



# 2018 Early Care and Education Grant Guidelines

The Santa Barbara Foundation believes that every child deserves quality care and education from the start. The quality of child care has a direct impact on brain development, ability to learn, social-emotional wellness, and building healthy relationships. In the past twenty-five years, child care providers have increasingly delivered the essential care in an effort to better prepare our children for school and set the stage for a lifetime of learning success.<sup>1</sup> Yet the demand for childcare far outpaces that which is available. Although this proposal specifically targets agencies serving children 0-5, as an example of the need, only 23% of children 0-12 with parents in the labor force in Santa Barbara County have a licensed child care slot available to them, the minimum standard of quality care in California and with no guarantee of having the type of impact on the child cited.<sup>2</sup> Additionally, over the last three years, 2014 to 2017, there has been a decrease in Santa Barbara County of 14% in the number of slots available to families, representing a loss of nearly 1,300 spaces for children.<sup>3</sup> Nonetheless, to increase the quality of care that is available to children, both child care providers and direct service providers have collaborated on wrap-around services that improve child outcomes in the short and long term.

To increase capacity among these coordinated nonprofit child care providers and meet the critical needs of our communities' youngest members, the Santa Barbara Foundation is offering a grants program in support of quality early care and education programs and the services that enable their success.

## Focus

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The Santa Barbara Foundation's intent in offering this funding is to support and strengthen child care providers (for children between birth and five years of age) and the integral direct service providers that support them. The proposal must address one or more of the following areas:

- **Leadership and professional development:** This area encompasses pedagogical and administrative leadership.<sup>4</sup> Within the pedagogical domain, the focus is on instructional leadership, which includes ensuring fidelity to curricular thinking, assessing children's learning and development, as well as optimizing learning environments and using data for evaluation and continuous program improvement. On the other side of leadership development is work centered on administrative leadership. This work includes operational, strategic, advocacy and community leadership. Both these domains range from assuring the successful day to day operation of a center, goal setting for future program direction, advocating for children and collaborating with other service providers. These opportunities can be for an individual, organization, or a community of practitioners. Proposal strategies under the pedagogical can include: development of coaching and mentoring skills, increasing the ability to apply child development theory and research, increasing knowledge and implementation of evidence-based practice

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<sup>1</sup> Child Care, The Urban Child Institute 2017, Source URL (retrieved on February 22, 2017): <http://www.urbanchildinstitute.org/why03/childcare>

<sup>2</sup> 2017 California Child Care Portfolio, Source URL (retrieved on April 2, 2018): [https://www.rnnetwork.org/2017\\_portfolio](https://www.rnnetwork.org/2017_portfolio)

<sup>3</sup> 2017 California Child Care Portfolio, Source URL (retrieved on April 2, 2018): [https://www.rnnetwork.org/2017\\_portfolio](https://www.rnnetwork.org/2017_portfolio)

<sup>4</sup> Adapted from-Whole Leadership: A Framework for Early Childhood Programs, Source URL (retrieved on April 2, 2018): <http://mccormickcenter.nl.edu/whole-leadership-a-framework-for-early-childhood-programs/>

and assessment methodology. Strategies addressed under administrative leadership can include: building effective organizational climate, and increasing the ability to interpret data.

- **Family engagement:** These strategies may include promoting partnerships with families, fostering family leadership, building support and opportunities for families to foster their engagement in their child's development and education. Strategies should also be cognizant of incorporating a family's composition, language, and culture into their approach of collaborating with them. Proposals should clearly indentify a proven family engagement strategy to build relationships between themselves and families to maximize a child's success.
- **Building content specific areas of leadership:** These strategies may include the following: promoting fair and equitable access to child care opportunities, fostering entrepreneurial habits of mind, systems thinking, effective strategies for working with English language learners (ELL's), working with special populations including special needs, homeless and foster children, or other emerging needs.

