



**City of Chicago Department of Family and Support Services Children Services Division
Citywide Parent Policy Council (CPPC) Grants Update
Wednesday, July 1, 2020**

- INFORMATIONAL UPDATES -

I. Fiscal Year 2021 Funding Letters for DFSS Head Start Grants

The City of Chicago Department of Family and Support Services (DFSS) has received two federal funding letters from the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), Administration of Children and Families (ACF), Office of Head Start (OHS) for non-competitive renewal funding for the FY 2021 budget period for the Head Start/Early Head Start (HS/EHS) and Early Head Start Expansion (EHS EXP) (full-year award) grants. The funding letters are attached to this summary and summarized in Table A.

TABLE 1. FY 21 ACF FUNDING LETTERS					
Grant Program	Funding Period	Enrollment	Program Operations	T & TA	TOTAL
Head Start	12/1/20-6/30/21	9,274	\$109,733,344	\$1,379,134	\$111,112,478
Early Head Start	12/1/20-6/30/21	2,162	\$33,567,910	\$449,421	\$34,017,331
TOTAL:					\$145,129,809
EHS Expansion	12/1/20-11/30/21	200	\$3,603,214	\$86,522	\$3,689,736
<i>EHS-Child Care Partnership*</i>	<i>12/1/20-6/30/21</i>	<i>1,100</i>	<i>\$16,319,354</i>	<i>\$363,011</i>	<i>\$16,682,365</i>

**Note:* DFSS has not received an official FY 21 funding letter for the Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant, but has been advised by the funder that this is due to a system glitch and an annual funding application should be prepared based on FY 20 base funding + FY 20 COLA & QI funding allocations; the estimated amount per this instruction is presented in italics above. DFSS will issue individualized funding letters to all HS, EHS, EHS-CCP, and EHS-EXP delegate agencies in early July. The FY 21 grant applications will be developed by DFSS and delegate agencies during July and August and will be submitted for approval to the CPPC and CCUO in mid-August. More detail will be sent in the

II. ACF OHS FY 2020 Supplemental Funds in Response to the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)

On April 14, 2020, ACF released Program Instructions (PI) [ACF-PI-HS-20-03](#) and [ACF-PI-HS-20-04](#), which provide information about supplemental funds available for Head Start programs in response to COVID-19. On March 27, 2020, President Trump signed into law the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act, 2020 [P.L. 116-136]. This legislation includes \$750 million for programs under the Head Start Act to support preventative, preparedness, and response activities related to the coronavirus. Of this amount, up to \$500 million is available for programs to operate supplemental summer programs and about \$250 million is available for one-time activities in response to COVID-19. DFSS has been allocated the following supplemental funding amounts for each grant:

TABLE 2. CARES ACT SUPPLEMENTAL FUNDING FOR COVID-19	
Grant Program	Supplemental Funding
Head Start	\$8,150,062
Early Head Start	\$1,899,982
Early Head Start-Child Care Partnership	\$966,688
Early Head Start Expansion	\$175,762



The supplemental funding applications were initially released on April 30, 2020 and due on May 15, 2020. Narrative justifications and board and policy council approvals were not required. DFSS initially submitted the applications on May 15, 2020. On June 1, 2020, the applications were returned with additional funds per [ACF-PI-HS-20-04](#), which released the full amount of CARES Act funding for Head Start programs responding to COVID-19 to grantees. The returned applications with larger amounts were due on June 8, 2020. DFSS submitted the applications on this date. Because DFSS Head Start programs already operate full-day, full-day programs, DFSS is allocating the fund toward One-Time Activities in Response to COVID-19. To support DFSS and its delegate agencies continue to ensure services are provided to children and families and promote school readiness in a safe and healthy manner, the following costs will be covered with these funds:

- Educational kits for children and families to use for at-home learning
- E-learning costs including laptops/tablets for centers and loaners for families and related costs; and modifications to data management system for program reporting during COVID-19
- Deep cleaning/janitorial services at center-based sites prior to re-opening
- Sanitation/personal protective equipment and other related supplies
- Increased funds for mental health services contracts to provide training to CPPC, CCUO, grantee staff, and delegate agency staff

III. FY 20 Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) and Quality Improvement (QI) Supplemental Applications

DFSS submitted the FY 20 COLA and QI supplemental funding applications by the due date of May 15, 2020. Applications were submitted for the FY 20 HS/EHS Start grant; EHS-CCP grant; and EHS-EXP grant.

IV. Head Start Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Fiscal Flexibilities

On May 21, 2020, HHS, ACF, OHS released Information Memorandum (IM) [ACF-IM-HS-20-03](#), which provides guidance to Head Start grantees related to fiscal flexibilities and waivers affecting grant applications, no-cost extensions, allowable costs, extension of certain deadlines, procurement, prior approvals, indirect cost rates, and single audit submissions. Included in this IM are the following provisions with some qualifiers at the discretion of regional program offices, which DFSS may utilize as it manages its Head Start grants during the COVID-19 pandemic:

1. Flexibility with System for Award Management (SAM) registration.
2. Flexibility with application deadlines.
3. No-cost extensions on expiring awards.
4. Abbreviated non-competitive continuation requests.
5. Allowability of salaries and other project activities.
6. Allowability of costs not normally chargeable to awards.
7. Prior approval requirement waivers.
8. Exemption of certain procurement requirements.
9. Extension of financial, performance, and other reporting.
10. Extension of currently approved indirect cost rates.
11. Extension of closeout.
12. Extension of Single Audit submission.