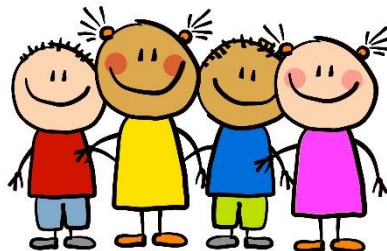


# Department of Children and Youth Affairs

## CHILDMINDING RE-OPENING GRANT

### Application Guidelines

JUNE 2020



Closing date for applications is the 28<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

## What is a Childminding Re-Opening Grant?

The purpose of the Childminding Re-opening Grant is to support childminders who had to close as a direct result of the government restrictions imposed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

An individual once-off Childminding grant of €500 per Childminder will be made available to assist with the additional costs of re-opening.

**Time Frame – Payments will commence on 26 June 2020. The application process will open on 19 June 2020 and close on 28 August 2020.** Applicants will be required to complete their modifications/adaptations or have purchased their equipment **between 13 March 2020 and 16 October 2020.**

## Who is eligible to apply for funding?

This grant is available exclusively to Childminders who:

- Were providing a childminding service carried out in the Childminder's home on 12 March 2020;
- Have completed the Children's First e-learning programme;
- Are tax compliant as of 12 March 2020;
- Have appropriate insurance in place for their childminding business as of 12 March 2020;
- Commit to operate for a minimum of one year following receipt of the grant;
- Were not in contract to provide DCYA ELC and SAC programmes on 12 March 2020

## What can the grant be used for?

Part-funding is acceptable under this grant scheme. If a childminder chooses to spend some of the grant funding on a more expensive piece of equipment or refurbishment and fund the balance through their own resources, this is allowed. The following are categories that this grant can be used to support necessary COVID-19 measures within a Childminding setting. Examples are provided under each category but these are for illustrative purposes only, they are not a comprehensive or prescriptive list of allowable purchases:

### Arrival spaces

- Physically demarcated areas.
- Signage.

### Transitional spaces

- Canopies.

### Outdoor space

- Providing shelter – potential natural shelter, temporary or permanent coverings.
- Provision of shade – sails/tents/pergolas/dens/planting-willow.
- External Handwashing.
- Provision of storage for suitable clothing for playing outside in all weathers.
- Additional outdoor equipment (extra sand pit etc.).

- Shed.

#### **Health and hygiene**

- Sanitiser stations.
- Sinks.
- Signage.
- Pedal bins.
- Paper towel dispensers.

#### **Indoor space:**

- Indoor furniture e.g. Chairs and tables. Furniture must be made of materials that can be easily sanitised.
- Additional play equipment and toys. All toys purchased should be capable of being washed and sanitised.
- Additional kitchen equipment and cutlery.
- Containers and storage (outdoors and indoors) for toys.

#### **Equipment**

- Sterilisation equipment.
- Additional cleaning equipment.
- Waste Disposal areas and equipment.
- Additional storage for equipment, food and belongings.
- Fire Safety Equipment.

#### **Sleep/rest**

- Sleeping and rest facilities (indoor and outdoor) e.g. additional cots, cot/bed linen, blankets, sleep mats, ventilation.
- Outdoors – rest mats/hammocks.

#### **Please Note:**

- The applicant must confirm that the modification or adaptation costs included in this application (if applicable) are necessary to ensure compliance with the **COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for settings providing childcare during the COVID-19 Pandemic**
- The applicant must confirm that **they intend to purchase** the items or services in accordance with the guidelines for this grant and can demonstrate compliance **COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control Guidance for settings providing childcare during the COVID-19 Pandemic**, set out by the DCYA.
- Ensure that any minor adaptations are carried out by a registered contractor.

<b>What is not acceptable equipment?</b>
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Below is an indicative list.

- Cleaning supplies and consumables e.g. sanitiser, disinfectant etc.
- Soft toys (indoor and outdoor).
- Personal Protection Equipment.
- Televisions.
- ICT equipment including tablets, PCs, Software, printers.
- General maintenance and repairs where there are no modifications.
- General painting and decorating where there are no modifications.

**Please note:**

- When purchasing items in another currency you are required to retain a proof of conversion rate.
- Ensure that the retained receipts of purchases are valid between 13 March 2020 and 16 October 2020.

**Grant Process**

- Contact your local City and County Childcare Committee for information and support on completing the application form.
- Submit a completed application form and attach the required documentation (copy of insurance, copy of Children First e-learning certificate) to the Childminding Development Officer in your area.
- **All applicants must be Tax Compliant** and, using the applicants TRN, DCYA will conduct a compliance check with Revenue prior to any payments in relation to this grant. The Childminding Development Officer will provide an email confirmation of eligibility for the grant.
- Childminding Development Officers will liaise with your local City/County Childcare Committee.
- Childminding Development Officers will appraise application forms to ensure the childminder is eligible for the grant.
- Successful applicants will receive a once-off payment of €500 electronically into the bank account they provide details for.
- Grantees are required to retain all receipts for purpose of verification.
- Scanned signed application forms or, in the case where there is no access to scanning facilities, a photograph of the applicant's signature, will be required to accompany the application form.
- Applications can only be accepted via email to your Childminding Development Officer.

**Applications will not be processed without relevant support documentation**

**Grant Payments**

Due to the exceptional circumstances and the rationale for this programme, all the applications will receive a once off payment of 100% of the grant awarded in one payment of €500.

**Application forms available from:**

- Your local City and County Childcare Committee.
- First 5 website: <https://first5.gov.ie/practitioners/reopening>
- Voluntary Childcare Organisations

Completed Applications should be returned to the Childminding Development Officer (CMDO) in your area **by email**. See email addresses below.

<b>CMDO</b>	<b>Area</b>	<b>Email</b>
Sarah McKenna	Fingal, Dublin City, South Dublin, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown, Wicklow	<a href="mailto:sarah@fingalcountychildcare.ie">sarah@fingalcountychildcare.ie</a>
Michelle Grant	Westmeath, Meath, Louth, Longford, Offaly, Kildare	<a href="mailto:childminding@westmeathchildcare.ie">childminding@westmeathchildcare.ie</a>
Rachael Ryan	Kilkenny, Tipperary, Waterford, Wexford, Laois, Carlow	<a href="mailto:rachael@kkccc.ie">rachael@kkccc.ie</a>
Heather M <sup>c</sup> Coll	Galway, Mayo, Roscommon, Clare	<a href="mailto:childminding@galwaychildcare.com">childminding@galwaychildcare.com</a>
Denise Quinlan	Cork County, Cork City, Kerry, Limerick	<a href="mailto:dquinlan@corkchildcare.ie">dquinlan@corkchildcare.ie</a>
Orla McKeon	Cavan, Monaghan, Sligo, Leitrim, Donegal	<a href="mailto:omckeon@cavanccc.ie">omckeon@cavanccc.ie</a>