



Summary Notice of Funding Availability

Reporting Form

DHHS Division/Office Issuing This Notice: Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE)

Date of This Notice: September 20, 2024

Program Name: Child Care Resource and Referral Services Program

Purpose of the RFA: The goal of this Request for Application is to provide technical assistance to early care and education programs according to NC's revised technical assistance framework: North Carolina's Pathway to Continuous Quality Teaching Practices and develop a professional development learning community to increase the management skills for current and aspiring child care directors and serve as a resource hub for families receiving child care.

Description: A child's early years can have lifelong physical, cognitive, social, and emotional impacts. While positive experiences and environments can set a young child on a stronger developmental trajectory, traumatic experiences or environments during those formative years can have long-lasting, detrimental impacts. Research has shown that when children enroll in high quality early education programs early in life there is the potential to improve developmental outcomes and close learning and opportunity gaps that typically form by the time a child reaches three years of age. Examples of high-quality programs are those that follow comprehensive early learning standards and curricula, utilize appropriate child assessments, and employ a consistent well-prepared and diverse workforce.

Funding Availability: This RFA will be for a 3-year funding cycle with an optional 2-year renewal term. The total award to fund the Child Care Resource and Referral Program is \$8,000,000 per year, contingent upon contract compliance, project performance, and availability of funding. The initial contract period will be July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028.

DCDEE will determine the actual funding amount based on the proposed execution of the project and the utilization of funds as outlined in the successful applicant's proposal, pending funding availability.

Applicant Eligibility:

This RFA is open to state agencies and universities, public and private nonprofit organizations with a current 501(c)(3) standing with knowledge of North's Carolina's early childhood education mixed delivery system and expertise in developmentally and culturally appropriate practices for young children birth – 12 years of age. Extensive knowledge and expertise in providing intensive coaching and consultation to the child care workforce and supporting families in seeking child care solutions.

How to Apply:

EMAIL an electronic PDF of your application to the NC Division of Child Development and Early Education via this email: DCDEE.Contracts.Unit.RFA@dhhs.nc.gov

The signature of an authorized official is required on the application face sheet. An electronic signature or an electronic scanned copy of the signed application face sheet will be accepted. **Only electronic application submissions via email will be accepted**, i.e., do not mail, fax, or deliver copies of the application to DCDEE's physical or mailing address.

Intent to Apply:

Eligible agencies and/or organizations interested in applying for this RFA are encouraged to notify DCDEE of their intent to apply via the following link, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7MXYGPJ> no later than **5:00 p.m., October 31, 2024**.

Agencies and/or organizations are **not** required to notify of their intent to respond to this RFA; this information is requested to assist DCDEE in planning. Responses to this notice of intent are not binding and will not impact the review and scoring of your RFA submission. Data from this survey is used by the State PREP Team for planning and research purposes only.

PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE: DCDEE plans on hosting a Pre-Application Conference for this RFA on **October 24, 2024 at 1:30 pm**. During this time, an overview of the RFA will be presented along with an opportunity for Q&A. Please click the link to join.

Join from the webinar link

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m3fbf8a059d735a72a0c8238c2b95563a>

Join by the webinar number

Webinar number (access code): 2421 178 2839

Webinar password: home (4663 when dialing from a phone or video system)

Panelist password: emoh (3664 when dialing from a phone or video system)

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

[+1-646-992-2010,,24211782839#4663#](tel:+1-646-992-2010,,24211782839#4663#) United States Toll (New York City)

[+1-202-860-2110,,24211782839#4663#](tel:+1-202-860-2110,,24211782839#4663#) United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

Some mobile devices may ask attendees to enter a numeric password.

Deadline for Submission:

Applications, subject to the following conditions, must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., **January 7, 2025**.

For more information please contact: Candice Bailey (candice.bailey@dhhs.nc.gov)