





## Application Guide for Child Care Expansion Grants



Learn about the grant opportunity and find details on eligibility and allowable expenses as well as a complete list of FAQs at <a href="mailto:brighterfuturesindiana.org/cceg">brighterfuturesindiana.org/cceg</a>



Applications must be submitted by Friday, May 12 at 11:59 p.m. EDT

#### **About this Guide**

This guide is divided into two sections by application track. Understand your track and proceed to the corresponding section.



## **Existing Program Expansion Track**

Up to \$200,000 per site to update existing facilities and operations to create or reposition additional child care seats.

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## **New Program Creation Track**

Up to \$750,000 per site to establish a new child care program in an underserved area. Applicants must be the intended program operator of the site.

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# Application Guide for Existing Program Expansion Track

Up to \$200,000 per site to update existing facilities and operations to create or reposition additional child care seats.

### What does it mean to reposition seat capacity, and why might a provider consider it?

Repositioning existing seat capacity occurs when a provider shifts seats from one age group to another to better serve the needs of families. For example, a provider might have noticed a decline in their preschool/pre-K enrollment, while simultaneously seeing a growing demand or waitlist for families for infant and toddler care. Thus, they might flip a classroom to serve a younger age group.

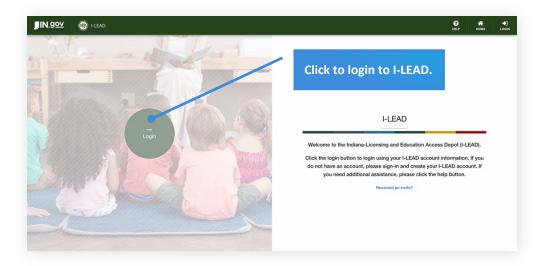
Adding seats, on the other hand, occurs when a provider increases their program's total number of seats to serve additional children. For example, a provider might increase the number of seats in a preschool classroom, amounting to an overall gain in the number of seats across the program.





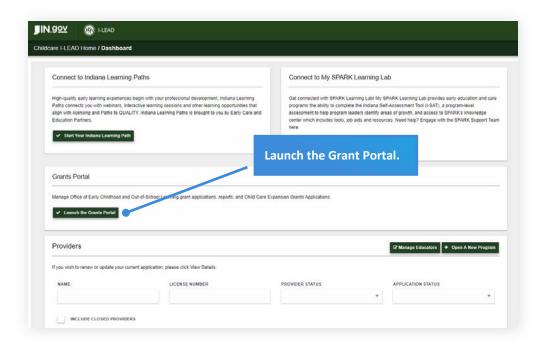
#### **Step 1: Login to I-LEAD.**

To apply, providers should login to I-LEAD at ilead.in.gov to access the grant application. Remember that you must be designated as a Program Administrator for your program site to access and complete the grant application.



#### **Step 2: Access the Grant Portal.**

Once logged into I-LEAD, Program Administrators will see the Grant Portal box on their homepage with a button that says, "Launch the Grant Portal." Click the button to access the Grant Portal.



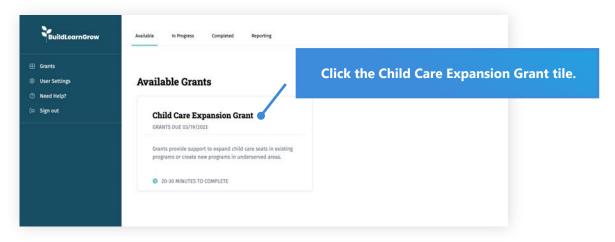
#### **How do I become a Program Administrator for my site?**

You will need an existing Program Administrator to invite you to become an admin. Once you accept the emailed invitation, you will be able to manage the site's account. Existing admins can add you by logging into their I-LEAD account, selecting the provider site, clicking "Invite Admin" and adding your information. If you require further assistance, contact SPARK Learning Lab at (800) 299-1627 or email help@indianaspark.com.



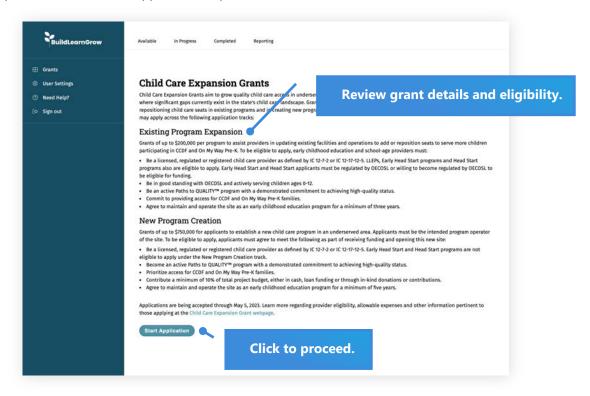
#### **Step 3: Select the Child Care Expansion Grant**

Once in the Grant Portal, click on the Child Care Expansion Grant tile to proceed.



