



## Emergency Early Care and Education Wrap-Around Grant Opportunity

*Providing services and supports for children 0-8 years of age from underserved populations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in northeastern Minnesota communities and Tribal Nations*

### Request for Proposals: Round II

#### Background on the Grant Opportunity

The Northland Foundation is partnering with the Minnesota Department of Education on behalf of the Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) Fund. The purpose of this grant program is to distribute funding for emergency wrap-around early care and education services for children ages 0-8 from underserved populations impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic in northeastern Minnesota.

There are two funding opportunities through this program for eligible organizations:

1. Small grants up to \$5,000
2. Grants of \$5,001 to \$15,000

#### Availability of Funding and Implementation Period

During Round II, the Northland Foundation anticipates awarding approximately a total of \$150,000 in grants for both the \$5,000 and under and \$5,001 to \$15,000 projects. This funding pool will support projects that can be completed within a one-year implementation period of April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022. Organizations will be selected on a competitive basis.

All funded organizations will be required to participate in one peer learning session (held virtually) and provide a final report.

#### Key Dates for Round II

The application process opens January 12, 2021 and closes February 15, 2021. Applicants will be notified of a decision by March 17, 2021.

## Eligibility

Organizations interested in applying for the Emergency Early Care and Education Wrap-Around Grant Program must demonstrate efforts that benefit children 0-8 and should:

- Be a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, local unit of government, or a community group with a fiscal agent. Schools are eligible that provide wrap-around early care and education services and supports and or serving as a fiscal agent for these services.
- Provide services in any of the seven counties of Northeast Minnesota (Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, and St. Louis Counties) or five Tribal Nations that share the same geography: Bois Forte Band of Chippewa, Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe (District 2), and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (District 1).

## Exclusions

Ineligible organizations or activities include:

- Individuals, businesses, or private foundations.
- Projects taking place outside the geographic region we serve.
- Organizations seeking to do work within our seven-county service area which do not have staffing or a physical location within the region.
- Sectarian religious programs.
- Endowments, capital campaigns or projects, or support for fundraising events.
- Replacement of traditional government services or public funding that has been cut.

## What Are Emergency Early Care and Education Wrap-Around Services and Supports?

Emergency Early Care and Education Wrap-Around Services and Supports are targeted to support the following:

- Mental health services and supports
- Social, emotional, and physical health supports
- Supplemental after-school programs
- Summer learning or enrichment programs
- On-line/distance learning programs
- Training and development to more effectively operate during the pandemic and address the needs of young children 0-8
- Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of and continuity of services in early care and education prioritizing the needs of historically underserved groups

Examples of activities include:

- Mental health and wellbeing
- Social-emotional wellbeing
- Physical health and wellbeing
- Trauma-informed services
- Out-of-school time supports
- Food security efforts and outreach
- Early learning
- Economic security efforts including outreach and coordination of services
- Safe, stable, nurturing relationships and environments

## What Does Underserved Populations Mean?

This funding is designed for wrap-around early care and education services and supports directed to underserved populations of 0-8 year olds including:

- Low-income students
- Rural students disproportionately impacted by pandemic
- Students with disabilities
- Black, Indigenous and People of Color
- Students experiencing homelessness
- Children in foster care
- English learners
- Migrant students

## How to Apply

The Northland Foundation will accept applications for grants of \$5,000 and under and grants of \$5,001 to \$15,000 through our online grantee portal. All materials need to be submitted via the [Special Initiatives Grantee Portal](#) using the Special Initiatives Application. **The deadline for submitting an application is February 15, 2021.**

Please complete the following three documents and save to your computer. You will need to upload the completed forms to the Special Initiatives Grantee Portal using this link:

- 1) Project narrative responding to the application questions (see pages 4 and 5)
- 2) Project budget (see page 6), and
- 3) Current fiscal year budget for the applicant organization.

## Contacts

For questions about grant criteria and eligibility:

Lynn Haglin, Vice President/KIDS PLUS Director [lynn@northlandfdn.org](mailto:lynn@northlandfdn.org) or  
Zane Bail, Director of Development and Special Projects [zane@northlandfdn.org](mailto:zane@northlandfdn.org)

For questions about accessing and navigating the grantee portal:

Carol Chipman, Grants Manager [carolc@northlandfdn.org](mailto:carolc@northlandfdn.org)

## About the Northland Foundation

Created in 1986 by The McKnight Foundation, the Northland Foundation is a regional foundation serving the seven counties of northeastern Minnesota: Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, and St. Louis. The Northland Foundation invests in people and communities to create a thriving region. The Foundation serves as a resource through its: Grant Program, directing support to nonprofit organizations and schools; Business Finance Program, lending to businesses to spur the regional economy; KIDS PLUS Program, improving the wellbeing of children and youth and promoting intergenerational connections; and other special initiatives.



