

Regional Child Care Planning: Technical Assistance Webinar for Potential Grantees

ECIC Child Care Innovation Fund



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ECIC – Child Care Innovation Fund

Friday September 30, 2022

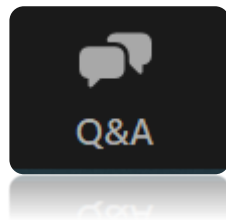
Important Information

This funding opportunity is **not** intended to benefit child care providers or businesses.

- While a child care provider may not serve as a lead grantee for this opportunity, child care providers are required members for all Regional Child Care Planning Coalitions.
- If you are a child care provider who is interested in becoming a member of a Regional Child Care Planning Coalition, we can connect you!

Housekeeping

- Today's webinar is scheduled to last for 2 hours
- All participants will be muted throughout
- The Webinar is being recorded and will be posted on our webpage (including slides)
- Submit questions through the Q&A button. Questions submitted through the Q&A can be viewed and upvoted.



Today's Presenters



Joan Blough
Senior Director, Child Care
Innovation Fund



Kelly Christman
Innovation and Policy
Associate



Misti Conley-Rogers
Project Manager,
Innovation and Policy



Jeff Capizzano
President,
Policy Equity Group



Natalia Carvalho-Pinto
Director, Equity and
Leadership Team



Learning Objectives

By the end of the webinar:

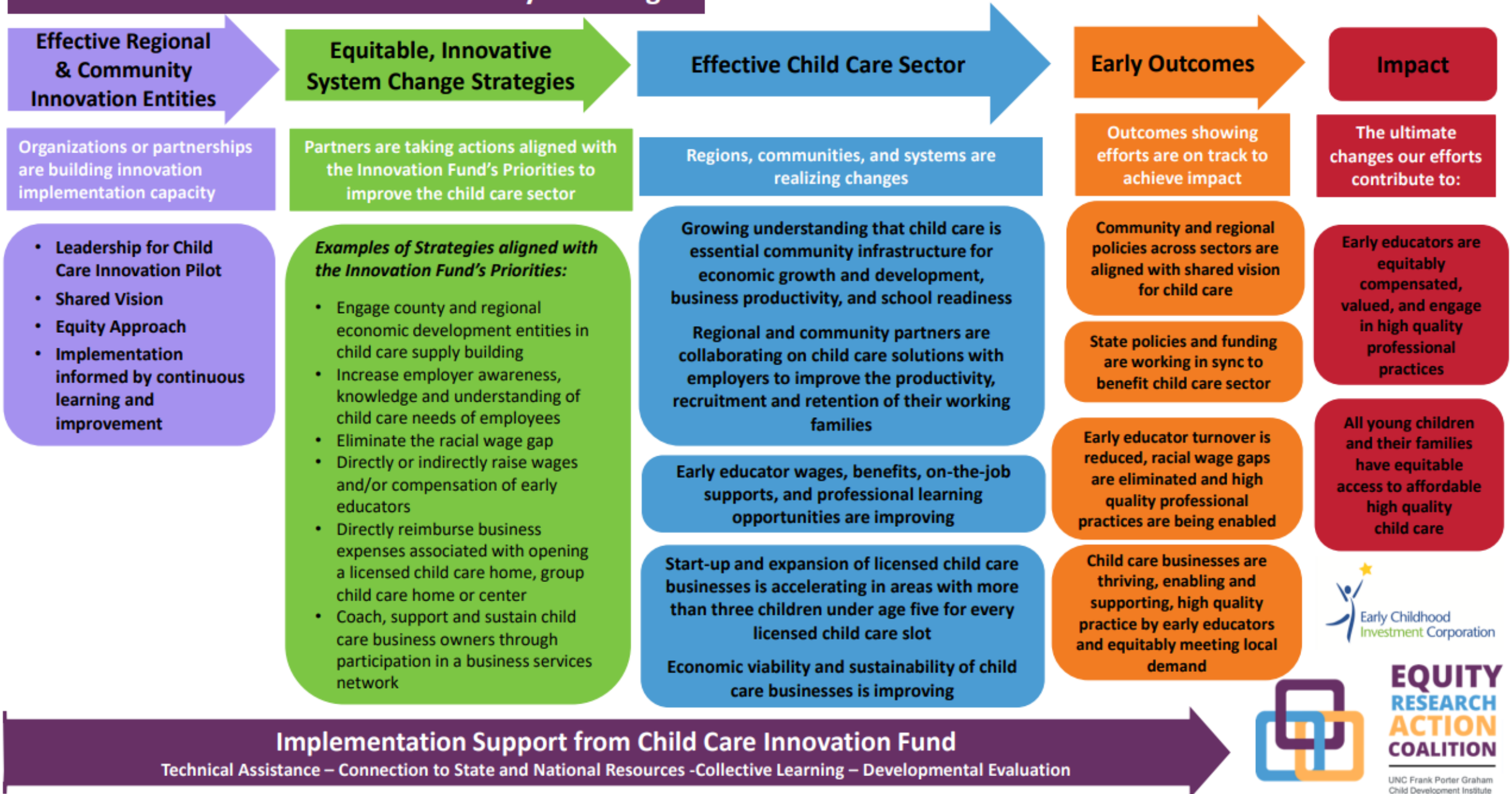
- Become familiar with ECIC's Child Care Innovation Fund
- Become familiar with this Caring for MI Future project
- Understand who is eligible to apply
- Know about data you can use to support your application
- Feel confident submitting an application using the grant portal
- Understand the Grant Review & Selection process
- Understand options for **technical assistance** and how to access

