

## Montgomery County Early Care and Education (ECE) Facility Loan Program

### Pre-Development Loans Quick Guide

The Montgomery County ECE Facility Loan Program provides financial help to child care providers in Montgomery County, Maryland, through two main types of loans:

- Forgivable Loans (do not need to be paid back if requirements are met over time)
- 0% Interest Loans (must be repaid, but with no interest)

This one-pager only explains predevelopment loans, which are a special kind of forgivable loan for planning costs. For details on the other loans, see their separate documents.

### What Are Pre-Development Loans?

Pre-Development loans help pay for early planning costs for big projects, like hiring architects or getting permits. These loans are fully forgiven after one year if requirements are met.

### Who Can Apply?

- Licensed child care providers in Montgomery County, MD
- Both family child care (home-based) and child care centers
- Providers with a published [Maryland EXCELS](#) rating
- Programs serving areas with a shortage of child care for infants and toddlers (based on [The State of Supply and Demand for Childcare in Montgomery County, MD report](#)), or those serving low-income and underserved communities

### What Can Be Funded?

- Zoning contracts
- Architect contracts
- Building permits
- Other planning expenses needed before starting construction

## **Loan Details**

### **Maximum Amounts:**

- Homes: \$1,000–\$10,000
- Centers: \$5,000–\$50,000

### **Repayment:**

- Fully forgiven after one year if requirements are met

## **Application/Funding Process**

The application/ funding process has three main steps:

- Step 1. Submit a Letter of Intent (LOI) via the online portal: Short form to confirm eligibility.
- Step 2. Submit your Loan Application and Underwriting: If eligible, this step includes details on the business and project.
- Step 3. Loan Closing: If your application is approved, during this step the applicant completes paperwork, signs the loan documents, and starts the project.

**Technical assistance is available to help at every step.**

If you have any questions, email Laura Montas-Brown, ECE Program Manager, at [laura.montas-brown@reinvestment.com](mailto:laura.montas-brown@reinvestment.com).