



**COLORADO**  
Office of Early Childhood  
Department of Human Services



## Interested in creating and offering employer-based child care?

**Gain knowledge, plan your project, and access up to \$800,000 in funding!**

The Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) has partnered with Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (EPIC) to create a 5-month Design Lab which will help employers, or community partnerships that include employers, prepare and plan for the creation of an on-site or near-site childcare program. Employers including for-profit, non-profit, and government entities are all welcome to participate. 2021 legislation ([Senate Bill 236](#)) created an \$8.8 Million Employer-Based Child Care Facility Grant Program to provide support for these projects in Colorado.

### THE DETAILS:

As a result of the passage of SB21-236, the Office of Early Childhood is now accepting initial interest applications for Employer-Based Child Care projects. It will be necessary to provide more information as part of your application for funds, and you will receive a direct email in **February 2022** to submit additional information for your application.

Organizations can apply for up to \$800,000 in funds if they can meet the match requirements. For-profit companies will have to put forth a minimum match of 50% of the project total. Non-profit organizations and government entities will have to put forth a match of at least 25%.

Funding will be available through June 30, 2022 or until funds are exhausted. The first round of applications was completed in December 2021. The second round of applications will occur in winter 2022.

### YOUR COMMITMENT:

- Bring a clear vision and hypothesis on your approach to launching the child care program
- Identify a point person with access to personnel data and employer decision-makers who can attend all sessions and commit at least 5 hrs per week to driving the process internally
- Engage in all Design Lab sessions and share constructively with other cohort members
- There is no financial contribution required to participate, however; the employer-based child care facility grant program will require a financial match (25% non-profit/government, 50% for-profit)

### HOW TO APPLY:

- Complete Google form application [here](#) by **February 22 at 5pm**
- Priority consideration will be offered to organizations that meet the criteria defined in C.R.S. § 26-6-804 (Senate Bill 21-236, click [here](#) to read)

The Employer-Based Child Care Design Lab will be kicking off soon. Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (EPIC) is leading this project. If you have any questions contact Nicole Riehl ([nicole@coloradoepic.org](mailto:nicole@coloradoepic.org)) or Angela Ben-Zekry ([angela.ben-zekry@state.co.us](mailto:angela.ben-zekry@state.co.us)). Businesses that are interested in the Employer-Based Child Care Grants can fill out this initial [interest application form](#) and then they will receive the full application soon.