

# FY23 Special Grant Round

## The Early Education and Out of School Time Capital Fund (EEOST)

The Baker-Polito Administration and the Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) are pleased to announce the availability of FY23 funding through the Early Education and Out of School Time (EEOST) Capital Fund to provide critical resources necessary to sustain the Commonwealth's essential child care infrastructure. The FY23 EEOST Capital Fund special round will award grants between \$200,000 and \$500,000 to large group early education and out-of-school time programs to offset expenses for critical capital improvements.

### FUNDING USES

EEOST funding is intended to provide center-based early education and out-of-school time care facilities with resources to make renovations that enhance health and safety, for costs that were incurred during the period that begins on January 1, 2022. Organizations whose projects are 100% complete at the time of the application cannot apply for EEOST funding for reimbursement and such applications will not be considered.

These uses include but are not limited to:

1. Improvements to outdoor play spaces
2. Improvements to heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, including windows and HVAC equipment
3. Reconfiguration of indoor spaces including classrooms, gross motor rooms, and bathrooms.
4. Emergency repairs and system upgrades that impact the health and safety of occupants including roof replacement and upgrading electrical, life safety, and security systems. **Information Technology (IT) upgrades or purchases are not eligible for funding and will not be considered.**
5. Physical environment modifications including accessibility or other improvements to support inclusion of children and adults with special needs.

### ELIGIBILITY

As outlined in the original EEOST Capital Fund legislation, main eligibility criteria include but are not limited to the following:

- Applicants must be a non-profit, center-based program
- Applicants must have a valid license from EEC and be in good standing with EEC
- Applicants must demonstrate at least 50% of the program's enrollment at the program site for which the license issued is utilized by families who are eligible for public subsidy as of the date of the EEOST application.

Please note that eligible organizations that received an EEOST grant in the years FY14 – FY20 **are eligible** to apply for this year's special grant round. **However, organizations that received an FY21 or FY22 EEOST award cannot re-apply in FY23 for the same site.**

Applications will be reviewed and scored with the expectation that construction will begin by December 31, 2023. Please note that if your project involves substantial renovation, construction, or HVAC work, you will need to have been already working with a real estate development team and be far along in the process in order to be competitive.

### APPLICATION PROCESS

Application materials and Program Guidelines and Regulations will be posted on COMMBUYS on October 3, 2022. Full applications will be due at 4:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on December 8, 2022. EEC will host virtual information sessions on [October 25, 2022 at 11AM](#) and [October 27, 2022 at 6:30PM](#).

For any questions, please contact the Children's Investment Fund team at [EEOST@childrensinvestmentfundma.org](mailto:EEOST@childrensinvestmentfundma.org) or the EEC EEOST general mailbox at [eec.eeost@mass.gov](mailto:eec.eeost@mass.gov).