#### **Step 4: Review grant eligibility and click Start Application.**

Review the grant overview and eligibility requirements for the Existing Program Expansion application track. If you meet all eligibility requirements, click Start Application to proceed.





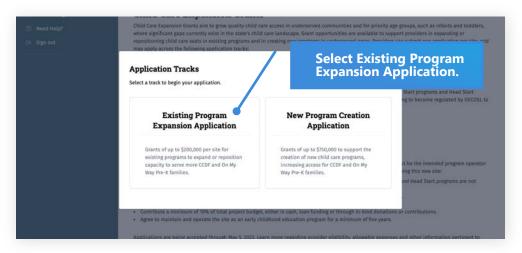
#### Have questions about your program's eligibility?

For questions about grant eligibility and if your program meets all requirements, contact SPARK Learning Lab at (800) 299-1627 or email help@indianaspark.com.



#### **Step 5: Select your application track.**

Click the Existing Program Expansion Application tile.



#### **Step 6: Select your program.**

Select the existing site seeking funds through the grant application.





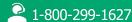
#### I don't see one of my sites listed. Why and what should I do?

You will only see sites listed for which you are a Program Administrator in I-LEAD. To become an admin for a site, an existing Program Administrator needs to invite you. Once you accept the emailed invitation, you will be able to manage the site's account. Existing admins can add you by logging into their I-LEAD account, selecting the provider site, clicking "Invite Admin" and adding your information. If you require further assistance, contact SPARK Learning Lab at (800) 299-1627 or email help@indianaspark.com.

For additional questions and support, contact SPARK Learning Lab:



help@indianaspark.com

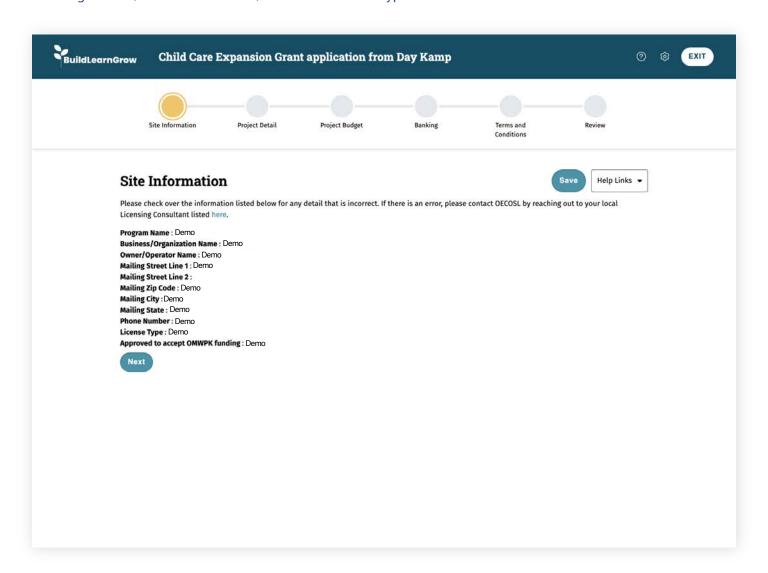




#### **A** Existing Program Expansion Track

#### Step 7: Review and confirm general information about your program.

The Program Information page will prompt you to review and confirm general information about your program, including address, contact information, director and license type.





#### What do I do if the pre-filled information for my program is incorrect?

If you encounter incorrect pre-filled information in the grant application, please contact your licensing consultant to request an update. Providers should allow up to 48 hours for information updates in the Grant Portal and should wait to submit their application until all information appears correctly.

