NO:** Indoor and outdoor COVID-19/variant supplies including but not limited to portable partitions, plastic shields, disposable utensils, dishes, signage, storage containers, masks, gloves, and hand sanitizers
 - **Culverts/Bridges:**
 - **NO:** adding/replacing/repairing culverts or bridges of any material
 - **Debt Service or Prior Purchases**
 - **NO:** repayment of loans, reimbursement for prior purchases or any type of debt service
 - **Decks/Porch/Patios:**
 - **YES:** Add additional protective spindles/panels on deck if spaced too far apart for licensing code if deck is used by child care program and deck is higher than 3' off ground, requiring spindles/rail. Adding wood stairs where none exist if needed as fire exit – documentation required.
 - **NO:** Staining, painting, refinishing or demolishing decks, patios or porches; replacing deck or patio flooring, railing, spindles; enclosing or screening deck, patio, sun room or porch
 - **Demolition:**
 - **NO:** Demolition of any kind
 - **Disposable/Single Use:**
 - **NO:** items and supplies, including but not limited to food, diapers, paper products, wipes, etc.
 - **Down Payments and Prior Purchases or Commitments**
 - **NO:** funding for any item for which a down payment or prior commitment has been made; no reimbursement for prior purchases or repayment of any loans or installments.
 - **Doors:**
 - **YES:** Adding new interior doors or replacing interior/exterior doors due to damage; replacement allowed for door similar to original; replacing door to attached garage to meet fire code; standard locks and door hardware only
 - **NO:** Keyless entry systems or security door locks with Wi-Fi codes; upgrading doors or hardware for decorative/aesthetic purposes; garage doors (neither roll-up nor service doors).

- **Drain Tile:**
 - **YES:** Install drain tile and/or sump pump for health/safety of child care program area
 - **NO:**
 - Foundation work beyond installation of drain tile; foundation straps; external drainage fields or landscaping
 - Spanish and/or French Drains
 - Drain Fields

- **Driveway/Parking Lot/Patio/Sidewalk:**
 - **YES:**
 - Addition of a small turn-around space in driveway for safety purposes, (other than concrete) not larger than a standard parking space (10x12) in which cars may back into to turn around. Eligible only when required or recommended by licensing due to location on a busy road (such as a highway) – documentation required
 - Minor repair to fill small potholes or cracks in driveway or parking lot, or chips in sidewalk or patio if posing health/safety risk. This includes minor mudjacking or sidewalk grinding.
 - Fix, add or replace parking lot railings or disability ramps for ADA compliance
 - **NO:**
 - Repaving, re-surfacing or repairing large sections of parking lot or driveway with all surface types including but not limited to gravel, asphalt, concrete, pea rock, etc.
 - Repainting full parking lot stripes
 - Adding a turn-around space for which need/recommendation by licensor is not documented.
 - Adding a circular drive, widening driveway or any turn-around space larger than 10x12 space or any concrete surface/space even if turn-around space is recommended by licensor.
 - Adding or replacing patio slab or sidewalk – including pavers/stepping stones
 - Any repair requiring rebar and/or poured concrete
 - Addition or repair to culverts

- **Drywall/Studs:**
 - **YES:** Repairing/replacing drywall, studs other than load-bearing to repair damage
 - **NO:** Moving load-bearing walls; adding insulation behind drywall; structural projects that require cutting into drywall such as for new ventilation

- **Duct Work:**
 - **NO:** Duct cleaning, installation of central air or replacing a heat source requiring installation of new ventilation or duct work/pipes, etc. Bids must list price of appliance separately from installation when structural work is involved.

- **Egress Window:**
 - **YES:** Convert existing window to egress window to meet licensing requirements, add or expand egress window for easier escape access, add stair and rails to access fire escape/egress more easily
 - **NO:** No egress window repair to control basement water

- **Electrical:**
 - **YES:** Adding additional outlets; replacing light switches or outlets; adding ceiling lighting in unfinished space.
 - **NO:** Complete wiring of unfinished space; wiring projects which would be considered structural in nature. Electrical wiring for appliance installation, electrical panel work including replacing an electrical panel or components or adding an electrical panel in unfinished space or adding circuit breaker.