Purpose of ECIC's Child Care Innovation Fund

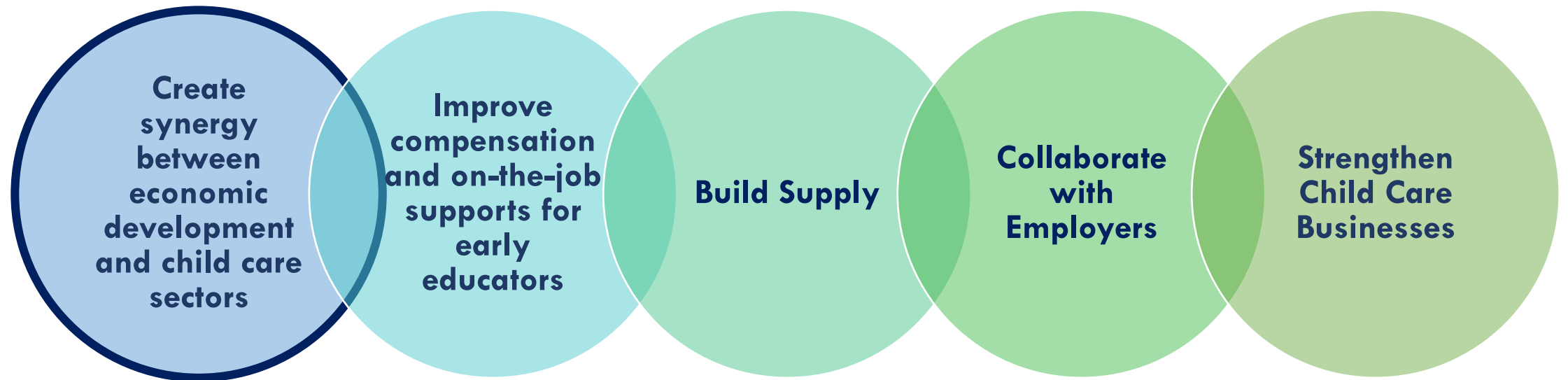
- Collaborate with regional and community partners to pilot common-sense business and financing solutions for child care.
- Invest in innovations designed to benefit employers, working families, child care business owners and early educators.
- Publish a roadmap of proven child care solutions ready to be taken to scale for MI.