For additional questions and support, contact SPARK Learning Lab:



**1-800-299-1627** 

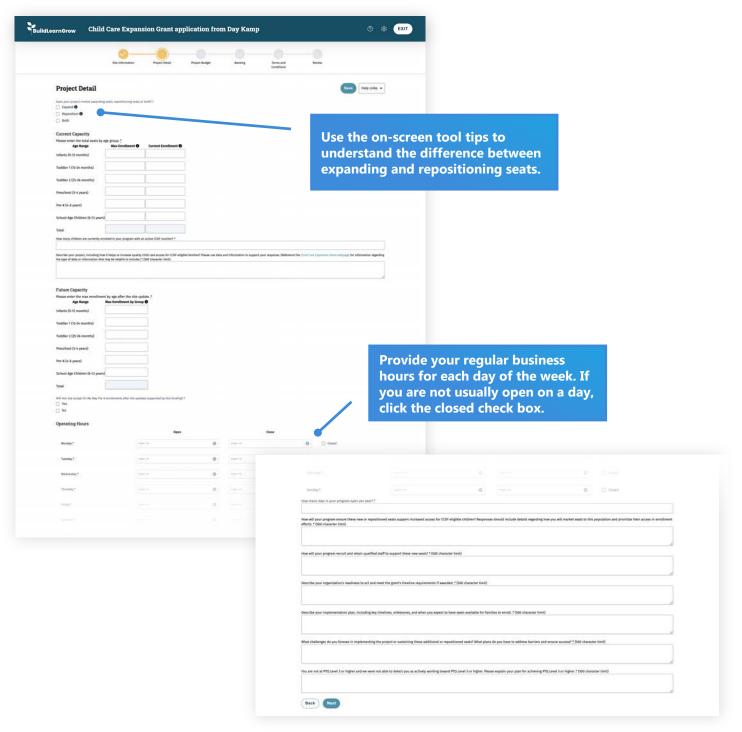






#### **Step 8: Complete the Project Details page.**

Provide information regarding your project by answering the below questions. Applicants are encouraged to be clear and concise in their responses.





#### The application asks that I use data to support my project description. Where can I find data sources?

The Brighter Futures Indiana Data Center offers data related to population, economics, and supply and demand, and can be used as a resource for providers as they apply for the grant. Additionally, the Indiana Youth Institute's Kids Count Data Book provides a snapshot of child well-being statewide.





#### Step 9: Provide your project budget.

The maximum amount allowed to be requested in this track is \$200,000. Complete the table by category to show the total cost of implementing your project, the funds you are requesting through this grant opportunity and any funding you have secured from other sources. While there is no requirement for Existing Program Expansion applicants to provide funding from other sources they should be identified in the application if applicable.

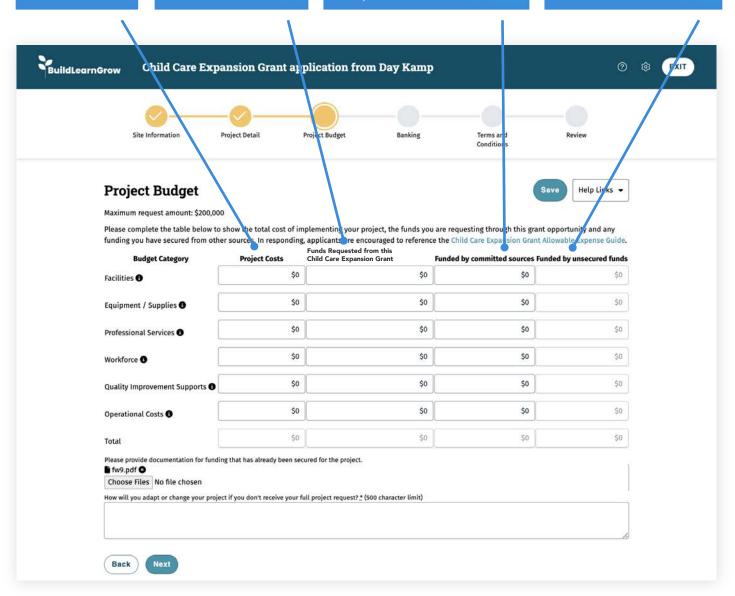
**Enter the total** cost of the project per budget category.

**Enter the funds you** are requesting for this project through this grant opportunity.

**Enter the funds committed** by other sources.

\*Examples of other sources include another grant, private donations, bank loans, cash on hand, etc.

This column autocalculates to show any unsecured funds for the project beyond what you have secured or requested through this grant opportunity.





#### Can I have an example of of how to complete this budget?

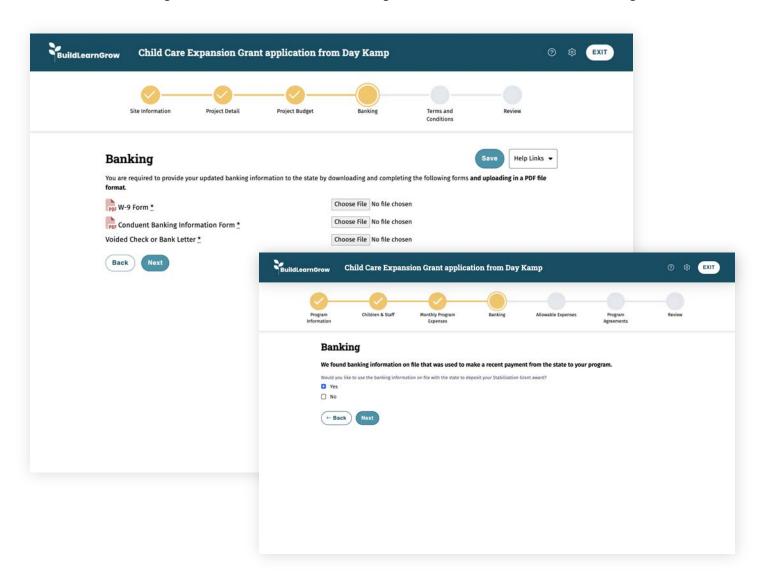
Yes. A provider is planning to add a room to expand their program. The total project cost will be \$100,000 (column 1). The provider is requesting \$50,000 (column 2) to be funded with this grant and has already secured \$30,000 (column 3) from a private donor. The provider is still working to secure the remaining \$20,000 (column 4) from other sources.





#### Step 10: Provide your banking information.

You will next confirm or enter banking information for your grant payment. Your current banking information on file will be pre-populated for review and approval. If your information is not pre-populated, you must download, complete and return W-9 and banking information forms. Accurate banking information must be on file to receive a grant award.



I need to update my banking information with the state. What should I do? To update your banking information, complete this banking form, a W-9 and void a check. Send the banking form, W-9 and voided check to OECOSLprovideringuiry@fssa.IN.gov for processing. Please do not send the banking form back to Conduent.

For additional questions and support, contact SPARK Learning Lab:



help@indianaspark.com

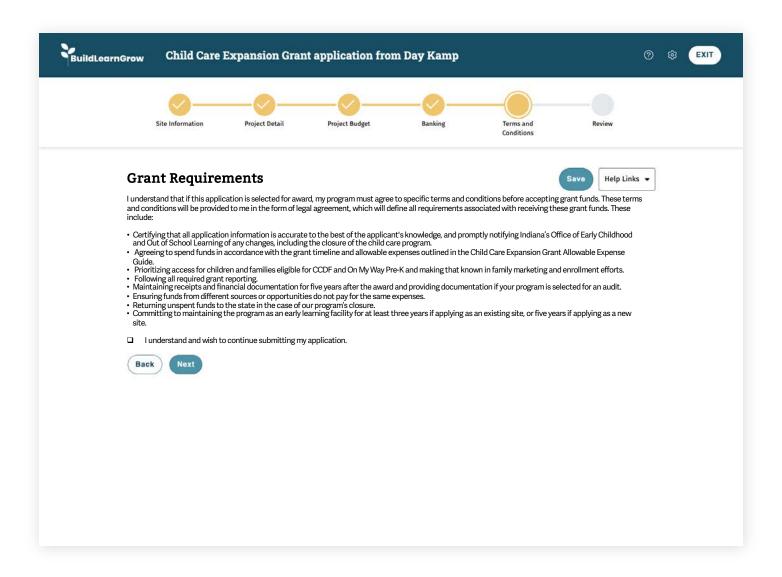






#### Step 11: Understand the Terms and Conditions required to accept grant funds.

You must confirm your understanding of Terms and Conditions associated with the acceptance of grants funds, and that if your grant application is selected for award, you will be required to sign a grant agreement before receiving funds.



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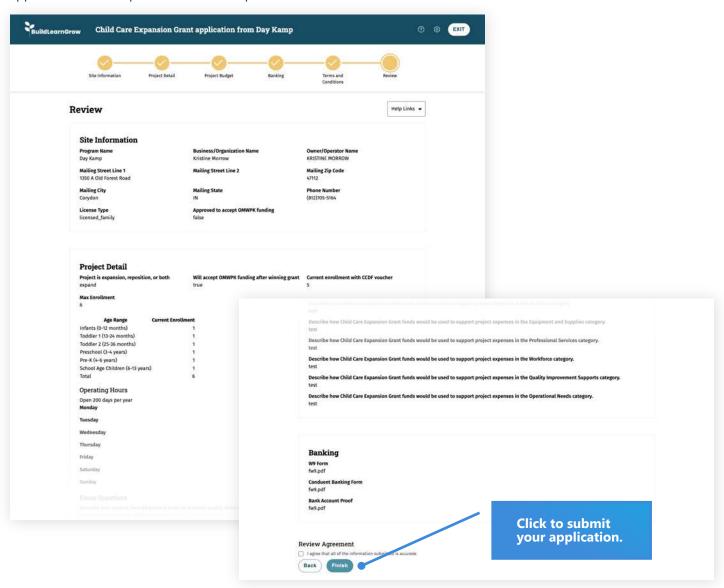






#### Step 12: Review all application information before submitting.

You're almost done! Please take a moment to review your application information one last time to ensure it accurately reflects your program. If the information is correct, click the "Finish" button to submit your application. After submission, applications are not permitted to be reopened or altered.



