Maryland State Department of Education Letterhead

Maryland State Department of Education - Equity and Excellence logo with Mohammed Choudhury, State Superintendent of Schools

**Frequently Asked Questions**

**FY 23 Judy Center Grant**

as authorized by the

**House Bill 1300 Blueprint for Maryland’s Future,** [**Education Article §5-230**](https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Laws/StatuteText?article=ged&section=5-230&enactments=false)

1. **Question**: Who is eligible to apply for this grant?

**Answer**: Local Education Agencies seeking to open a new Judy Center site in a publicly funded school. Private childcares and other types of private organizations are not eligible to apply.

1. **Question**: Should existing Judy Center sites (those who have received FY22 funding) complete this grant application?

**Answer**: No, existing Judy Center sites will receive information regarding FY23 requirements. This grant application is only for new Judy Center sites.

1. **Question**: Where can I get more information or have my questions answered?

**Answer**: Applicants should review the Grant Information Guide (GIG) located on the main grant page. Two (2) Technical Assistance Meetings will be held on Thursday, March 31st from 1-2:30pm and on Wednesday, April 6th from 10-11:30am. The recording of each TA meeting will be available on the main grant page. Additionally, questions can be sent to Amanda Holliday-Bembridge at [Amanda.holliday@maryland.gov](mailto:Amanda.holliday@maryland.gov).

1. **Question**: Where should the completed application be sent?

**Answer**: Completed applications must be sent to [judycentergrants.msde@maryland.gov](mailto:judycentergrants.msde@maryland.gov).

1. **Question**: How do we receive funding on a multi-year grant?

**Answer**: The FY23 grant award is for a three (3) year grant covering July 1, 2022-June 30, 2025. The initial grant application requires a budget narrative for each of the three (3) years. At the end of each fiscal year, the awardee will need to submit a revised budget narrative as part of the next year’s documentation requirements. Continuous funding is not guaranteed; funding is awarded yearly pending completion of prior year’s grant requirements.

1. **Question**: Can new partners be added to the MOU once the fiscal year has started?

**Answer**: Yes, forming new partnerships is always encouraged. While a specific list of partners with signed MOUs are required for initial grant funding, additional partners can be added through the grant cycle.

1. **Question**: Where will the information session’s recording be shared?

**Answer**: The recording will be posted to the main Judy Center grant website page along with the application, GIG, scoring rubric, and FAQ document.

1. **Question**: Can any required signatures be electronically completed for this application?

**Answer**: Yes, electronic signatures are allowed. Please remember to have the cover sheet signed in blue ink color.

1. **Question**: Do childcare partners have to be in the school’s catchment area or serving children from the catchment area.

**Answer**: The childcare provider must serve children who live in the school’s catchment area, even if the childcare provider is located outside of the catchment area.

1. **Question**: Is this grant state or federally funded?

**Answer**: The Judy Center grant is state funding.

1. **Question**: Since the FY23 school budgets have already been previously completed, we cannot offer in-kind funding for staff salaries in year 1. However, if the county is willing to offer in-kind funding for years 2 and 3, would that still count as giving us priority?

**Answer**: Yes if the county provides in-kind funding for staff salaries for years 2 and 3, that would still provide priority status.

This page will be updated with frequently asked questions and answers on a continual basis.