



Colorado Shines Capital Improvement Overview

DEFINITION

A **capital improvement** is the addition of a permanent structural change or the restoration of some aspect of a property that will either enhance the property's overall value, increase its useful life or adapt it to new uses.

GUIDELINES

- Funds are distributed on a first come, first serve basis and requests will be reviewed on a rolling basis until funds are fully expended
 - Maximum request: \$7,500
- Colorado Shines QI Capital funds may not be used to meet matching fund requirements for other grant funds
 - State approval depends on available funding and strength of the request
 - Programs that serve only preschool aged children are not eligible for these funds
- Projects must be completed by May 7th, 2021 and all documentation/payment requests received by the Council no later than May 31st, 2021 - Late applications cannot be accepted!

REQUIREMENTS

- Programs must be a Level 2 or higher
- Programs must have an active CCAP agreement
- Programs must have a signed CSQI MOU in place
- Programs need to show active infant and/or toddler enrollment
- **NOTE** Centers must be licensed to serve children under 30 months of age to qualify
- Funds must be used to support programs that serve infants/toddlers and demonstrate how children birth to 3 will be impacted
- Projects must tie to a goal(s) in the program's Quality Improvement Plan in Colorado Shines
- By submitting this application, applicants are aware the information contained within their submission may be discussed or shared with the program's coach, coaching agency, licensing specialist, the state and other key partners

EXAMPLES OF APPROVED CI PROJECTS

- Gates and fencing
- Impact absorbing playground materials
- Access and egress improvements
- Safety-approved playground equipment and structures

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- Minor modifications to infant/toddler classroom layout and physical safety improvements
- Allowable quality materials needed to open an infant/toddler classroom
 - All furniture must be commercial grade, have a warranty and be purchased through approved vendors

UNALLOWABLE PROJECTS

- Purchase or improvement of land
- Any improvement that adds significant value or changes the overall function of the building

PROCESS

- Read this document, then call Jessica at (970)256-2462 to pitch your idea
- If your project seems like a good fit, Jessica will share the application
- After completing the application, you will receive either a detailed award letter or an email with as much detail as we have about why your project was declined
- If awarded, you will then need to contact your contractor and get the work scheduled
- Mesa's Quality Improvement Navigator will reach out to you within a week to discuss the process and paperwork needed

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