ECIC Child Care Innovation Fund Theory of Change

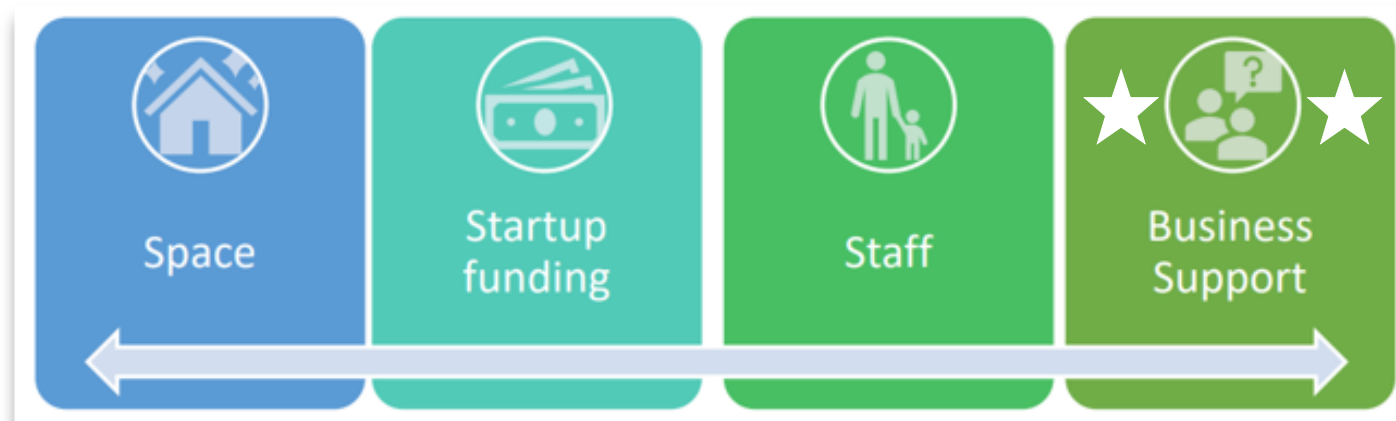


Child Care Innovation Fund Priorities



Purpose

- Invest in Child Care Entrepreneurs and respond to their most pressing needs
- Dramatically increase access to child care across Michigan
- Create sustainable systems to support the next generation of child care business owners
- Focus on what entrepreneurs need most to open and expand their child care businesses.



Associated Projects



Space

- Facilities Improvement Grants



Staff

- Early Care and Education Registered Apprenticeship Grants
- CDA Professional Development Specialists Supports
- TEACH Scholarships
- High School CTE Scholarships



Business Support

- Our Strong Start
- Family Child Care Networks
- **Regional Child Care Planning Grants**

Why is this project important?

- Child care is an essential part of employment infrastructure; as with roads and bridges, parents require child care to get to work. By investing in child care infrastructure as with bridges and roads, [we] can support economic growth and family economic security.
(Mapping American's Child Care Deserts, Center for American Progress, 2017)
- A strong child care sector is essential to Michigan's economic recovery and future growth – it simultaneously benefits children, working families, employers, child care businesses, and communities.
- Unprecedented opportunity to design, finance and build, child care facilities and workforce to meet the needs of working families and their employers in your region.



Strategic Partners



ECIC has formed a uniquely qualified collaborative team to lead the development, administration and implementation of this critically important regional planning initiative.

