



Child Care Grants Program Guidelines

2023 Child Care Grant Information Session:

September 27, 2022

4:00 pm to 5:00pm

This will be a virtual event. Please RSVP to

childcare@richmond.ca to be included.

City of Richmond – Planning and Development
Community Social Development
August 2022

Child Care Grants - Program Guidelines

Introduction

The City of Richmond provides grants to non-profit societies providing child care services within the City's geographic boundaries. Child care grants are funded by voluntary community amenity contributions from land developers. These funds are held in the City's Child Care Development Reserve or the Child Care Operating Reserve. The City's ability to provide grants is subject to available funding and there may be years when the grant program(s) are not offered. For more information about the City of Richmond's approach to supporting child care services, please see the [City of Richmond's Child Care Development Policy](#).

Eligibility

Non-profit societies that either (1) provide child care services or (2) support the provision of child care services are eligible for Child Care Grants.

Applicants may be either:

- non-profit child care providers delivering licensed child care in Richmond and seeking to improve the quality or capacity of care in their facility, or
- non-profit societies supporting quality programming and/or providing professional development opportunities for the broader child care community in Richmond.

Purpose

Child care grants are available for both: (1) capital and (2) professional and program development expenses. These purposes are outlined below.

(1) Capital Grants

Capital grants are provided to acquire or upgrade physical assets in licensed child care facilities such as property, buildings and equipment. Funding is available for a **one-time capital expense** that will improve the quality, availability and accessibility of licensed child care in Richmond, such as: equipment, furnishings, building renovations or playground improvements. For equipment to qualify as a capital expenditure, it must be for long-term use (e.g. an easel would qualify; art supplies would not).

(2) Professional and Program Development Grants

Non-profit societies developing or providing professional and program development opportunities in Richmond (e.g. training, workshops) are eligible to apply for funding. The initiatives must be available and of benefit to the broader child care community in

Richmond, rather than to a few specific individuals or centres. The necessity and benefits of the initiative to the child care community must be demonstrated. Funding for individual staff to register for or attend courses or workshops is not eligible under this grant program.

NOTE: *The City of Richmond recognizes the need for both capital and operating funding to support child care programs. Funds are available to support child care operators through the Provincial ChildCareBC Program, including:*

- *Child Care Operating Funding- to assist with the day-to-day costs of running a licensed child care facility: To learn more about operating funding opportunities, visit the Provincial Government's [Child Care Operating Funding](#) website.*
- *Training and Professional Development Funding – to assist with professional development and upgrading: To learn more about these funding opportunities, view the Province's [Child Care Recruitment and Retention Strategy](#); or*
- *Visit Westcoast Child Care Resource Centre's [funding webpage](#).*

Priorities

Priority will be given to applications for facilities or programs that:

- support infant/toddler and school-age care, identified as priorities in the 2017 – 2022 Richmond Child Care Needs Assessment and Strategy;
- have accessed, or are willing to access other available sources of funding, including Child Care Operating Funding, Child Care BC Maintenance Fund, Child Care BC Relocation Fund, New Spaces Grant; and
- enroll families who are receiving the Affordable Child Care Benefit and, if eligible, participate in the Child Care Fee Reduction Initiative.

Grant Application Process

The City of Richmond uses an **online** grant application process. Only electronic applications will be accepted. Please refer to the *City of Richmond Child Care Grant Program - **Grant Applicant User Guide*** which is posted on the City's [website](#) for instructions on using the system. The guide provides tips and illustrations for all sections of the grant application.

In preparation for submitting an application, please have electronic documents ready to attach as requested. The user guide lists the preferred file formats for documents, spreadsheets and pictures. There are also forms posted on the City's website that can be used to provide information on licensed capacity, project budgets and project timelines.

The following electronic documents will be needed for your application:

- Certificate of Incorporation for the Society;
- Society's Constitution and Bylaws;
- Contact list for the Society's Board of Directors, Officers and Executive Director;
- Most recent Annual General Meeting minutes;

- Provincial Child Care License(s), if applicable;
- Last year's financial statements or audited statement;
- Current year operating budget;
- Itemized project budget, including quotes (details included in *Proposed Project Budget* form available on the City's grant website);
- Project timeline;
- Licensed capacity & current enrolment by program; and
- If the organization received a grant in the previous year, a grant-use report.

NOTE: *If your Society previously received a child care grant, you will need to submit a grant use report to explain how the funds were used. This information must be submitted to be considered for a new grant in a future intake year.*

Applications must include the following:

Step 1 - Applicant Contacts

- a) Society name
- b) Society number issued by the BC Registry Services at the time of incorporation
- c) Society website if applicable
- d) Contact names for the Society, e.g. an executive director, program manager or Board member and authorized signing officers
- e) Contact members' role in the Society
- f) Society's address, postal code, phone number and e-mail address

