



Frequently Asked Questions

FY 23 Judy Center Grant

as authorized by the

House Bill 1300 Blueprint for Maryland's Future, [Education Article §5-230](#)

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Question:** Where should the completed application be sent?
Answer: Completed applications must be sent to judycentergrants.msde@maryland.gov.
- 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.
- 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.

7. **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.
8. **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.
9. **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.
10. **Question:** Is this grant state or federally funded?
Answer: The Judy Center grant is state funding.
11. **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.
12. **Question:** Do we have to have partners with an MOU?
Answer: Yes, any of the partners listed on page 8 of the Grant Information Guide (GIG) must have an MOU in place. It is required that the Judy Center partner with any Public prekindergarten and kindergarten programs, Head Start and Early Head Start programs, Local infants and toddlers programs, licensed child care centers and family child care homes who have obtained accreditation or are actively pursuing accreditation attainment, Family support centers (“Patty Centers”), if there are any in the school catchment area, and early intervention and preschool special education programs in the school catchment area.
- If one of these partners does not exist within the school catchment area, please include a statement indicating this missing partner from your MOU collection. For instance, “At the time, there are only five family childcare providers within the catchment area who are licensed and none of these five centers are interested in pursuing accreditation at this time.”
13. **Question:** Are prekindergarten and kindergarten children attending the school counted in the Family Engagement performance measure?
Answer: For the average family engagement performance measure, we are looking for the average number of families not currently enrolled in the public school. All enrolled prekindergarten and kindergarten students will be counted in a separate manner.

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