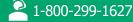


Applications may be denied due to falsification of application information. Review your application carefully to make sure the information you provided accurately represents your program. Applications will not be reopened except under special circumstances.

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## Application Guide for New Program Creation Track

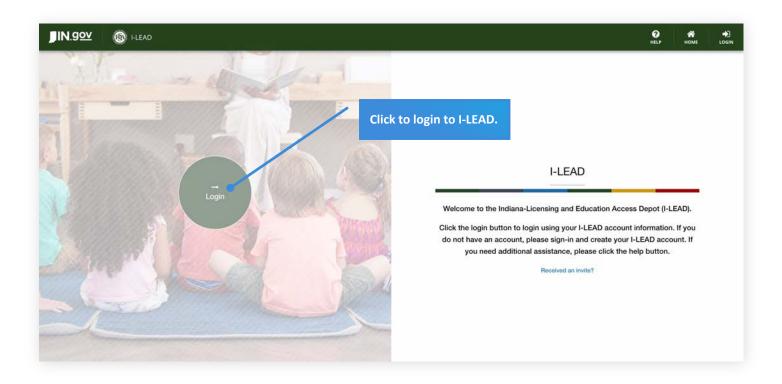
Up to \$750,000 per site to establish a new child care program in an underserved area. Applicants must be the intended program operator of the site.



#### Mew Program Creation Track

#### **Step 1: Login to I-LEAD.**

To apply, providers should login to I-LEAD at ilead.in.gov to access the grant application. Remember that you must be designated as a Program Administrator for your program site to access and complete the grant application.



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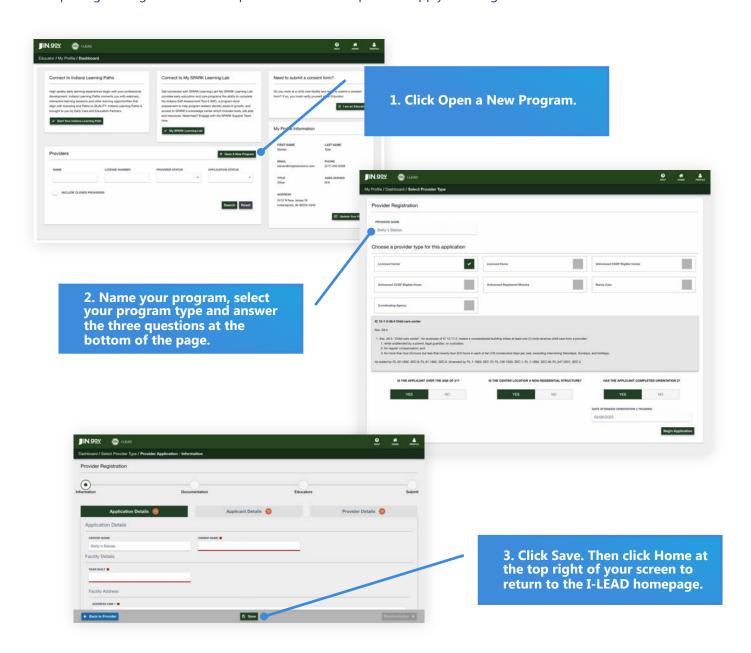






#### **Step 2: Establish your new program in I-LEAD.**

Before applying for a new program, you must first request to start a new program in the I-LEAD system. Scroll down to the Providers section on your homepage, click the "Open a New Program" button, and follow the on-screen instructions. After you click the "Begin Application" button, you can click Save and return to the I-LEAD home screen. Completing the registration to this point is all that is required to apply for the grant.