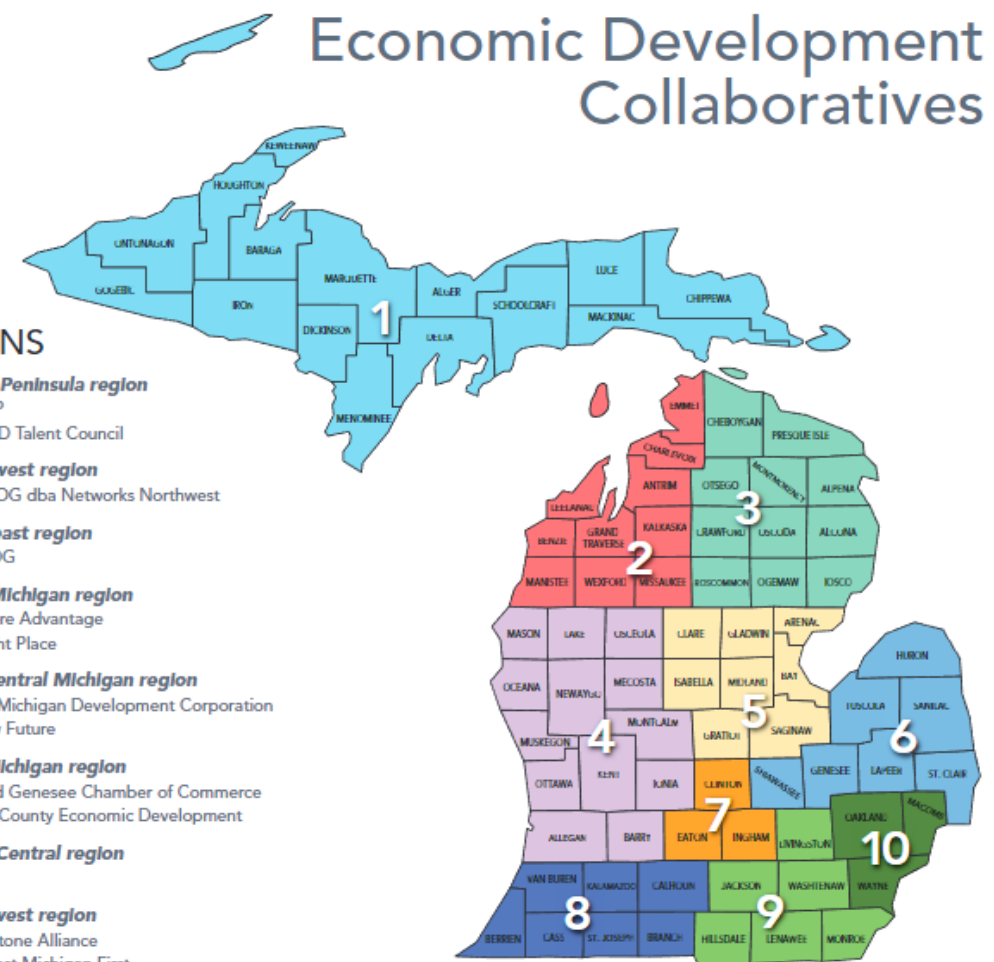
The Child Care Innovation Fund: will serve as the lead for this collaborative team and administer the regional planning grants with our shared goal to accelerate community-level efforts to address Michigan's child care crisis

The Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC): will provide subject matter expertise on planning, zoning, and economic development, as well as outreach and connections to its network of economic development organizations and regional planning committees

The Policy Equity Group: will lead the design and facilitation of grantee training and technical assistance, including convening a grantee learning community with the express purpose of expanding access to quality, affordable child care for working families in each of the grantee regions.

Statewide Impact

- Seeking to solicit strong applications from all regions
- Strong applications will clearly describe how the Coalition will prioritize geographic areas of urgent and high priority need for child care facilities and workforce



These collaboratives begin with the alignment of service providers, creating teams to serve each region. Regional teams are comprised of representatives from the following:

MEDC Business Development Managers	Michigan Dept. of Transportation (MDOT)
MEDC Community Assistance Team	Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center (MMTC)
MEDC Development Project Managers	Michigan Small Business Center (MI-SBDC)
MEDC International Trade Managers	Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA)
Michigan Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD)	Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (PTACs)
Michigan Dept. of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)	Other state and federal agencies (MDNR)
Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources (MDNR)	



Prioritizing Investments in Areas of Highest Need

Successful applicants will demonstrate how they will consider and prioritize communities within the region where issues, such as poverty, existing staffing shortages in child care, and current licensed child care capacity, are severely impacting working families' access to high quality child care.

Project Objectives & Key Activities



Project Objectives

- Expand access to quality, affordable child care for working families in the region
- **Achieve** facilities goals and invest federal dollars correctly and in a timely manner



Key Activities

- **Convene** & engage community partners
- **Assess** regional child care needs
- **Understand municipal policies** impacting child care business start-up
- **Establish a baseline** inventory of the region's existing child care businesses & facilities, early care and education workforce needs, existing and usable building stock
- **Develop** a regional action plan
- **Implement** regional action plan

Grants will be awarded to up to 25 grantees at \$150,000 each

Regional Planning Coalition Membership

Each Coalition must include:

- The economic development sector, specifically pertinent regional economic development organizations (EDOs)
- Local government with local zoning knowledge and expertise
- Parents of young children, with expertise in seeking and utilizing high quality child care for children from birth to age six.
- Individuals representing the child care sector including child care programs which are licensed by the State of Michigan or Tribes.





