The children in your care deserve the best. Imagine new playground equipment, lockable cabinets, cribs and books. When you improve your learning environment with upgraded equipment and educational materials, you help to increase safety and advance learning opportunities.

You can make improvements with a low interest loan from the Child Care Financing Program. If you own a qualifying child care center or a family day home, you have up to seven years to repay that loan – while the children you serve enjoy a safe, healthy and nurturing environment.

Now that's a big investment.
STEP ONE. ENSURE YOUR ELIGIBILITY.

To begin, make sure you are (all 3):
- Doing business in Virginia
- In good standing with the Licensing or Child Care Subsidy programs
- Able to demonstrate repayment capability

If you have a Child Care Center, make sure you are one of the following:
- Licensed by VDSS
- Certified by VDSS (preschools only)
- Religious-exempt

If you care for children in a Family Day Home, make sure you are one of the following:
- Licensed by VDSS or operating under a local ordinance
- Participating in the Child Care Subsidy Program
- Voluntarily registered
- Part of a licensed family day care system
- Participating in the USDA Food Program

STEP TWO. DETERMINE HOW YOU WILL USE THE FUNDS.

YOU MAY USE THE CHILD CARE FINANCING LOAN FOR:

Purchase of items and completion of improvements directly related to the health, safety and welfare of the children and overall learning environment.

Examples:
- Infant care equipment
- Fencing and playground equipment
- Resilient surfacing of playgrounds
- Tricycles
- Tables and chairs
- Lockable cabinets; child cubbies
- Cribs; cots; blankets
- Books

MINOR remodeling or upgrades to the child care facility necessary to comply with VDSS health and safety standards. Subject to review by the Virginia Department of Social Services

Examples:
- Building changes to meet requirements for children with special needs
- Upgrades to increase building functionality

Purchase of qualified transportation equipment (centers only)

STEP THREE. REVIEW TERMS FOR YOUR LOAN.

Interest rates start as low as 2%, but do not exceed 4%. In areas VDSS determines are underserved by child care providers, there may be no interest charged at all. Interest rates are determined by credit history, collateral and loan terms.

For Centers
- Loans: Up to $150,000
- Repayment: Up to 7 years
- Fee: $100 to apply (non-refundable)

For Family Homes
- Loans: Up to $10,000
- Repayment: Up to 7 years
- Fee: $25 to apply (non-refundable)

Example:
- Borrow: $10,000
- Term: 84 Payments
- Interest rate: 2.0%
- Monthly payment: $127.69

STEP FOUR. APPLY FOR FUNDING.

Funding is provided by the U.S. Administration for Children and Families through The Virginia Small Business Financing Authority (VSBFA), in partnership with the Virginia Department of Social Services. To learn more or apply for a loan, contact the VSBFA.

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