- **External Doors and Fire Exits:**
 - **YES:** Repair/replace external door and/or external screen/storm doors, standard lock, and/or hardware due to damage. Replacement allowed for doors similar to original – documentation required for decorative doors. Creating sufficient exits per fire marshal that do not require a new hole to be cut in an exterior wall.
 - **NO:** Cutting a new door into an exterior wall; moving location of an exterior door; keyless entry systems; security door locks with Wi-Fi codes

- **External Surfaces:**
 - **YES:**
 - Repair or replace small section of damaged shingles or siding when recommended by licensing for health/safety – documentation required
 - Painting over lead paint as lead abatement measure – documentation of lead paint required
 - **NO:**
 - Painting/staining of building including porch/deck/stairs
 - Painting/staining of fences
 - New or replacement siding
 - Addition, repair, or replacement of gutters/down spouts or overhang over entry
 - Roof repair or replacement
 - Addition of exit requiring a new hole be cut into exterior wall
 - Internal or external insulation
 - Lighting

- **Fees:**
 - **YES:**
 - Permit fees and/or required inspection of completed grant-funded project(s) per local municipalities
 - Consultant fees related to designing indoor or outdoor learning environment
 - **NO:**
 - Quote or measurement fees (quote/measurement fees do not disqualify item from consideration, but recovering the fee is not eligible for grant funding)
 - Down payment or installment payments, or any item for which these payments have been made

- **Fences:**
 - **YES:** in the child care play space and/or around pools/water sources, providing fence is functionally designed for child safety, including chain-link, privacy and picket – pickets must be close enough together that a child cannot slip through. See Labor section of Grants Manual for installation guidelines.
 - **NO:**
 - when installed beyond the child care program play area;
 - any type of fence with gaps that allow children to go under, over or through including but not limited to split rail and corral fences; decorative fencing not functionally designed for child safety;
 - paint/stain for fences and/or hired labor to paint/stain fences
 - dog runs or other type of animal enclosure
 - windscreen rolls for chain-link fences

- **Fire Exit and Escape:**
 - **YES:** Adding or replacing damaged fire escape ladder; adding or minor repair of wood steps for fire exit; adding handrails on steps where none previously existed and enclosed stair risers if more than 3 steps are required
 - **NO:** Demolition of existing steps; no new doors cut into exterior walls

- **Fire Suppression/Carbon Dioxide/Radon:**
 - **YES:** Adding or replacing lead content detector, fire, radon or carbon dioxide (Co2) alarms and fire extinguishers; repairing/installing an indoor sprinkler/fire suppression system within the child care program area when required by fire marshal
 - **NO:** test kits

- **Fireplaces/Heat Source:**
 - **YES:** Screens/covers or partitions to protect children from fireplaces, heaters and/or wood-burning stoves
 - **NO:** Adding fireplaces or any portable, free-standing or mini-split heat source

- **Flooring:**
 - **YES:** Adding or replacing permanent floor covering due to damage (such as carpet, linoleum, wood, tile, LVP) in areas where children are regularly present only, interior concrete sealing in licensed space
 - **NO:** Area rugs, throw rugs, play mats, classroom rugs; repair or replacement of subfloor or foundation; in-floor heat; replacement of permanent floor covering in good condition for updates/aesthetic purposes, no wood stamping to floors of any kind including concrete.

- **Furnace:**
 - **YES:**
 - Purchase of new or repair of existing furnace – cost of unit only. Quotes must identify purchase price of the appliance(s) separately from the installation requirements and additional materials as installation labor and additional piping, venting, ductwork, etc. is structural and is not eligible. Cost of appliance only is eligible at 100% in structure entirely dedicated to the child care program; 50% in a shared space (family home or shared organization space).
 - **NO:**
 - Labor/installation fees or cost of new/additional ductwork, venting, piping, additional materials, etc.
 - Any heat source/mini-split requiring a hole to be cut in an exterior wall or floor
 - Extended warranty or service plan fees.