Answering your questions

Working in Partnership with ECIC – Pages 4-5

in RFP

Task	Applicant Will	ECIC Will
A Coalition must include parents of young children, with expertise in seeking and utilizing high quality child care for children from birth to age six.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Budget for parent leader compensation for Coalition meetings and technical assistance.Engage in grantee learning community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide match-making assistance to connect parent leaders from the region to lead grantees.Plan and provide up to 4 sessions of technical assistance for parent leaders.Provide technical assistance to lead grantee on effective practices for compensating parent leaders for their expertise.
A Coalition must include individuals representing the child care sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Budget for child care business owner/child care provider compensation for Coalition meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide technical assistance to lead grantee on effective practices for compensating child care business owners/child care providers for their expertise.
A Coalition will effectively carry out required activities, as specified in the RFP.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Engage in grantee learning community.Develop new partnerships, develop and implement a regional action plan that will expand access to quality, affordable child care for working families in the region.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Plan and provide a grantee learning community.Provide templates and resources for required activities.Help grantees to ensure they meet federal guidelines for the use of funds.
Comply with state and federal requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Prepare and submit accurate and timely reports on progress and spending using ECIC provided templatesParticipate in bi-monthly progress meetings	Support grantees in reporting on progress and spending.

Working in Partnership: Recruiting and Supporting Parent Members of the Regional Child Care Planning Coalition

ECIC will:

- Provide assistance with connecting to potential parent members from the region
- Provide consultation on effective practices for compensating parent members for their expertise
- Design and facilitate four online technical assistance sessions for parent members of Regional Coalitions



Strategic Partnership: Grantee Training and Technical Assistance

Policy Equity Group - Who we are

Our role:

- Provide start-up support for regional partnerships
- Support relationship-building among the partners
- Identify problems of practice
- Provide supports for development of regional plans, including:
 - Goals, activities, and data elements
 - Landscape analysis and data collection effort
 - Reviewing the plan and providing input
- Provide supports through the community of practice



Project Timeline

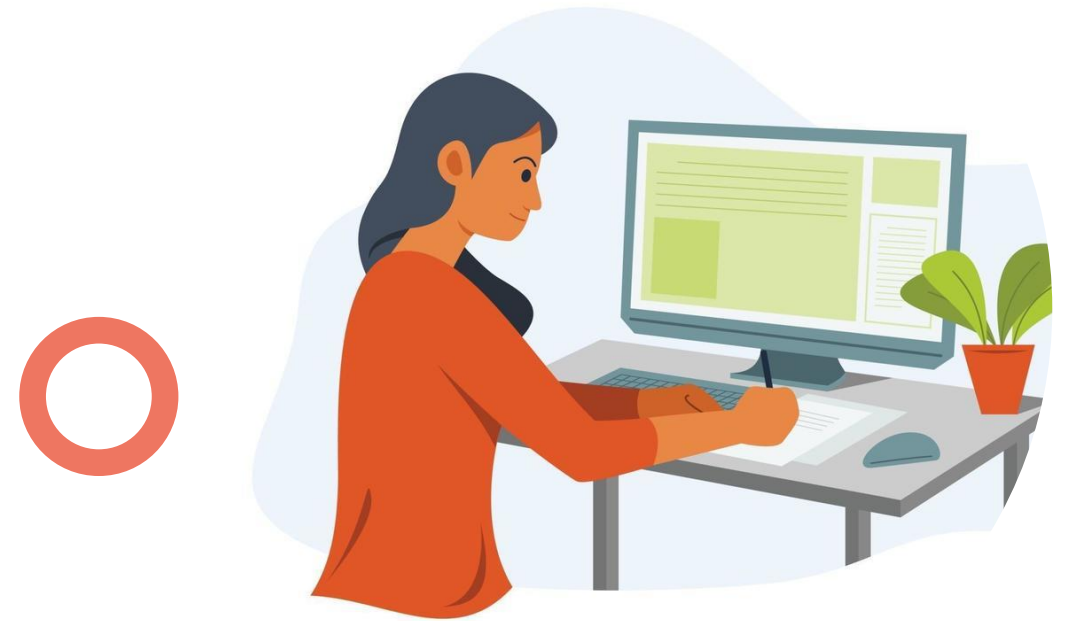




Answering your questions

Preparing your Application

- Many application questions have a word count limitation. **Word counts do not include spaces but do include punctuation.**
- We are using word counts to help you understand about how much time/effort you should spend answering each question.
- Some questions require the completion and upload of an attached template (all available on pg. 22 of the RFP). Your application will be considered null/void without the completion of the following templates:
 - Coalition Membership Roster
 - Coalition Work Plan
 - Budget Summary



Selection Criteria

Review Process

Award selection will be based on merit and quality, as determined by points awarded for the review criteria section and all relevant information.

