

Powering the Comeback Resource Guide

RESOURCES FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDU, SCHOOL DISTRICTS, and HIGHER ED

Grants for School Air Quality Improvement

School districts and charter schools may be eligible to receive funding from the [Building Excellent Schools Today \(BEST\)](#) program for the acquisition, repair, maintenance, or upgrading of portable high-efficiency particulate air fans or filtration systems.

The relevant 2021 law can be found [here](#) and information about how to access grants can be found at the link above.



Concurrent Enrollment Expansion and Innovation Grant Program

Concurrent enrollment is a powerful tool to help students accelerate their learning, earn credit towards a degree or certificate, and avoid student debt. The purpose of the [Concurrent Enrollment Expansion and Innovation Grant Program](#) is to provide grants to partnering local education providers and institutions of higher education to expand and innovate concurrent enrollment opportunities to qualified students. The 2021-22 grant awards up to \$50,000 per approved applicant to be used through June 30, 2022.

Learn more [here](#).

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Rural Jump Start Program

The Rural Jump-Start Program seeks to help economically-distressed communities attract new businesses and jobs. When a community is a designated rural jump-start zone, new businesses can receive tax relief and incentive payments, including credits, exemptions, and refunds from state income tax, state sales and use tax, as well as county and municipal personal property taxes. Counties, municipalities, and higher education institutions work together to apply for this program. [Click here](#) for more information on the program and how to apply.

Community Revitalization Grant Program

This grant program promotes economic recovery and diversification by -supporting projects that combine creative industry workforce housing, commercial spaces, performance spaces, community gathering spaces, child care centers, and retail partnerships, and support creative sector entrepreneurs, artisans, and community non-profit organizations.

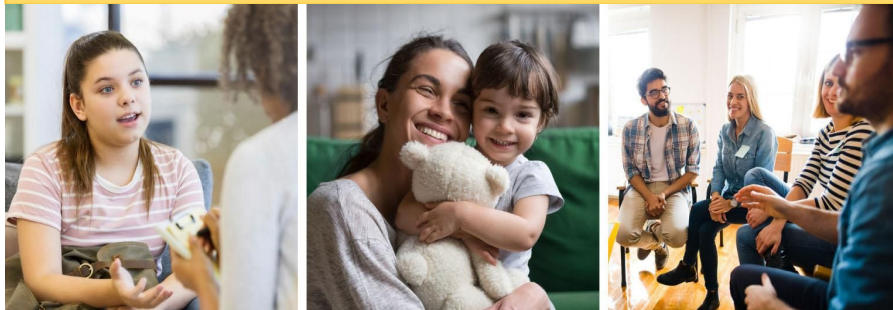
Learn more [here](#). Current application cycle closes October 1, 2021



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COMING SOON! Free Mental Health Services for Youth



The Youth Mental Health Services program will facilitate access to mental health services for youth. An initial mental health screening on a newly created web portal will help mental health providers respond to mental health needs. The program pays for up to three mental health sessions for youth up to 18-years-old, either in-person or by telehealth. More information will be available soon. Read the new law [here](#).

COMING SOON! Charge Ahead Colorado Program

The [Charge Ahead Colorado Program](#) helps fund the installation of electric vehicle charging stations. Funding is directed to private nonprofit or for-profit corporations, state agencies, federal agencies, public universities, and public transit agencies, as well as local governments, landlords of multi-family apartment buildings and homeowner associations.

The next grant cycle opens October 4. More information on future grant opportunities is coming soon, and can be found [here](#).



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COMING SOON! High-Impact Tutoring Grants

A school district, BOCES, or charter school may apply to operate a high-impact tutoring program, prioritizing low-income and underserved students to address learning loss resulting from the pandemic. The program must include the following elements of research-based high-impact tutoring: 1) tutoring is provided in groups of 4 or fewer students; 2) the same tutor tutors the group of students throughout the school year; 3) tutoring is provided a minimum of 3 times per week; 4) tutoring is supplemental and is implemented during the school day; 5) high-quality trained tutors provided the tutoring, including teachers; 6) the program uses high-quality curriculum aligned with academic standards; and 7) tutoring is data-driven, with interim assessments to monitor student progress. The relevant 2021 law can be found [here](#).