- **Furniture/furnishings:**
 - **YES:**
 - Child care program furniture (cribs, crib mattresses, pack-n-plays, cots, changing tables, child-size table and chairs, shelves/cabinets, infant seats, cubbies, storage, high chairs, toddler chairs, potty chairs, etc.)
 - Office furniture: Office furniture dedicated to child care program (file cabinet, desk, chair, meeting room or break room table, meeting room chairs)
 - **NO:**
 - Adult-size furniture not specifically allowed including but not limited to couches, stuffed chairs, recliners, rocking chairs, occasional tables, decorative furniture, beds, dressers, full-size picnic table
 - Bean bag chairs
 - Car seats
 - Wall hangings including mirrors
 - Rugs: Area rugs, throw rugs, play mats, classroom rugs
 - Linens/Bins: Supplies including linens, sheets, changing table/pack-n-play covers, bins/baskets including those used with storage cubbies, storage bins, waste baskets

- **Garage:**
 - **YES:** Replacing a door between a home and garage to meet fire code per licensing requirements.
 - **NO:** Replacing, repairing, screening or modifying garage stall doors, external service entry doors, windows, walls or floor.

- **Grass:**
 - **YES:** Backfill of dirt/grass seed from tree removal/stump grinding directly in playground area only (documentation required)
 - **NO:** Sod (neither removal nor addition)

- **Gutters/Down spouts:**
 - **NO:** adding, moving, replacement or repair of down spouts/gutters

- **HVAC (Heating, Venting, Air Conditioning):**
 - **YES:** Purchase or repair of furnace, water heater or air conditioner –quotes must identify purchase price of the appliance(s) separately from the installation requirements as additional venting, ductwork, etc. is structural and is not eligible. Cost of appliance only is eligible at 100% in structure entirely dedicated to the child care program; 50% in a shared space (family home or shared organization space). Labor for single trip maintenance or one-time repair.
 - **NO:**
 - Labor/installation or cost of new/additional ductwork, venting, piping, additional parts/materials, etc.
 - Mini-splits as they require a hole be cut in the wall.
 - In-floor heat as this is structural.
 - Extended warranty or service plan fees.

- **Internal Walls/Ceilings:**
 - **YES:** Minor repair of internal walls or ceilings in child care program space, including paint
 - **NO:** Insulation

- **Kitchen/Kitchenette:**
 - **YES:** Repairing/adding a kitchenette that is dedicated to child care program; repair/replacement of damaged items in shared kitchen including flooring, sink/faucet, counters/cabinetry. Appliances are eligible at 50% for shared spaces and 100% for child-care only usage/space
 - **NO:** Replacement of functional kitchen items for aesthetic/upgrade purposes such as aesthetic upgrade to granite countertops or adding a cabinet to hide a wastebasket.

- **Labor/Contracted Services:**
 - **YES:** Time of laborer working in the area requested, providing their name, business name, address, AND PHONE is shown on quotes prior to grant awards and on receipts for work performed. License number must be documented when a license is required for work performed by State or Local Municipality regulation. Labor must meet permit and quality inspection regulations.
 - **NO:** Paid labor conducted by child care employees, child care provider or a family member, even if family member is a licensed contractor or performs the type of work needed for a living. **If labor is determined to have been performed by a family member or individual residing with the child care provider, even if labor costs were allowed in the award letter, the cost of the labor will be disallowed.**

- **Laundry Space:**
 - **YES:** Renovation/creation of laundry space dedicated to child care; replacement of damaged appliances (50% for shared spaces, 100% for child-care only use)
 - **NO:** Laundry service