The application rubrics will be used as a rating instrument in the review process. **The application maximum score is 80 Points with 10 additional priority points possible. The maximum score for the application, including priority points, is 90 points.**

Applicants with an application score below **70 points** will not be recommended for funding.

** All awards will be subject to approval by the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) - Office of Great Start. All applicants will be notified of MDE's action.*

Application Priority (10 additional points available)

ECIC’s Child Care Innovation Fund shall prioritize, through awarding of additional priority points, distributing grant funding to an eligible entity that demonstrates prior experience working in collaboration with others in regional planning and economic development

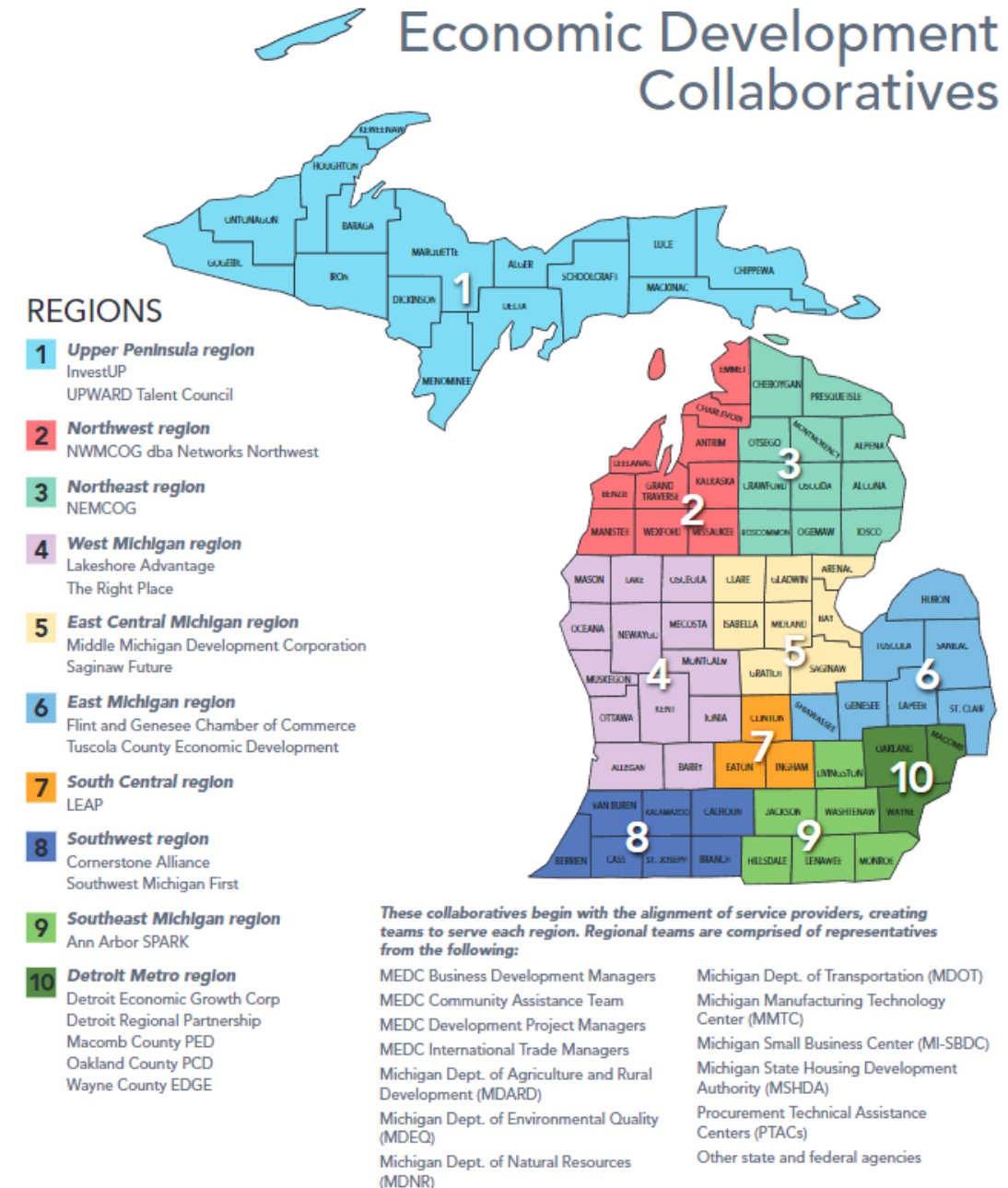
Priority Description	Does not meet Priority Criteria	Meets Priority Criteria
The applicant entity has prior experience working in collaboration with others in regional planning <u>and</u> economic development.	0 points	10 points