For additional questions and support, contact SPARK Learning Lab:





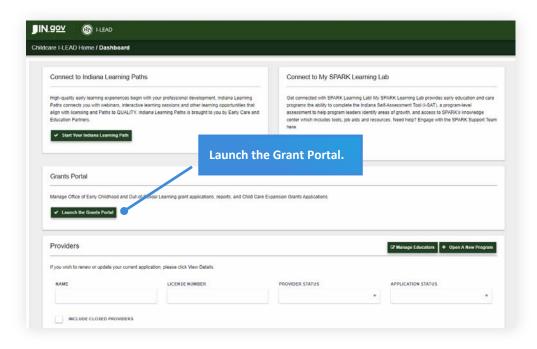
Live chat on indianaspark.com or in My SPARK Learning Lab



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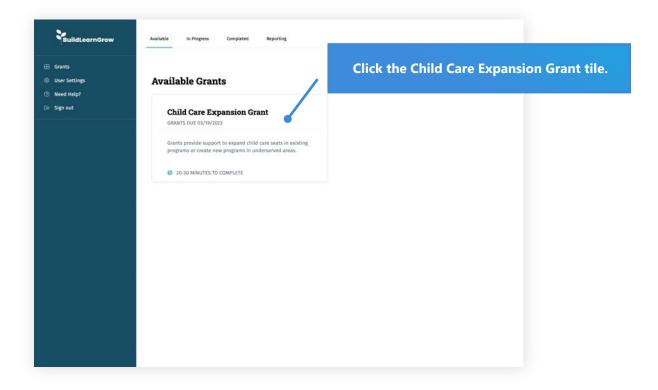
#### **Step 3: Access the Grant Portal.**

After you have created your new program site in I-LEAD, the Grant Portal box will appear on your homepage with a button that says, "Launch the Grant Portal." Click the button to access the Grant Portal.



#### **Step 4: Select the Child Care Expansion Grant.**

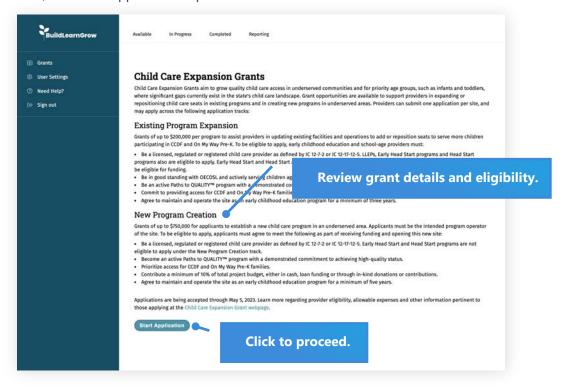
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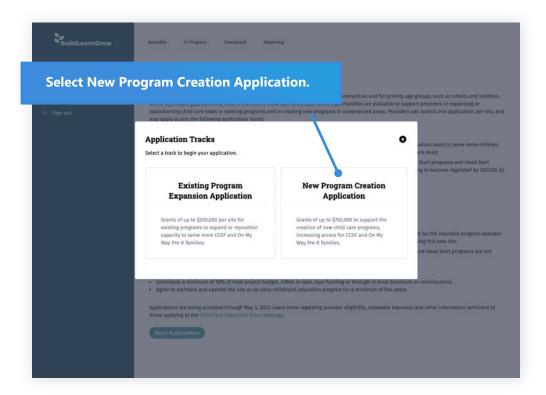
#### **Step 5: Review grant eligibility and click Start Application.**

Review the grant overview and eligibility requirements for the New Program Creation application track. If you meet all eligibility requirements, click Start Application to proceed.



#### **Step 6: Select your track.**

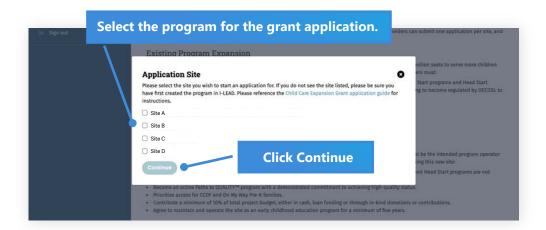
Click the New Program Creation Application tile.





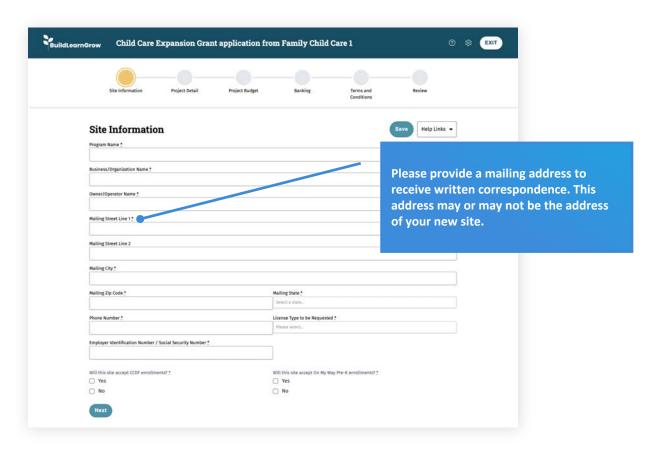
#### **Step 7: Select your program.**

Select the new program seeking funds through the grant application. If you have not created your new site in I-LEAD before starting the application, it will not appear in this list.