- **Lawn Care/Landscaping:**
 - **NO:** including but not limited to
 - redirecting water;
 - adding bridge or pavers over wet area;
 - adding or replacing sod or other plantings;
 - adding or replacing mulch/rock anywhere other than under outdoor play system;
 - adding, repairing or replacing a retaining wall;
 - grading or leveling;
 - dirt filling and grass seed other than with tree removal in play space;
 - adding or replacing sewer drainage field;
 - adding drainage field to redirect water run-off;
 - lawn care or snow removal equipment or services;
 - land purchases
 - full-lawn sprinkler systems including Instances where provider indicates that their entire yard is used by children

- **Learning and Play:**
 - **NO:**
 - Toddler play structures: Indoor/outdoor portable infant/toddler play structures that are not required to be permanently secured to the ground
 - Portable Play Houses and any structure with a loft
 - Ride-Ons including but not limited to buggies, strollers, wagons, bicycles, tricycles, large motor toys, scooters and helmets
 - Toys – indoor and outdoor, including portable infant play mats, exersaucers and toddler climbers/play sets (regardless of size)
 - Dramatic play sets including play kitchens, dress-up, play work benches, etc.
 - Sensory Play toys/tables and equipment
 - Infant/Toddler Manipulatives
 - Musical instruments and players
 - Art or Science Supplies or Kits
 - Books, Curriculum
 - Wall hangings, mirrors or décor

- **Lighting:**
 - **YES:** Replacing light fixtures with fixtures containing shielded or shatterproof bulbs; adding shatterproof lighting in unfinished ceiling.
 - **NO:** Exterior lighting; replacing lighting for style or aesthetic reasons; replacing lighting that requires structural work or major renovation; free standing lamps or night lights; electrical panel or circuit breaker work

- **Major Renovation:**
 - **NO:** Major renovation is prohibited by the funding source and is defined as structural changes to the foundation, roof, floor, exterior or load-bearing walls of a facility, or the extension of a facility to increase its floor area; or extensive alteration of a facility such as to significantly change its function and purpose, even if such renovation does not include any structural change

- **Motorized Vehicles:**
 - **NO:** Vehicles to transport children and transportation safety equipment such as car seats

- **Office:**
 - **YES:** Office furniture dedicated to child care program (file cabinet, desk, chair, table)
 - **NO:** Office equipment (phone, copier, computer, laptop, tablet, software, printer, ink, paper/business-related supplies, camera, monitoring equipment including but not limited to baby monitors and security cameras, etc.)

- **Painting:**
 - **YES:** interior paint, paint supplies and hiring a painter for child care program space – square footage of child care space(s) may be required for amount of paint requested
 - **NO:** power equipment (power paint sprayer); painting the entire inside of a home; painting or staining exterior surfaces including play sets, siding, decks, porches, sun rooms, fences, or sheds/out-buildings

- **Panels:**
 - **YES:** Adding or replacing permanent separation panels to reduce the spread of germs in child spaces or in parent drop-off locations; adding/replacing sound-proofing or acoustic panels; adding guard panels on decks ONLY if spindles are too far apart for licensing code – documentation required
 - **NO:** Adding an electrical panel in unfinished space.

- **Playsets:**
 - **YES:** Improvement to or addition of permanent outdoor playsets and playscapes such as swings, slides, climbers, gaga pits, full-size, permanent basketball hoops and related materials; replacing damaged portions of a playset; replacing the surface under a playset for safety against falls; preparing the ground surface for a new playset
 - **NO:** Painting/staining; trampolines; slides or other structures for use in pools or lakes; Infant/toddler portable playsets including but not limited to Step2, Little Tikes, tunnels, playhouses or other large motor toys; portable play items such as nature “stumps” and outdoor water/sensory structures; any indoor/outdoor play sets/large motor toys