Geographic Area of Regional Child Care Planning Coalition

1. Region and Counties to be Served Questions – *No points awarded*

- a) Select the region (& specific counties) to be covered by the Coalition's work.
- What is the region? (Select from the dropdown menu)
 - What are the counties, select all that apply. (Select from the dropdown menu)



Lead Grantee (15 points total)

2. Lead Grantee Profile – *No points awarded*

- a. What organization will serve as the Lead Grantee for the Coalition?
- b. Identify the organizational status of the Lead Grantee.

☐ Public

☐ Private for-profit

☐ Nonprofit

☐ Government legal entity or agency

3. Lead Grantee Questions

- a. Describe the prior experience of the Lead Grantee as it relates to *working in collaboration with others to develop and implement regional planning and economic development*.
- b. Describe how this project would fit within the overall goals of the Lead Grantee organization.
- c. Detail the Lead Grantee's fiscal track record and documented past performance in complying with state and federal requirements.

Narrative Proposal (45 points total)

4. Regional Child Care Coalitions

- a. Is the Regional Child Care Coalition;
 - ☐ Brand new for the purposes of this grant?
 - ☐ Already existing?
 - ☐ Other?
- b. Describe the Regional Child Care Coalition including: its overall strengths and needs in carrying out this work successfully; its activities to date and notable related accomplishments of member organizations.
- c. Upload the *Coalition Membership Roster* using the required template.
- d. Describe how the Coalition proposes to support the active engagement of parents of young children and child care business owners/providers as members of the Coalition.
- e. Describe the specific roles and responsibilities Coalition members will carry out during this project.

Narrative Proposal (cont.)

5. Proposed Project Plan for the Regional Child Care Coalition

- a. Describe the Coalition's current understanding of the region's child care and economic development needs and problems.
- b. Upload the *Coalition Project Plan* using the required template.
- c. Provide a rationale for how the approach the Coalition proposes in the *Coalition Project Plan* will ultimately lead to expanded access to quality, affordable child care for working families in the region.

Coalition Project Plan Template

The Project Plan identifies proposed strategies, activities, deliverables, and timelines. Describe how the Coalition intends to carry out the following key required activities:

- **Convene:** Engage and convene community partners
- **Assess regional child care needs**, focusing on the child care needs of working families
- **Understand municipal policies** +/- impacting child care business start-up
- **Establish a baseline** inventory of the region's:
 - existing for profit and non-profit child care businesses
 - the current facilities and workforce needs of these businesses
 - the early care and education workforce and their talent development needs
 - existing building stock useable/licensable for child care facilities
- **Develop a regional action plan**, inclusive of how the Coalition will plan for, support and launch child care sites, including how the Coalition proposes to capitalize on ARPA funds currently available for facilities improvements
- **Implement** the regional action plan.

Sustainability, Project Personnel, & Budget

6. Sustainability (5 points total)

- a. Describe how the Regional Child Care Coalition would propose to sustain its work, when this grant period ends, to expand access to quality, affordable child care for working families in the region.

7. Project Personnel (5 points total)

- a. The applicant will have a maximum of 1000 words to describe in detail the individuals who will be associated with the project and its implementation. The applicant should address the qualities and qualifications of the individuals, including their prior experience working in collaboration with others related to regional planning **and** economic development.

