

Child Care for Working Families Act BASE Grants: State-by-State Estimates of \$9 Billion in Proposed Funding

Stephanie Schmit & Alycia Hardy | May 2023

Senator Patty Murray (D-WA) and Representative Bobby Scott (D-VA) recently reintroduced a stronger, revised version of the Child Care for Working Families Act (CCWFA). The bill addresses longstanding inequities in child care and early education for families and providers. It would expand access to nearly all children under age 6—including through providing universal preschool—increase wages for providers and their staff, and make needed care investments in all states.¹

One provision of the bill, the Building an Affordable System for Early Education (BASE) grants, is new this Congress. It is a grant program to provide funding to all states, the District of Columbia, and all tribes and territories, without requiring additional state match funds. It aims to make child care more accessible for families and better support providers.

BASE grants would:

- **Provide \$9 billion annually** to states, tribes, and territories, with nearly the same formula used to distribute federal discretionary funds for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG).
 - States could determine how to distribute funds to eligible child care providers, including child care centers; family, friend, and neighbor care; and family child care providers;
 - States would need to prioritize child care services for traditionally underserved families (such as infants and toddlers; dual language learners; and children with disabilities, experiencing homelessness, in foster care, or from families with low income), children receiving care through CCDBG, and families in need of nontraditional or extended hours; and
 - States would also be required to prioritize providers that are small businesses.
- **Support current child care providers and expand the child care workforce by:**
 - Increasing provider wages;
 - Offering staff bonuses and benefits;
 - Paying for professional development;
 - Advancing other efforts to hire, recruit, and retain staff;
 - Covering rent or mortgage costs; and
 - Supporting startup and expansion costs, as well as costs to meet health and safety requirements.

- **Deliver for families nationwide by:**
 - Providing comprehensive services to meet children’s and families’ broader needs;
 - Improving child care quality; and
 - Improving access to inclusive, developmentally appropriate care for children with disabilities.

The BASE grant provision gets necessary resources directly to providers. It will ensure improvements in provider pay and other resources they need and deserve, as well as expand access to care nationwide. It is a necessary and welcomed provision that, paired with the entitlement—or the bill’s guarantee of care—would transform the future of care. The following table outlines state-by-state estimates of allocations of this \$9 billion annual investment.

For questions, please contact Stephanie Schmit at sschmit@clasp.org.

STATE	ESTIMATED ALLOCATION OF \$9 BILLION BASE GRANT FUNDS BY STATE ²
Alabama	\$159,054,499
Alaska	\$14,789,953
Arizona	\$206,441,120
Arkansas	\$111,127,957
California	\$840,390,924
Colorado	\$94,046,546
Connecticut	\$60,810,569
Delaware	\$22,189,514

STATE	ESTIMATED ALLOCATION OF \$9 BILLION BASE GRANT FUNDS BY STATE ²
District of Columbia	\$13,254,236
Florida	\$491,980,955
Georgia	\$354,470,887
Hawaii	\$29,999,048
Idaho	\$49,875,179
Illinois	\$260,658,319
Indiana	\$191,240,645
Iowa	\$81,373,132
Kansas	\$74,988,811
Kentucky	\$156,241,986
Louisiana	\$157,821,973
Maine	\$23,888,501
Maryland	\$109,411,456

STATE	ESTIMATED ALLOCATION OF \$9 BILLION BASE GRANT FUNDS BY STATE ²
Massachusetts	\$111,430,947
Michigan	\$237,248,773
Minnesota	\$112,158,618
Mississippi	\$105,228,302
Missouri	\$167,953,551
Montana	\$22,286,360
Nebraska	\$48,811,922
Nevada	\$73,045,863
New Hampshire	\$18,140,283
New Jersey	\$164,931,508
New Mexico	\$74,205,954
New York	\$398,180,941
North Carolina	\$262,974,637

STATE	ESTIMATED ALLOCATION OF \$9 BILLION BASE GRANT FUNDS BY STATE ²
North Dakota	\$15,923,912
Ohio	\$304,181,917
Oklahoma	\$134,964,273
Oregon	\$80,735,945
Pennsylvania	\$271,292,365
Puerto Rico	\$54,646,218
Rhode Island	\$19,760,783
South Carolina	\$156,891,595
South Dakota	\$24,167,317
Tennessee	\$236,153,673
Texas	\$958,763,335
Utah	\$106,973,644
Vermont	\$10,022,823

STATE	ESTIMATED ALLOCATION OF \$9 BILLION BASE GRANT FUNDS BY STATE ²
Virginia	\$171,461,974
Washington	\$130,071,130
West Virginia	\$55,022,446
Wisconsin	\$125,425,831
Wyoming	\$9,953,786
United States³	\$9,000,000,000⁴

Endnotes

¹ Ranking Member Robert C. “Bobby” Scott, U.S. House Committee on Education and the Workforce, “Child Care for Working Families Act Fact Sheet”, https://democrats-edworkforce.house.gov/imo/media/doc/child_care_for_working_families_act_fact_sheet.pdf.

² CLASP’s estimated state funding distributions are derived from the GY 2023 CCDF Allocations based on Appropriations, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families, 2023, <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/data/gy-2023-ccdf-allocations-based-appropriations>. Actual amounts may differ due to Secretary authority and discretion in set-aside funding. Estimates assume a 3 percent set aside for federal administration and do not include set asides for the website, hotline, technical assistance, and research as outlined in the Child Care for Working Families Act.

³ This total includes funds for tribes, territories, and states, as well as funds for federal administration. Therefore, individual state estimates do not add up to equal total funding.

⁴Total funding is based on the proposed appropriations amount according to the Child Care for Working Families Act <https://www.murray.senate.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/The-Child-Care-for-Working-Families-Act-Bill-Text.pdf>.