## Priorities

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Priority will be given to organizations that:

- support child health, nutrition, and social-emotional well-being in a language-rich learning environment that respects diversity;
- arrange for subsidy funds for children and families that are most at risk (defined as children living in poverty, dual language learners, children whose parents have low levels of education, foster children and children with special needs);
- demonstrate adoption of, or progress toward the use of, best practices for parent engagement, such as Standard 7: Families in NAEYC Program Standards, and/or the Protective Factors Framework;
- demonstrate participation in, or a plan toward participating in, the Santa Barbara County's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) and/or the NAEYC Accreditation process;
- align kindergarten readiness with a child development observational screening tool such as the KSEP (Kindergarten Student Entrance Profile);
- support career paths for early care and education professionals, foster leadership and ongoing professional development opportunities, and other strategies that will attract and retain high-quality educators.

## Funding Amounts and Duration

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The maximum award for Early Care and Education Grants is **\$20,000**. The grant review panel may reduce or increase award amounts at its discretion. The grant period is up to one year from the award date. A final report is required and is due within 13 months of the grant award, preferably no later than 30 days following program completion.

## Grant Limitations

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Early Care and Education grants are not for:

- Child care scholarships
- General operating support
- Services and programs that are not providing services for early care and education
- Reimbursement for activities/purchases that occurred prior to the grant award date

Please visit the [Eligibility Criteria & FAQs](#) for a complete list of what the foundation does not fund.

## **Eligibility Requirements**

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- Organizations must be certified as tax exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or use a fiscal sponsor with 501(c)(3) tax status. **Applications that do not contain a valid EIN (tax ID) number will not be considered.** Organizations using a fiscal sponsor must review the [Eligibility Criteria & FAQs](#) for additional information and instructions.
- The foundation accepts applications from public entities such as schools, universities, and libraries through an affiliate or supporting 501(c)(3) organization. Please see the [Eligibility Criteria & FAQs](#) for additional qualifying information and instructions.
- An agency acting as the fiscal sponsor on behalf of a community collaborative may be eligible to submit proposals on behalf of its own agency needs as well as the needs of the collaborative. Please contact a member of the [Community Investments team](#) for more information and to discuss your specific situation.
- The child care provider receiving services must be fully licensed by the State of California to provide childcare for the age groups it is serving and be in full compliance with the applicable codes governing childcare facilities. For licensing questions, please speak with the Child Care Duty Officer at Community Care Licensing by calling (805) 562-0400.

## **NEW ONLINE Application Process**

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Our Community Grant Programs are now utilizing an online application. Please follow the instructions below to access, complete and submit your application to the foundation.

- To apply, go to [www.sbfoundation.org/apply](http://www.sbfoundation.org/apply). If you do not already have a log-in for this platform, please proceed to the next steps.
- On the Welcome to the Santa Barbara Foundation Grants Portal page, click on “Register” and complete the form to create an account for the Grants Portal. You will be asked to furnish an email address, create a password and state the name of your organization. We advise using a perpetual email address (such as info@orgname.com or grants@orgname.com) so that the organization's profile is not exclusively linked to one individual's email address.
- **IMPORTANT -** Once an account has been created, please allow 48 hours for the registration to be confirmed and for the organization's profile to be created. (Please note that if you are establishing an account on Friday, the registration confirmation will occur on the following Monday). You will receive an email confirming that your account is active and you will then be able to complete and submit a grant application. **Please take this timing into consideration when reviewing application deadlines as you must allow time for your account to be created prior to submitting an application before the deadline.**
- Once your account has been confirmed, you may login and complete the Community Grant Program application.

- You may save your work and log out at any time.
- To access the partially complete application again, you will log into the account you created and access the Community Grant Program you saved.

## **Important Dates**

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<b>June 1, 2018</b>	<b>Application Deadline</b>
<b>July 2018</b>	<b>Award Notification</b>
<b>August 13, 2019</b>	<b>Final Report Deadline</b>

## **Contact Information**

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For questions about the Early Care and Education grant program, funding eligibility, or technical assistance, please contact Deanna Vallejo, Community Investment Associate, at (805) 963-1873 or [dvallejo@sbfoundation.org](mailto:dvallejo@sbfoundation.org).