COMING SOON! Career Pathways for Clean Energy Jobs



In the 2022-23 school year, community colleges will be awarded funding to design a career pathway for students in the energy sector and create the Strengthening Photovoltaic and Renewable Careers (SPARC) Workforce Development Program. The purpose of the SPARC program is to create capacity for and bolster training, apprenticeship, and education programs in the energy sector career pathway to increase employment in the energy sector, prioritizing in-demand and growing occupations in the energy sector.

The relevant 2021 law can be found [here](#). More information about how to access this funding coming soon.

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COMING SOON! Funding to Increase Early Childhood Educator Salaries

The Child Care Teacher Salary Grant Program helps child care centers and eligible family child care homes to increase the salaries of its educators. Among other requirements, grant recipients must verify that they have had at least a Level 3 rating under the Colorado Shines system during the past year, and that they are actively serving families that are subsidized through the Colorado Child Care Assistance Program (CCCAP). Read the relevant 2021 law [here](#) – more information on how to access the program coming soon.

COMING SOON! Grants for Child Care Centers and Family Child Care Homes



The Community Innovation and Resilience for Care and Learning Equity Program helps address systemic challenges that have worsened as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Grants may be awarded to child care centers and family child care homes that are eligible to receive federal child care and development block grant funds, early childhood councils, and approved community-based entities or agencies. Grants may be used to: make child care more affordable for families; increase access for children up to age three; strengthen business practices; and ensure equitable access for children, including those with special needs and who are dual language learners. Read the relevant 2021 law [here](#) – more information on how to access the program coming soon.

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COMING SOON! Colorado Employment First

[Colorado's SNAP Employment and Training program](#), known as Employment First (EF), provides SNAP recipients with employment, training, and other job search services to find and retain a living wage career. EF services are provided through county human services departments and Third-party partners (education providers, nonprofit and for-profit organizations, community colleges, community-based organizations, social enterprises, etc.).

Third-party partners are a critical piece of Colorado's Employment First program and have expanded employment and training services to over 1,200 individuals through eleven partnerships in the last two years. Third-party partners receive up to 50 percent federal reimbursement for eligible employment and training services. New Third-party partners can learn how to apply [here](#).

COMING SOON! Broadband Deployment Funding

This year, the Legislature passed multiple pieces of legislation to support the development and expansion of broadband infrastructure. The newly-created Colorado Broadband Office will assist multiple state departments in disbursing over \$75 million to help local governments, Indian tribes or nations, school districts, and businesses deploy and expand broadband access, especially to underserved communities, and to subsidize certain households for broadband service, based on household income and local broadband accessibility.

The relevant 2021 laws can be found [here](#) and [here](#) – more information about how to access these programs is coming soon.

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COMING SOON! Funding to Support Coal Transition Communities and Workers

The Legislature allocated \$15 million to fund just transition programs and assist coal workers who are transitioning into other fields of work through education, reskilling, and more. Funding is designated for the implementation of the [Colorado Just Transition Action Plan](#). Eligible applicants include economic development districts, Indian tribes, registered apprenticeship programs, higher education institutions, and nonprofit organizations in addition to counties, municipalities and other political subdivisions of the State. Read the relevant 2021 law [here](#) – more information on how to access this funding coming soon.

COMING SOON! Grants to Help Provide Child Care to Recruit and Retain Teachers

The Early Care Education Recruitment and Retention Grant and Scholarship Program awards grants to licensed early child care programs and nonprofit entities or institutions of higher education that administer scholarship programs to improve teacher recruitment and retention. Grants may be used to cover: tuition, fees, and materials for early childhood courses that lead to a degree or credential; costs for an educator to earn a coaching or mentorship certification; paid release time or substitute costs for an educator to pursue training; costs for providers, institutions, and early childhood councils to create a grow-your-own program; financial incentives for current or potential educators to pursue training; and payments for apprenticeships for work-based learning opportunities. Read the relevant 2021 law [here](#).