Food Operation Expansion grants offer up to $25,000 to licensed child care centers in Philadelphia who are: 1) current CACFP participants and working to expand their CACFP operations or 2) have been recently approved for sponsorship within the past 3 months. Grant funds can be used for equipment, predevelopment planning, and other related costs to expanding a CACFP program.

For more information and the application please see our [website](#).

Additional questions can be emailed to PHLCNF@reinvestment.com or call 215-574-5834

- **What is the eligibility for this award?**
  - Licensed Childcare Center in Philadelphia, PA
  - Must be currently open and serving children
  - Must be an active participant in Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
  - Must be seeking an expansion of your CACFP operation or a new (within the past 3 months) CACFP sponsor

- **What is the award amount?**
  This award is up to $25,000 towards your expansion project. The grant funds will be disbursed on a reimbursement basis.

- **How many awards are available?**
  - We have enough funding for five (5) full awards.

- **What are important dates for this award?**
  - Application opens: November 7th
  - Application closes: November 30th
  - Decisions are announced: December 12th
  - Grant Agreements Sent out: January 2024
  - Grant Disbursements: January 2024

- **How do I apply for this award?**
  - Interested child care centers must first complete a short Letter of Intent through SmartSimple. Once received, we will schedule a brief conversation to understand more about your project and whether it’s an eligible project for this opportunity.
  - If you have an eligible project, you will be invited to complete the application. If this is your first time applying for a grant with Reinvestment Fund you will need to create an account, see details here.
  - The Letter of Intent is only an indicator of whether your project is eligible or not. All applications will be reviewed and scored to determine whether they will ultimately receive funding.
• What are the scoring criteria for this award?
  o Number of weekly meals provided
  o Location in CC Map Persistent High Need Neighborhoods
  o Project readiness and feasibility
  o Estimated Timeline of Completion
  o Percentage of children receiving subsidy enrolled
  o CACFP sponsorship status
  o Support of children in special groups at high-risk for food insecurity or adverse effects of food insecurity (experiencing homelessness, IEP, foster children, and medically fragile)

• What are the eligible uses for this award?
  o Please review our eligible expenses document for more details. This grant is designed to help you complete an expansion of your CACFP program. Some eligible uses include predevelopment expenses like architectural drawings, renovations, purchase of new appliances, and cost of trainings and certificates for staff.

• What is the window to spend this award?
  o Awarded funds need to be spent by June 2024.

• When will I be notified about my application?
  o You will receive an email notification about your application on December 12th, after all applications have been reviewed and scored. If we are in need of additional materials or information, we will contact you prior to that date.

• Will there be reporting for this award?
  o There will be a grantee reporting form sent out after final disbursements are made. Please keep all receipts, invoices, and other proof of payment for this reporting.

• Who can I contact with other questions?
  o If you have any additional questions, you can contact our team via PHLCNF@reinvestment.com or call 215-574-5834