- **Playscape Barriers/Borders:**
 - **YES:** Removal and replacement of rotting or damaged barriers bordering play area; removal of wooden barriers that contain creosote or arsenic; building a safe surface under a playset
 - **NO:** sod; painting/staining; rock/retaining walls or creosote/arsenic treated timbers; no addition of or repair to bridges or paver paths over wet areas

- **Play Area Surface:**
 - **YES:** New surface for outdoor play area to protect against injury from falls or replacement of surface directly under swing set/climbing structures with the condition that the replacement material is approved by licensing; adding a sandbox and/or sandbox cover; soft tile surface or foam/rubber outdoor play surfaces
 - **NO:** Concrete for sport court, patio or bicycle track; replacing mulch/ground cover around facility, under decks

- **Plumbing:**
 - **YES:** Plumbing required in child care bathroom that does not require a tub or shower. Basic hook ups to connect bathroom, kitchen and laundry fixtures. Installation of hand washing sinks
 - **NO:** Installation of appliances of heating, cooling or water softeners, water heaters and reverse osmosis. For Exterior Plumbing see also – Well Repair/Septic Systems

- **Power Tools:**
 - **NO:** Both purchased and rental

- **Ride-Ons/Ins:**
 - **NO:** Buggies, strollers, wagons, bicycles, tricycles, large motor toys, scooters, helmets, car seats, etc.

- **Sand/Sandboxes:**
 - **YES:** New sand for sandbox, replacement of a sand box, materials to build a sandbox, and sand box covers

- **Sanitizing Machines:**
 - **YES:** Sanitizing equipment (such as Zono)
 - **NO:** Sanitizing spray, hand sanitizer or cleaning supplies

- **Security/Camera Systems:**
 - **YES:** Panic button to connect to law enforcement for center/school-based program
 - **NO:** Ring cameras; ring/video door bell; monitoring equipment; keyless entry systems; security doors; security door locks with Wi-Fi codes; any video monitoring system or other security system; security monitoring services; exterior lighting

- **Sheds/Outbuildings:**
 - **YES:** Small, prefabricated storage sheds or resin shed kits **that do not require tools for assembly**, dedicated to child care program for outdoor equipment no larger than 120 square feet (such as 10x12); playhouse larger than portable toddler structure but not greater than 120 square feet; surface under shed may be considered. Labor not requiring construction to put together a shed kit may be considered.
 - **NO:**
 - Large sheds, even if prefabricated or purchased as a kit if larger than 120 square feet.
 - No on-site construction of sheds of any size. No lumber materials for provider to construct/build a shed on-site.
 - EZ Build materials lists or kits that require no sawing but do require construction (i.e., tools required for assembly).
 - No lofts are allowed per DHS and no use of shelving where items could fall on children.
 - Chicken coops or pet containment measures.
 - Concrete foundations or significant landscaping for shed surface
 - Requests to pay the difference in price for a shed larger than 120 square feet
 - Cost of sheds found to have been constructed on site or containing lofts/large shelves during final report reconciliation.

- **Sick/Quiet Room:**
 - **YES:** Repairing/adding a sick and/or quiet space that is separate from the activity area
 - **NO:** Adult furniture including but not limited to beds, rockers, stuffed chairs, recliners, occasional tables, dressers

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- **Signage:**
 - **YES:** Adding or replacing outdoor signage on the program grounds including the electrical connection.

- **Sprinkler (indoor) Systems:**
 - **YES:** Repairing/installing an indoor sprinkler/fire suppression system(s) within the child care program area when required by fire marshal – documentation required
 - **NO:** In areas not regularly utilized by the child care program

- **Sprinkler (outdoor) Systems:**
 - **YES:** to maintain grass in primary outdoor play area designated for child care program only in one part of a yard – square footage and photo documentation of primary child care play space is required and should be broken out/specified in quote AND receipt. This means the area where children play on a daily basis, around play sets.
 - **NO:** full yard installation – even if the full yard is licensed for the child care program – or installed in any area of the yard other than around the playscapes.