#### **Step 7: Provide general information about your program.**

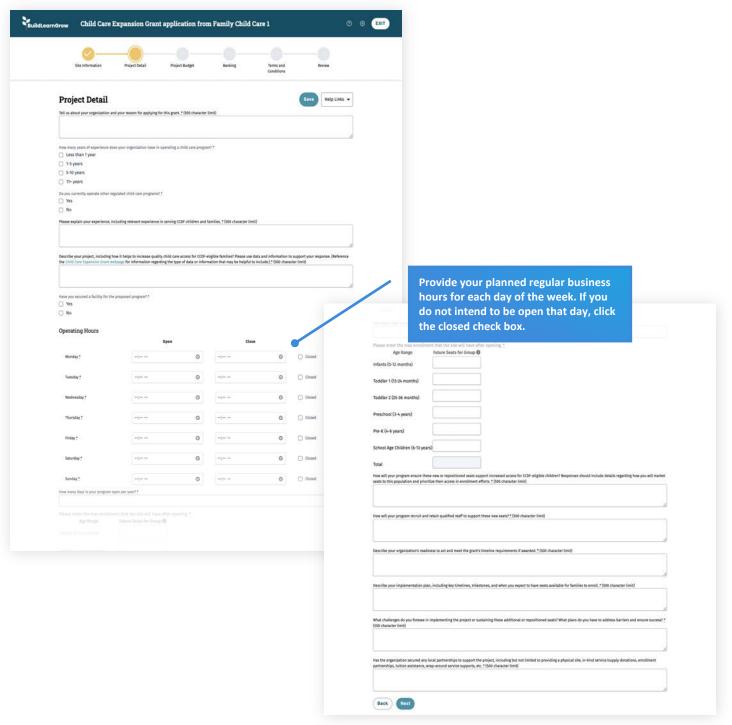
On the Site Information page, provide general information about your program, including name, mailing address, contact information, license type, etc.





#### **Step 8: Complete the Project Details page.**

Provide information regarding your project by answering the below questions. Applicants are encouraged to be clear and concise in their responses.



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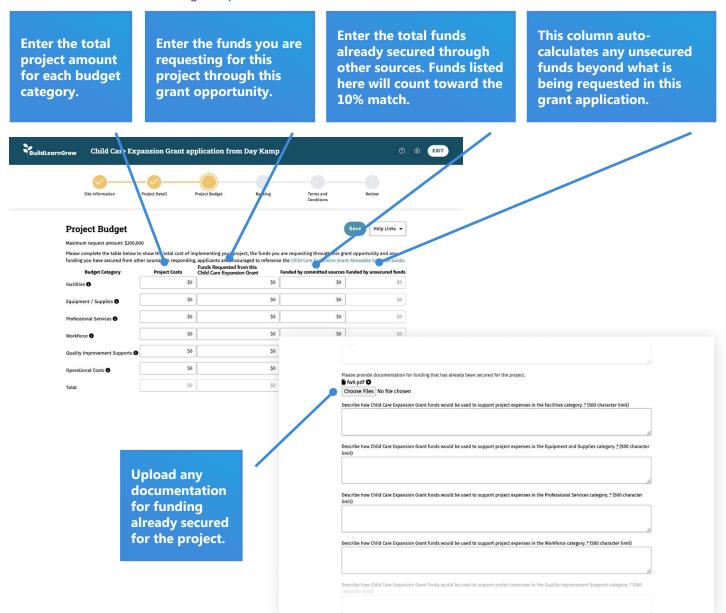
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#### Step 9: Provide your project budget.

The maximum amount allowed to be requested in this track is \$750,000. Complete the table by category to show the total cost of implementing your project, the funds you are requesting through this grant opportunity and any funding you have secured from other sources. Remember that applicants requesting funds to create a new program site are required to secure funding from other committed sources for at least 10% of the total project cost. Other funding sources could include another grant, private donations, bank loans, cash on hand, etc.