8. Budget (10 points total)

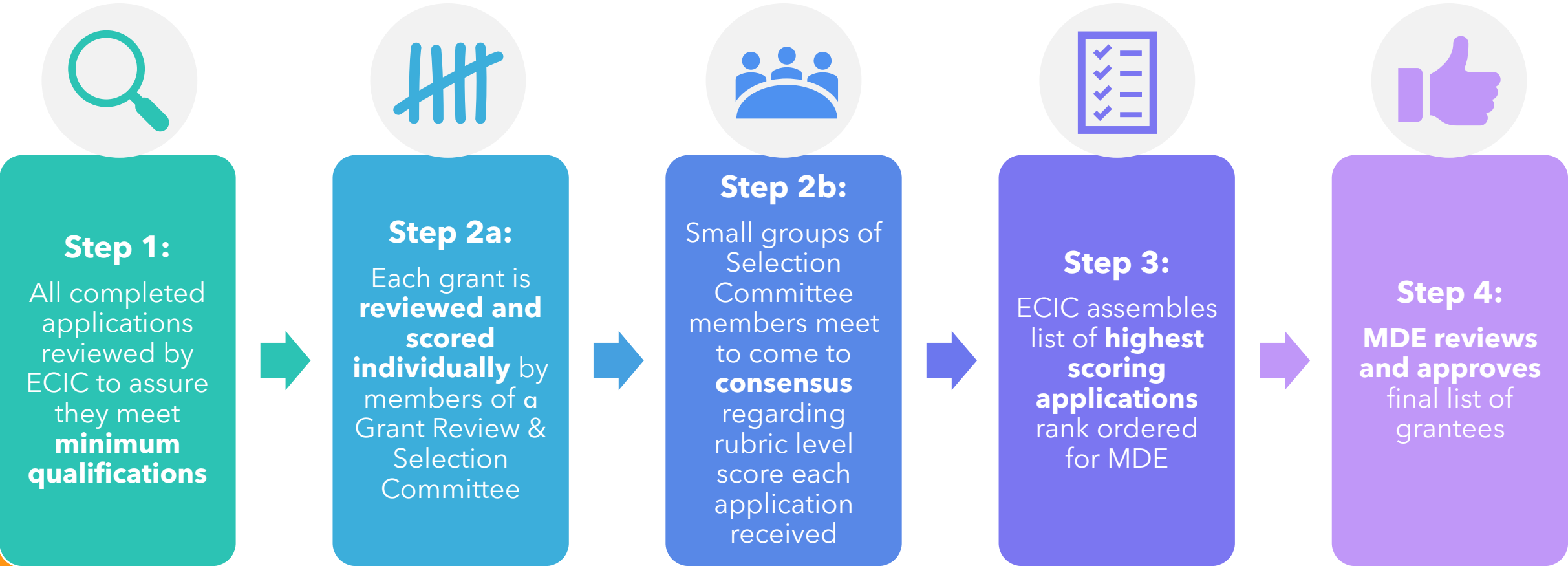
- a. This section provides information to demonstrate that the project has an appropriate budget for the program and is cost-effective. The applicant must complete the budget summary and provide a budget detail identifying expenditures that are allowable under the budget guidelines using the provided template.



Answering your questions



Grant Review & Selection Process



Addressing & Mitigating Bias in the Grant Review Process



All grant reviewers complete & sign **conflict of interest form** prior to grant application assignment



Internal training provided to all grant reviewers



Educational resources on identifying and addressing personal biases provided to all reviewers



Multi-step review process, where **multiple reviewers score the same grant applications**



Identification of divergent scores and use of **small group consensus scoring**



Each criteria utilizes **multiple questions to inform scoring**



Awarding of **Priority Points** to support intentional collaboration between sectors



Conflict of interest acknowledgment within application scoring portal



Published rubric with scoring criteria shared and used across review teams

Application Timeline

1

September 28, 2022

Application released

2

October 31, 2022

Applications due by
5:00pm EST

3

Mid-November, 2022

Grant Review & Selection
Committee individual
review and consensus
scoring

4

Early December, 2022

Recommended
applicants approved by
MDE

5

Early January, 2023

Contracts begin with
grantees

Application Assistance

Guidance Materials (posted on our website)

- RFP Guidance Document
- FAQ Document
- Recorded webinar
- Webinar slides

Email

- Email any questions or inquiries to grants@ecic4kids.org

Office Hours (Discussion Based)

- Appointments are available October 3rd through the 28th, 2022
- Must be requested through email at grants@ecic4kids.org. Use the scheduling link shared with you to select a time and date that works best for you!





Answering your questions



Thank you!

We look forward to connecting
with you soon.

CHILD CARE
INNOVATION
FUND