Step 2 - Applicant Information

- a) Briefly outline the Society's history, mandate, goals and objectives.
- b) Describe the programs and services provided in the last five years.
- c) If the Society delivers licensed child care programs, provide the licensed capacity and current enrolment by type for each program offered, referred to in the Society's Provincial Child Care License(s).
- d) Attach a copy of the Society's Provincial Child Care License(s) as issued by Vancouver Coastal Health - Community Care Facilities Licensing.
- e) Attach a list of the Society's Board of Directors, Officers and Executive Director, including their addresses and contact information.
- f) Attach minutes of the Society's most recent annual general meeting.
- g) Attach Last Year's Financial Statements or Audited Statement including balance sheet for the recently completed fiscal year, including the auditor's report signed by external auditors, or one of the following alternatives:
 - If audited financial statements are not available, submit the financial statements reviewed by the external auditors for the most recent completed fiscal year along with the review engagement report signed by the external auditors;

- If neither audited nor reviewed financial statements are available, submit the compiled financial statements for the most recent completed fiscal year along with a compilation report signed by the external auditors; or
 - If none of the above are available, financial statements for the most recently completed fiscal year endorsed by two signing officers of the Board of Directors.
- h) Attach an operating budget for the current year including all sources of revenue (e.g. Child Care Operating Funding, Fee Reduction, other grants, fundraising).
- i) Provide information on signing officers to represent the Society's endorsement of the grant application and attach a completed signature form.

Step 3 - Grant Request Details – Proposal Information

The following items are required:

Capital Grant Requests

- a) Proposal title
- b) Purpose of the grant - what is the intent of the proposed grant (e.g. for equipment, furnishings, playground improvements, other)? If you select "other", please provide a description of what capital project you wish to undertake.
- c) Provide a detailed description of how the funds would be used to enhance the delivery of licensed child care in Richmond (e.g. improve quality, availability, accessibility).
- d) Describe who will benefit from the grant if received (e.g. the number and age groups of children who will benefit).
- e) List any partners who will be assisting with the project (e.g. any other funders, volunteers, or companies who will provide money, services, in-kind assistance or other contributions).
- f) Provide a detailed budget for the proposal (using the *Proposed Project Budget* form available on the City grant website) including:
 - dollar figure for the total requested grant amount.
 - 2 quotes for each outlined expense including source of the quote.
 - all other sources of revenue or funding approved or requested for this project (e.g. Child Care BC Maintenance Fund, Child Care BC Relocation Fund, New Spaces Grant), the date of application, amount of funding requested and the status of the application.

Professional and Program Development Grant Requests

- a) Proposal title
- b) Purpose of the grant – describe how the funds will be used to enhance the child care service delivery, support skill development of early childhood educators, and benefit the broader Richmond child care community.
- c) Describe who will benefit from the grant, if received including the anticipated number of people directly participating.
- d) Describe the expected outcomes for this project and how this project will be evaluated.

- e) List any partners who will be assisting with the project (e.g. any other funders, volunteers or companies who will provide money, services, in-kind assistance or other contributions).
- f) Provide a detailed budget for the proposal (using the *Proposed Project Budget* form available on the City grant website) including:
 - dollar figure for the total requested grant amount.
 - 2 quotes for each outlined expense including source of the quote.
 - all sources of revenue for this event (e.g. participant fees, organizational contributions, fundraising, grants), the amount and the status (e.g. secured, anticipated, unconfirmed).

Supporting Documents

- a) Attach copies of the following:
 - An itemized budget for how grant funds will be used (using the *Proposed Project Budget* form available on the City grant website);
 - Additional supporting information for the projected costs (e.g. workshop presenters quotes or 2 quotes from suppliers/trades for Capital projects); and
 - A timeline for completing the project and using the grant funds.

Additional Documentation to Support your Application

- a) Documentation to demonstrate the need for funds (this could be a letter from the Board, a letter from a building consultant/inspector or an inspection report from Child Care Facilities Licensing, photographs of an item needing repair or replacement).
- b) Two letters of support from parents, community partners or others.

Terms and Conditions

The Terms and Conditions section of the grant application discusses the following expectations for grant applicants:

- Successful applicants must use the funds for the stated purpose as outlined in the approval letter and within one year of approval.
- All grant recipients must provide a report documenting the use of the funds and the benefits received (at the latest, one year following receipt) through a Grant-Use Report on the online City grant system. Capital Grant Use reports must also include a photo of capital items and itemized receipts for all expenses.
- In addition, the grant received should be mentioned in any newsletter or related publicity published by the organization.
- Any grant applicant who is applying for new funding must submit a report documenting use of previously awarded funds before their current application can be considered.

Consent to these terms will be requested as part of the application process.

Review Process and Approval Process

Grant submissions are first reviewed by City staff to determine eligibility and completeness. The City of Richmond's Child Care Development Advisory Committee also reviews grant applications and makes recommendations to City Council. These are summarized into a report that is presented to Council for their consideration. All decisions concerning the approval of Child Care grants are made by Council. These decisions are final and there is no appeal process.

Application Deadlines and Decisions

The deadline for submitting a grant application will be determined annually. Late applications are not accepted. Please visit the City's grants website for more information on the grant program and important application deadlines: www.richmond.ca/citygrants

If you are unclear on any part of the grant application, please contact Chris Duggan, (Program Manager, Child Care and Youth) for clarification.

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