



Child Care Capacity Accelerator grants are creating new, licensed child care slots across Kansas in 2024 and 2025.

Funds support **construction projects** and **operational costs** for start-up or scale-up. Because construction dollars are typically ineligible on government grants, the Accelerator is a rare and significant opportunity for increasing child care capacity across Kansas.

Accelerator grants are possible through **braided funding** streams from multiple state agencies. Because each source has unique opportunities and limitations, the mix of funding available through the Accelerator supports communities in meeting their full range of complex needs.

\$54.5 million

in Accelerator funding will create...

5,655 new slots

when combined with more than...

\$58 million

in match generated locally by grantees through community fundraising, land/building donations, and local financing partners.

FUNDING STREAMS

➤ **Federal Preschool Development Birth-5 planning grant** through the Administration for Children and Families.

\$1 million

➤ **The State Fiscal Recovery Fund of the American Rescue Plan** approved by the Kansas SPARK Executive Committee and State Finance Council.

\$20 million

➤ **The Patterson Family Foundation** private gift.

\$2.5 million

➤ **Federal Child Care Development Block Grant ARPA funds** through the Kansas Department for Children and Families.

\$31 million

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

Grantees are collaborating with a wide range of community partners, including:

- School districts
- Existing child care providers
- Local employers
- Construction companies and architects
- Chambers of Commerce and economic development groups
- Local philanthropic and faith-based entities
- County and city officials
- Community-based services such as libraries, community centers, and training partners

MEETING THE DEMAND

On average, grantees will be meeting 17% of the child care demand in their communities using Accelerator funding. However, these demand figures ranged widely, for example, the grant is helping to meet...

- 62% of the need in Allen County
- 41% of the need in Rawlins County
- 18% of the need in Dickinson County
- 8% of the need in Shawnee County
- 14% of the need in Ellis County
- 75% of the need in Sheridan County

INNOVATION COMMUNITIES

Sixteen Accelerator grantees were also selected to be part of an Innovation Communities cohort. Cohort members were given small grants and coaching support to test unique, custom approaches, such as:

- Establishing employer-sponsored child care and similar public-private partnership models
- Creating substitute pools to help home- and center-based programs maintain operations when a staff member calls in sick or a home-provider needs to be away for training
- Partnering with school districts to offer child care staff access to health and retirement benefits

ACCELERATOR IMPACT

\$650,646

- average grant per community

5,655 new licensed slots

63 communities

- 36 rural
- 27 urban

96 child care facilities

- 82 licensed as child care centers
- 13 licensed as group day care homes
- 1 licensed as a small-center pilot

