



A BEST BEGINNINGS MINI GRANT MAY BE FOR YOU!!!



District 7 HRDC is now offering “BEST BEGINNINGS MINI GRANTS” through funding from DPHHS Early Childhood Services Bureau. THEY'RE QUICK, THEY'RE EASY and you can apply at anytime during the year!

What is a mini grant?

*A mini grant is for childcare providers who are participating on the Early Care and Education Practitioners Registry and need funds to:

- *replace or acquire equipment
- *purchase developmentally appropriate toys or supplies
- *meet regulatory requirements, e.g. install egress windows, or
- *hire substitute care, to enable provider/or staff to attend training, conferences, etc.

* The Best Beginnings mini grant is a ONE-TIME reimbursement. After you have been approved for a mini grant you make your proposed purchases and submit all receipts to ECSB for reimbursement. Purchases and receipts must be dated after the award has been made.

What do I have to do to qualify?

* To qualify for this grant you must be a licensed or registered childcare facility and be participating in the Early Childhood Career Development Practitioner Registry. Cost is \$25 for initial registry, \$10 for renewal. Please call 1-800-213-6310 or go online to www.mtecp.org for more information about the Practitioner Registry. Family and Group childcare can apply for up to \$2,000 and childcare Centers can apply for up to \$3,000.

When can I apply?

*Applications for mini grants are accepted at HRDC anytime during the year. Only one grant per provider will be awarded during the Federal Fiscal year which runs 10/1-9/30.

DEADLINES

1st quarter-October 1-December 31- All mini grant applications for 1st quarter consideration must be received into HRDC, 7 N. 31st St Billings, Mt 59101, no later than 5 pm on the 1st working day of September.

2nd quarter-January 1-March 31- All mini grant applications for 2nd quarter consideration must be received into HRDC, 7 N. 31st St Billings, Mt 59101, no later than 5 pm on the 1st working day of December.

3rd quarter-April 1-June 30- All mini grant applications for 3rd quarter consideration must be received into HRDC, 7 N. 31st St Billings, Mt 59101, no later than 5 pm on the 1st working day of March.

4th quarter-July 1-September 30- All mini grant applications for 4th quarter consideration must be received into HRDC, 7 N. 31st St Billings, Mt 59101, no later than 5 pm on the 1st working day of June.

You will be notified of acceptance or denial within 30 days of the closing dated of the quarter you are applying for. A typed copy of your proposal may be attached to the grant application as well as a copy of your proposed budget. **You must also attach a current copy of your Practitioner Registry Certificate or Professional Development Record with a current date. Be sure to sign and date your application and use your PS# and PV# where requested on the application. Any additional information you can supply is always helpful i.e. if you are requesting improvements due to licensing regulations it is helpful to include a letter or copy of your deficiency notice from QAD. It is also helpful if you attach photos, letters from parents supporting your requests, estimates for materials from the builder, etc. If you are interested in attending a mini grant training, call Marie @ 247-4720 for more information.**