

Becker County

Building Blocks Grant Program

2025 - Guide

Funds have been made available for the reimbursement of eligible expenses due to the licensing requirements to start and operate a childcare business. Please review the guide below to see if you are eligible. Visit <https://www.co.becker.mn.us/dept/eda/> for more info.

1. Who should apply?

- New providers soon-to-be licensed with the MN Department of Human Services or Tribal Government and have been visited by licensor
- New providers (less than 6 months operating) and are licensed or exempt
- Current providers expanding their current capacity, indicated as an increase in licensure capacity.

**All applicants must create new childcare capacity*

2. Licensure:

- Must provide copy licensure information
- Currently working with a licensing coordinator

3. Location:

- The business location and operation must be within Becker County

4. How much can I apply for?

- The maximum request for each applicant is \$10,000
- The minimum request for each applicant is \$2,000

**All expenses must be required by licensing or fire marshal code, expenses considered as normal operating costs will not be considered.*

5. What are Eligible Expenses?

- All items must be purchased newly from retail suppliers or licensed professional businesses
- Health and Safety
- Professional and Licensing
- Education
- Technology
- Minor construction

**Rules: FAMILY/GROUP FAMILY DAY CARE: 9502.0415 ACTIVITIES AND EQUIPMENT.*

6. What are Ineligible Expenses?

- Expendable supplies
- Personal Items
- Business supplies
- Property Insurance, Taxes, Mortgage
- Utility and Service Bills

7. Grant Timeline

- Funding is only available for FY2025
- The awards and award period are subject to availability
- First round of applications close June 15th, 2025

8. Award and Payment:

- A review committee will recommend to the Board for approval
- An award or denial letter will be distributed, additional information may be requested
- All grantees must sign a grant agreement
- In order to receive payment grantees must submit a W-9
- Expenses deemed eligible will then require proof of purchase and receipt submitted within 30 days for reimbursement
- Pictures, copies, itemized receipts, estimates and/or bids must accompany requests

9. Apply

- Please visit <https://www.co.becker.mn.us/dept/eda/>
Or contact 218-846-7330