Per a previous communication in February 2021, the federal COVID-19 Economic Relief Bill was signed into law on December 27, 2020, providing $10 billion for Child Care and Development Fund block grants to provide immediate assistance to child care providers. Since that time, North Carolina has been working diligently to develop a plan for spending the $335,912,393 it received.

Based on feedback from providers and early childhood stakeholders, the North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE) will be providing two rounds of operational grants to **all private, licensed (or operating under a notice of compliance) child care centers and homes that are open to serve children and families**. Child care providers eligible for operational grants can expect to see the money deposited into their accounts during the weeks of March 15, 2021, and April 12, 2021. As a reminder, please allow 5-7 business days for operational grant funds to post to bank accounts.

Operational grant totals will be determined based on facilities' pre-pandemic enrollment, current star rating, and the number of infants and toddlers served. DCDEE has posted the formula for the grants for the months of March and April. If you have questions regarding the specific amount of the operational grant awarded to your facility, call or email using the contact information below. Please have the **facility name** and **license number** available.

· dcdee.communications@dhhs.nc.gov

· Alamance through Forsyth Counties, contact Arlette Lambert at 919.703.5262

· Franklin through Orange Counties, contact Laura Hewitt at 919.703.7916

· Pamlico through Yancey Counties, contact Theresa Rodersheimer at 919.703.6947

Thank you for all you are doing to keep North Carolina's children nurtured and learning, families working, and North Carolina strong.

North Carolina Division of Child Development and Early Education