- **Stairways/Railings**
 - **YES:** Closing the back of open steps needed as a fire exit; adding wood stairs or step where none exist if needed for safety and/or as a fire exit – documentation required. Add, repair or replace indoor hand railing or stair spindles where needed for safety – documentation required. Add additional protective spindles or guard panels on deck if spaced too far apart for licensing code if deck is used by child care program and deck is higher than 3' off ground, requiring spindles/rail – documentation required.
 - **NO:** Repair or replacement of deck spindles/railings or stairs

- **Storage Cabinets:**
 - **YES:** Adding storage furniture (free-standing or built-in) such as storage units, cubbies, lockers, book shelves dedicated to child care program
 - **NO:** No storage bins, crates or baskets, including containers designed to hold items within the storage units or cubbies

- **Sunshades/Umbrellas:**
 - **NO:** including built-in shades over play structures, large umbrellas, awnings, gazebos, screen rooms, tents, enclosing/screening porches, sun rooms or decks

- **Tools and Equipment:**
 - **NO:** Both purchased and rental, including hand tools and/or power tools and equipment

- **Tree removal:**
 - **YES:** Tree removal and/or stump grinding from within immediate child care playground areas for child safety – photo documentation of tree in the play space required for eligibility or documentation that specific tree removal is required by licensing
 - **NO:** Tree or stump removal outside of children's play space, tree trimming or removal of shrubs/bushes/hedges or other plantings, even if recommended or required by licensing

- **Upgrades**
 - **NO:** Aesthetic upgrades including but not limited to granite countertops, decorative front doors, changing a standard window to a bow/bay, decorative windows. The intent is to restore damage done by the child care

program, replacing like-items with like-items. Photo documentation in applications is strongly encouraged to show that a requested item is not an upgrade. Such requests may be declined without documentation.

- **Wall panels:**
 - **YES:** Adding or replacing sound absorbing wall panels

- **Wall Repair:**
 - **YES:** Repairing/replacing drywall, studs other than load-bearing to repair damage in child care program space
 - **NO:** Wall removal; moving load-bearing walls; adding insulation behind drywall; structural projects that require cutting into drywall such as for new ventilation; build wall to close off garage door. No repair to concrete walls.

- **Warranties:**
 - **NO:** Extended warranties or service plans

- **Windows/Window Treatments:**
 - **YES:** Repairing or replacing a window(s) and/or external screens due to damage, adding cord tie-downs for window blinds or curtain cord tension or tie-down devices for child safety
 - **NO:** Replacing all windows in a facility; adding or replacing window treatments of any type (blinds, curtains, drapes, shades); replacing windows in a porch or adding windows to a screened-in porch

- **Well Repair/Septic Systems:**
 - **YES:** Minor repair of contaminated well for health/safety reasons (i.e., water does not pass licensing requirements – documentation required) or replacement of damaged well/septic cover for safety
 - **NO:**
 - Well shock/treatment not required by licensing
 - Major repairs or replacement of well or septic system or sewer lines
 - Drainage field
 - Emptying sewage tanks

- **Unfinished Basement**
 - **YES:** Minor renovation of basement space dedicated to child care program
 - **NO:** Complete finishing/renovation; insulation or structural work on or within foundation or external walls

* These grants are allocated from the federal Child Care Development Fund, which prohibits spending on new construction or major renovation of facilities. By statute, major renovation is defined as structural changes to the foundation, roof, floor, exterior or load-bearing walls of a facility, or the extension of a facility to increase its floor area; or extensive alteration of a facility such as to significantly change its function and purpose, even if such renovation does not include any structural change.

Any of the above referenced as general renovations/repair, minor renovation/improvement to basement or minor external/outdoor repair may comprise a small portion of conversion or renovation of garage, out-building or community facility, including but not limited to church, school, store front, business, vacant house, community center, pod, or senior center.

Any expense found to be in conflict with these guidelines during final report reconciliation will be disallowed.