

DCYF Child Care Complex Needs Fund Scoring Rubric

The purpose of the Scoring Rubric is to help providers and those scoring the grants understand the level of information that DCYF expects to see in the grant application. Applicant responses will be scored based on the rubric below. Each spend category has three scored questions (A, B, C). Each are worth up to five points. Scores for each spend category will be totaled (up to 15 points).

Providers who request funds in multiple categories will have their category totals averaged and will receive one score. For example, if a provider applies for funds in adding staff members, facility improvement, and therapeutic services and scores 9, 15, and 3, the provider's total average score will be 9. Providers applying for funding in multiple areas will not be prioritized over providers applying for funding in one area.

Providers in extreme access child care deserts* will receive 5 bonus points to their total score. Providers serving or located in marginalized, low-income communities* will receive 5 bonus points to their total score.

*These definitions were developed by DCYF's Office of Innovation, Alignment, and Accountability (OIAA) in Fall 2021 for the Child Care Stabilization Grant. More information can be found here: <https://www.dcyf.wa.gov/practice/oiaa/reports/early-learning-dashboards/child-care-stabilization>

Providers must have an average score of 9 or higher (before bonus points) for their application to move forward to the prioritization phase.

This rubric serves as a tool to help sort through grant applications but is only one factor in determining how grant funds will be distributed. DCYF will gather data after all applications have been received and use that data to determine how to best fund applications.

DCYF Child Care Complex Needs Fund Scoring Rubric

Points	0 Points	1 Point	3 Points	5 Points	Score
Answers in These Columns:	Have incomplete or inaccurate information with no explanation	Answer the question but do not provide any explanation	Answer the question, include some explanation and are accurate	Go above and beyond, and include excellent explanations and accuracy	
Adding Staff Members or Increasing Staff Hours	A. Answer is incomplete, or shows that staffing will not provide targeted care or support to children with complex needs.	A. Answer states that staffing will provide targeted care or support to children with complex needs, but with no further explanation.	A. Answer provides at least one clear example of how the staffing will target care or support children with complex needs.	A. Answer provides one or more clear example of how the staffing will target care or support children with complex needs. Answer includes one or more references to prior research or planning.	A. /5
	B. Answer does not show that quality of care will be improved.	B. Answer states that quality of care will be improved, but does not offer examples of how the requested staffing will achieve this.	B. Answer provides at least one clear example of how the staffing will improve quality of care.	B. Answer provides one or more clear example of how the staffing will improve quality of care. Answer includes one or more references to prior research or planning on how proposed staffing can improve quality of care.	B. /5
	C. Costs are not listed, or clearly not for a staffing need.	C. Estimated staffing costs are listed, but do not add up to total application fund request.	C. Estimated costs are clearly listed and add up to total application fund request. Some explanation included.	C. Estimated costs are justified by showing relevant and/or linked sources, hourly rate(s), professional estimates or other verifiable sources.	C. /5
					Total: /15



Therapeutic Services	A. Answer is incomplete, or shows that funds will not provide targeted care or support to children with complex needs.	A. Answer indicates that funds will provide targeted care or support to children with complex needs, but with no further explanation.	A. Answer provides at least one clear example of how the funds will target care/support to children with complex needs.	A. Answer provides one or more clear example of how the funds will target care/support to children with complex needs. Answer includes references to prior research or planning.	A. /5
	B. Answer does not show that quality of care will be improved.	B. Answer indicates that quality of care will be improved, but does not offer examples of how the funds will achieve this.	B. Answer provides at least one clear example of how the funding will improve quality of care.	B. Answer provides one or more clear example of how the funds will improve quality of care. Answer includes references to research on how proposed use of funds can improve quality of care.	B. /5
	C. Estimated costs are not listed, or clearly not for a therapeutic service.	C. Estimated costs are listed, but the total amount requested is not clear.	C. Estimated costs are clearly listed and add up to total application fund request. Some explanation included.	C. Answer lists the specific type of therapeutic service requested. Estimated costs are justified by showing relevant and/or linked sources, hourly rate(s), professional estimates or other verifiable sources.	C. /5 Total: /15

Facility Improvements	A. Answer is incomplete, or work described is not intended to create a more accessible child care environment.	A. Answer names a facility improvement, but no description or explanation of work is listed.	A. Answer describes a facility improvement, and explains the work that needs to be done.	A. Answer indicates a well thought-out, researched plan of work to complete in order to improve the facility.	A. /5
	B. Answer does not describe compliance with ADA accessibility or behavioral needs.	B. Answer states that the work will comply with ADA accessibility, but does not explain how.	B. Answer provides at least one clear example of how the work will comply with ADA accessibility or behavioral needs.	B. Answer provides one or more clear example of how the work will comply with ADA accessibility or behavioral needs. Answer includes references to research or specific ADA requirements.	B. /5
	C. Estimated costs are not listed, or clearly not for facility improvements.	C. Estimated costs are listed, but the total amount requested is not clear.	C. Estimated costs are clearly listed and add up to total application fund request. Some explanation included.	C. Estimated costs are justified by showing relevant and/or linked sources, hourly rate(s), professional estimates or other verifiable sources.	C. /5 Total: /15

Supportive and Adaptive Materials and Equipment	A. Box is marked “no”.	N/A	N/A	A. Box is marked “yes.”	A. /5
	B. Answer does not list the items that will create a more supportive setting.	B. Answer lists the items that will create a more supportive setting, but does not explain how.	B. Answer provides at least one clear example of how the items will create a more supportive setting.	B. Answer justifies how the items will create a more supportive setting using great explanations. Answer includes references to prior research or planning.	B. /5
	C. Estimated costs are not listed, or clearly not for supportive materials and equipment.	C. Estimated costs are listed, but the total amount requested is not clear.	C. Estimated costs are clearly listed and add up to total application fund request. Some explanation included.	C. Estimated costs are justified by showing relevant and/or linked sources, hourly rate(s), professional estimates or other verifiable sources.	C. /5 Total: /15
Average Score					/15
Bonus Points				Provider located in an Extreme Access Child Care Desert*	/5
				Provider serving or located in a marginalized, low income community*	/5
Total Score					Total: