

REQUEST FOR BIDS

MISSOURI CHILDCARE EXCHANGE PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

The Children's Trust Fund is pleased to announce the availability of up to \$2,500,000 for the implementation of a new childcare cost-sharing program. The purpose of this program will be to increase family access to affordable, high-quality childcare through locally coordinated cost-sharing exchanges. The initial contract period will begin on the date of contract execution and extend through June 30, 2026, with the option of three, one-year renewals contingent upon the availability of state funding.

WHO WE ARE

The Children's Trust Fund ("CTF") is Missouri's foundation for child abuse and neglect prevention. CTF was established in 1983 as a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization by the Missouri General Assembly. We are located within the Missouri Office of Administration and governed by an independent Board of Directors.

SCOPE OF WORK

To reduce barriers to high-quality childcare, the State of Missouri has authorized new funding for the implementation of a childcare cost-sharing program to lower out-of-pocket costs for eligible families. Families with household incomes at or under the amount provided in section 166.700 RSMO that do not otherwise have access to subsidized childcare through the state will be eligible to receive cost-sharing benefits through this new program. Priority eligibility to receive cost-sharing benefits will be designated for families with the lowest household incomes, areas of the state that qualify as childcare deserts, and infant and toddler care. A state-level entity designated through this bid process will distribute state funding to community-based organizations serving as childcare exchange hubs and provide hubs with planning and operational support. Childcare exchange hubs will leverage state funds to broker a cost-sharing agreement with local employers/businesses, thereby splitting the cost between the state, community businesses, and childcare consumers.

CTF seeks a nonprofit organization, ideally one with relevant experience in Missouri, to implement the Missouri Childcare Exchange Program in accordance with relevant provisions of [section 5.170 of House Bill 5 2025](#). Additionally, the awarded contractor must agree to the following participation requirements:

- Work closely with CTF to implement the program and participate in bi-monthly check-ins with CTF;
- Provide CTF with an updated budget within three months of the contract start date;
- Submit all backup documentation with each CTF invoice.

BID SUBMISSIONS

Bids must respond to all of the following in no more than 10 pages of narrative at a minimum font size of 11 pt or a 20-page slide deck:

- Expertise: Describe your organization's relevant expertise and experience with early childhood and/or childcare programming in Missouri.
- Methodology: Provide a detailed description of how your organization will implement the Missouri Childcare Exchange Program, to include a project timeline and description of how your plan aligns with relevant provisions of [section 5.170 of House Bill 5 2025](#).
- Budget: Provide a description of projected program expenses and an itemized budget for the initial contract period not to exceed a total of \$2,500,000.

Completed proposals must be emailed to ctf@oa.mo.gov by 11:59 pm on August 8, 2025.

AWARDS

Selection will be based on the best and lowest bid. Notification of award will be made by September 5, 2025.

QUESTIONS

Please contact Amber Robinson at amber.robinson@oa.mo.gov with questions about this request for bids.