

Kandiyohi County Child Care Economic Development (CCED) Program

Frequently Asked Questions

Application questions

- Do I have to pay back my loan?

No, you do not have to pay back your loan if you meet the term requirements. Stay licensed (or become licensed within the specified amount of time) and in operation for 2 years if you receive a grant that is \$5,000 or under or 3 years for a grant that is \$5,001 or over.

If you do not meet the terms of service you will need to pay back your loan at a pro-rated rate.

- Can I buy something before my application is approved and then use those funds to reimburse myself once I am/if I am approved?

No, your application must be approved before you can spend your funds. The grant is not for reimbursements.

- When are the scoring criteria used?

To start, grants will be evaluated for acceptance based on if they meet the state requirements. If/when we reach the point where we have more applications for funds than we do dollars the evaluation team will use the scoring criteria.

The sooner you are able to submit your application the better.

- What are matching funds as mentioned in the point system for the scoring criteria?

Matching funds would include the amount of money you can put towards the project or supplies you are applying for. It could also be labor savings if you plan on doing work, but your cost estimate for labor savings must be based on a contractor bid.

- How do I get the most points possible?

Make sure you include the score criteria in your answers. The last page of your application includes the questions the review committees will ask themselves when reviewing your application. Make sure they can find those answers in your application.

- Can I reapply for a grant if I am not approved the first time?
Yes, you can. We want you to have these funds and be successful. We will work with you. Make sure your project meets the grant qualifications as specified on the grant application.

Questions about grant approval

- When will I receive my funds if my application is approved?
As soon as your grant is approved and the agreement is signed you will receive your funds.
- When will know if my grant has been approved?
Applications received by the 2nd Friday of the month will be reviewed on the 4th Thursday of the month. You should be notified soon after of the status of your application.
- Are there only so many grants approved each month?
There is no limit on grants approved each month.

Questions about qualifying projects?

- Can I do my own construction/insulation project at my house if I am a home daycare?
There are several factors that affect this. If you have an in-home childcare facility your home falls under an R3 Code. Centers and businesses fall under an E-Code. This coding influences the permits you need and who can do your work.
Visit Kandiyohi County to access permits and for more information.
Double-check with your city if you need separate permitting. Residents in the City of Willmar and those in, or two miles of, the City of New London do need to submit additional permits.
- Do I need to get two different bids?
If your project is over \$1,000 you do need to collect two bids. You do not have to accept the lower bid, however.
You must also get two bids, quotes, or listings for purchases of one singular item (like a playground set) or of multiples of the same item (like multiple cribs or sleeping mats).

- Can I buy construction supplies and pay a contractor with the funds I receive?
Yes. You would just need to include separate estimates for both in your application paperwork.

- Do I need building permits?
If you are applying for a grant it is highly recommended you review what permits you will need. Most exterior building projects do. You may want to include the cost in permitting fees in your application. Again, check with the county and your city on what permits are applicable.