

## Child Care Facilities Improvement Pilot Program—Phase 1 Eligible Facility Improvement Projects

The Child Care Facilities Improvement Program provides grants to New Jersey child care providers for facilities improvements that will contribute to high quality early childhood learning environments. The grant will cover projects between \$50,000 and \$200,000 for specific interior and exterior improvements to the child care facility.



### Eligible Interior Improvements

**Install, repair, replace, and/or improve** (cont'd):

- Windows in classrooms and common areas (e.g., install child height windows to allow for more natural light, repair window with ventilation issues, replace window that is unable to open, replace windows with energy efficient model, install blinds or glass glazing systems, install banisters or window guards)
- Flooring (e.g., carpets in poor condition, new flooring for bathrooms)
- Fire safety and fire protection systems (e.g. sprinklers, smoke detectors)
- Indoor air quality systems (e.g., HVAC systems upgrades and maintenance, mechanical air exchange system with individual classroom controls, air purifiers)
- Doors, entrances and exits including locking mechanisms
- Remediation of environmental issues (e.g., lead pipes, asbestos, including environmental site and remedial investigation)
- Security systems including security cameras
- Kitchens and food preparation areas
- Acoustics (e.g., absorptive materials, acoustic panels, ceiling tiles)
- Secure storage areas (e.g., wall cabinets, cubbies, closets, cot storage, storage for hazardous materials)
- Stable partitions and/or floor-to-ceiling walls to separate classrooms and improve acoustics

Create **additional classroom space** in existing location by converting or adapting other rooms to classroom space (e.g., demolition of partitions and infilling existing wall construction, modifying existing exits for sufficient egress, installing diaper change area for new infant/toddler classroom)

Create or improve areas to serve as **indoor gross motor and/or multi-purpose space**

Improve **egress and access** within the facility (e.g., ramps, sinks with knee clearances) as well as egress and access to the outdoors for children with no or limited mobility

**Install, repair, replace, and/or improve:**

- Bathrooms with age-appropriate plumbing and child height fixtures (e.g., toilets, sinks) that are in or adjacent to classrooms, including touchless fixtures, toilet partitions and doors, ceiling tiles, light fixtures, flooring, paint
- Child height handwashing sinks in classrooms, including touchless fixtures
- Furniture, fixtures, and equipment
- Electric and lighting systems
- Plumbing (e.g., leaking pipes, drainage issues)
- Diaper changing areas
- Nurse area, sick child area

## Eligible Exterior Improvements

Install, repair, replace and/or improve equipment to provide children with age-appropriate, safe, engaging **outdoor play areas**:

- Climbing structures (e.g., adding more cushioning)
- Creating a separate space for infants
- Bollards for parking lots and/or playgrounds
- Covered enclosures, shade structures, awnings, outdoor furniture, storage shed

**Install, repair, replace and/or improve:**

- Exterior fencing, including security gates
- Roofing (e.g., addressing leaking or mold)
- Decking (e.g., wood that has been deemed a hazard)
- Sidewalks connecting classrooms
- Parking areas (e.g., short-term parking for drop-off)

Increase **accessibility** or to meet code enforcement requirements (e.g. installing or replacing ramps)

Address exterior **drainage** issues



## Eligible “Soft Costs”

Capped at 20% of project costs, soft costs for this program are limited to:

- Architect fees
- Permit fees
- Construction management
- Freight and shipping delivery
- Environmental assessment

For more information and to learn more about the program, visit <https://www.njeda.com/child-care-improvement-program/>