#### Can I have an example of of how to complete this budget?

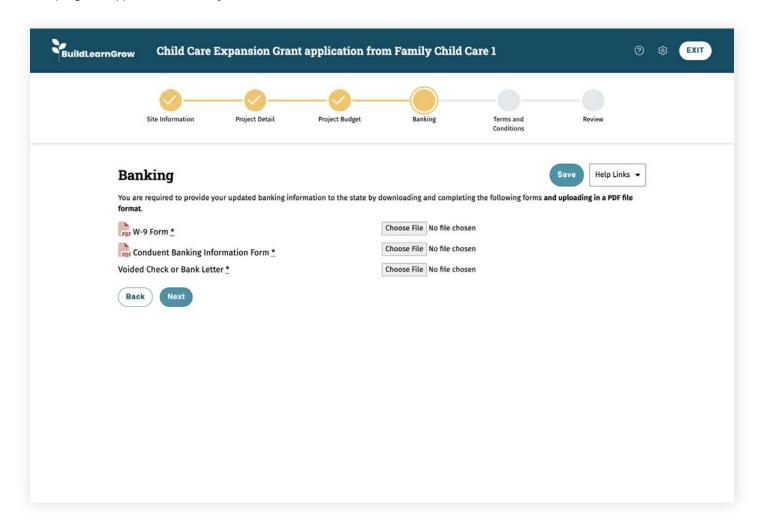
Yes. A provider is planning to open a new site. The total project cost will be \$1,000,000 (column 1). The provider is requesting \$500,000 (column 2) to be funded with this grant and has already secured \$300,000 (column 3) from a private donor. The provider is still working to secure the remaining \$200,000 (column 4) from other sources.



#### Step 10: Provide your banking information.

You will next enter banking information for your grant payment. To meet this requirement, you must download, complete and upload W-9 and banking information forms and have accurate banking information on file to receive your grant award.

\*If you already have banking information on file for an existing program, you must upload banking information for the new program application even if you choose to use the same bank account for both sites.



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help@indianaspark.com

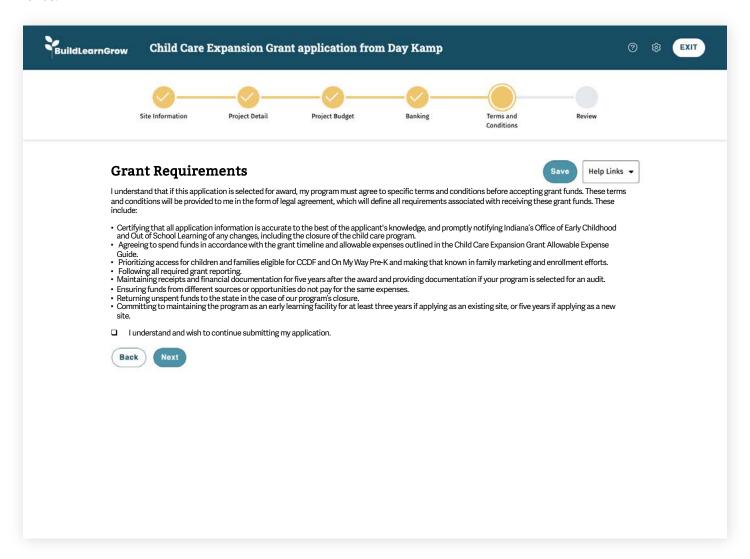






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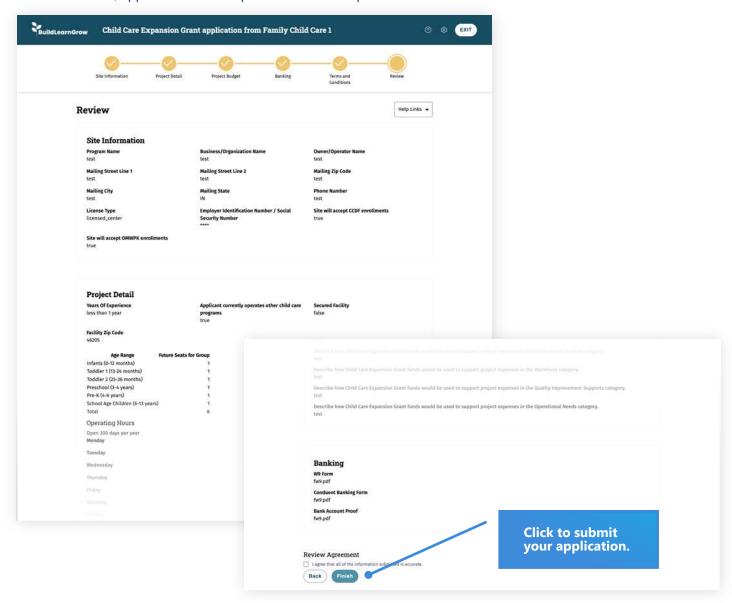
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