Emergency Early Care and Education  
Wrap-Around Grant Opportunity  
**Application Narrative Questions**

If you have any questions about your application, please contact:

- Lynn Haglin, Vice President/KIDS PLUS Director [lynn@northlandfdn.org](mailto:lynn@northlandfdn.org)
- Zane Bail, Director of Development and Special Projects [zane@northlandfdn.org](mailto:zane@northlandfdn.org)

If you have any questions about the grantee portal, please contact Carol Chipman, Grants Manager via email at [carolc@northlandfdn.org](mailto:carolc@northlandfdn.org).

**Please refer to the RFP for additional information about this request.**

**Two grant opportunities. Requests for**

- Up to \$5,000
- \$5,001 to \$15,000

**Implementation Timeline: April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022**

The completed narrative, project budget, and organizational budget should be uploaded separately as attachments on the grantee portal. All materials need to be submitted via the [Special Initiatives Grantee Portal](#) using the Special Initiatives Application.

**Narrative Questions:**

Please construct your narrative responses using the questions provided below and with the following guidelines:

- Grant requests under \$5,000 limit application to a **maximum of 3 pages**
- Grants requests of \$5,001 to \$15,000 limit application to a **maximum of 5 pages**.

**1. Please select the funding pool for which you are applying (please check one).**

- \$5,000 and under request
- \$5,001 to \$15,000 request

**2. Please provide a 2-3 sentence summary of your request.**

**3. Please select from the list below the geographic area(s) served by your project (you can select more than one).**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aitkin County               | <input type="checkbox"/> Lake County                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bois Forte Tribal Nation    | <input type="checkbox"/> Leech Lake Tribal Nation (District 2) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carlton County              | <input type="checkbox"/> Itasca County                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fond du Lac Tribal Nation   | <input type="checkbox"/> Mille Lac Tribal Nation (District 1)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cook County                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Koochiching County                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grand Portage Tribal Nation | <input type="checkbox"/> Northern St. Louis County             |

- Southern St. Louis County (Duluth, Proctor Hermantown)

**4. Please select the focus area(s) of your project (you can select more than one).**

- Mental health services & supports
- Social, emotional & physical health
- Supplemental after-school programs
- Summer Learning and enrichment programs
- On-line/distance learning programs
- Training & development to more effectively operated during pandemic & address the needs of young children 0-8
- Other activities that are necessary to maintain the operation of & continuity of services in early care & education prioritizing the needs of underserved groups

**5. Briefly describe your organization’s mission and programs to support children and youth, including the number of children served on an annual basis by your organization. Please specify children served in the 0-8 age group, as well as older age groups, if applicable.**

**6. Briefly outline your experience providing early care and education programming or services and supports for children ages 0-8.**

**7. Describe the unmet needs due to the COVID-19 pandemic your project will address for children 0-8.**

**8. State the overall goal and describe the key activities you will undertake to address this unmet need.**

**9. From the list below, please select the underserved populations who will benefit from the wrap-around early care and education services and supports (check all that apply).**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rural students disproportionately impacted by pandemic | <input type="checkbox"/> Black, Indigenous, People of Color |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Low-income students                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Children in foster care            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Students experiencing homelessness                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Students with disabilities         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Students with disabilities                             | <input type="checkbox"/> English learners                   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Migrant students                   |

**10. Briefly describe the underserved population your project will serve.**

**11. Estimate the number of children and their ages served by your project.**

**12. List the key staff members, consultants, and partners who will work on this project and describe their qualifications and roles in the project.**

**13. How will your proposed program benefit children 0-8?**

**14. What steps will you take to track progress and demonstrate that the project has been successful?**

**Budget**

- Please complete the project budget template or use a similar format.
- Provide a current fiscal year organizational budget.

## Emergency Early Care and Education Wrap-Around Grant Project Budget

ORGANIZATION: \_\_\_\_\_

GRANT REQUEST: \_\_\_\_\_

TIMELINE: FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

Budget Line Item (List each item separately)	NORTHLAND FOUNDATION FUNDS	OTHER SUPPORT		TOTAL (Line Item)
		Cash	*In-Kind	
1.	\$	\$	\$	\$
2.	\$	\$	\$	\$
3.	\$	\$	\$	\$
4.	\$	\$	\$	\$
5.	\$	\$	\$	\$
6.	\$	\$	\$	\$
7.	\$	\$	\$	\$
8.	\$	\$	\$	\$
9.	\$	\$	\$	\$
10.	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Column Totals</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>

\*In-kind refers to any supplies, staff time, use of space, or other non-cash contributions that are provided by your organization or others.