

The following document outlines eligible (permitted) and not eligible (prohibited) uses for grant money awarded from the Caring for MI Future: Facilities Improvement Fund.

Please note: **This is not an exhaustive list and other eligible and not eligible uses exist.**

For questions and more information, please visit CaringForMI-FIF.org/Contact.

Eligible Uses

- Minor facility repairs
- Minor renovations
- Purchase related equipment and services

Health, Safety, and Accessibility

Accessibility

- Grab bars, handrails, ramps, and other non-structural modification for ADA compliance and universal access
- Touchless plumbing fixtures – No new plumbing

Equipment

- Disaster bins, batteries, etc.
- Fixed equipment – Including dishwashers, washers, and dryers – Residential or commercial grade
- Portable equipment – Including dishwashers and handwashing stations

Hazardous Materials Remediation

- Abatement and testing – Including asbestos, lead, mold, and radon

HVAC – Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning

- Air conditioning – Condensers and window units – No central air installation
- Air quality improvements – Including portable HEPA filters and UV light filters
- Furnace replacement
- Humidifier
- Thermostat

Water Infiltration Mitigation

- Gutters and down spouts
- Masonry tuckpointing – Does not include structural work
- Roof repair – No full replacement or any structural work
- Sealants
- Siding repair – No full replacement or any structural work
- Water filtration systems

Other

- Fire suppression systems
- Fire, carbon monoxide, radon, and other hazard emergency detection
- Underwriters' Laboratories (UL) 300 stove hoods for commercial stoves

Indoor Learning Environments

- Acoustic treatment for sound attenuation – Including wall panels and ceiling clouds
- Electrical panel upgrades
- Electrical outlet replacement – No new wiring or new outlet locations
- Flooring finishes – Including resilient flooring, carpet tile, and porcelain tile – Installation eligible only if done through a contractor or retail installer
- Furniture, fixtures, and equipment – such as cabinets, child-sized tables, cribs, and buggies – Does not include educational toys such as kitchen playsets or pieces of indoor obstacle courses
- Lighting fixtures – Including ceiling-mounted and pendant styles

Toilet room improvements

- Partitions
- Plumbing fixtures – Including sinks and child-sized toilets – Does not include new plumbing, tubs, or showers
- Plumbing repairs

Walls

- Drywall repair
- Interior partition construction or removal – Non-load-bearing walls only
- Painting
- Room separation for classrooms
- Interior doors – Including hardware – Replacement only, no new doorways
- Window replacement – Including existing egress windows – No new windows or changing size
- Window treatments

Outdoor Learning Environment

- Fixed equipment – Including playsets and sandboxes
- Grass seed
- Landscaping specific to outdoor learning environments
- Play area enclosures – Includes fencing for play area and outdoor learning spaces only.
- Play area surfacing
- Prefabricated outdoor storage – No larger than 200 square feet
- Repairs of existing outdoor gathering spaces – Including decks, porches, and patios – No new construction or expansions
- Shade sails and prefabricated shade solutions – No new construction or expansions

Existing Non-Classroom Spaces

Includes finishes and residential or commercial grade equipment

- Fixed equipment – Including refrigerators, dishwashers, stoves, washers, and dryers
- Office space – Does not include office supplies or technology systems, such as computers and phones
- Sick/quiet room
- Staff breakroom – Does not include technology systems, such as computers and phones

General Site

- Asphalt and concrete surfacing – No new construction unless space is used solely as outdoor play area
- Concrete slabs – Eligible for outdoor play areas – Ineligible for generators, sheds, and most structures
- Drain tile – Full scope of work required for final determination. Any work involving foundation is likely going to be ineligible.
- Driveway paved – Repairs that require filling or patching are eligible. Repairs that require removal or replacement of existing asphalt or concrete are eligible only if driveway has been identified as a safety or liability issue by LARA or insurance before grant application.
- Driveway unpaved – New gravel, repairs, filling holes, and regrading – Expanding or adding a driveway is not eligible.
- Exterior doors – No new doorways
- Garage doors – Only for spaces that are solely or mainly for child care and then only for health and safety or if its operation adds disruption or risk to the program
- Generator – Unit (including whole home) only. Installation not eligible unless there is existing infrastructure
- Insulation – Includes changing to foam spray – Does not include changes that require structural changes
- Repairs to well or septic system – Does not include full replacement or major structural work
- Roof and siding repairs – Does not include full replacement or changes that require structural work
- Security systems for pick up and drop off points
- Sheds – Prefabricated only – No larger than 200 square feet
- Signage
- Tree removal

Fees

Professional services, permits, inspections, and other regulatory reviews in support of eligible projects

- Construction inspection
- Contracted labor
- Permit fees
- Plan review fees
- Preparation of architectural plans
- Project management
- Support for zoning requirements/variances/fees

Not Eligible

This list is not exhaustive. It is representative of common requests.

- New construction
- Major renovations – Those that include structural changes or expansion of existing spaces
- Reimbursements for completed projects
- Contractors related to provider – Including spouses, siblings (including in-laws), parents, and children
- Tools to complete a grant project yourself

General Site

- Bar-style stools
- Bathtubs and showers
- Car seats
- Pools – Pool related projects
- Adult-sized beds and bedding
- Aesthetic- or decor-related projects
- Installation and infrastructure for whole-home generator – the generator itself is eligible
- Tools/operational equipment, such as lawnmowers, snow blowers, power washers, and leaf blowers

Business and operations

- Equipment rental
- Insurance
- Internet service provider
- Lease payments
- Licenses
- Marketing materials or promotional activities
- Moving or relocation
- Office supplies or other administrative expenses
- Safes of any kind
- Staff expenses - Including salaries, recruitment, and training
- Travel and transportation – Including purchase, lease, or repair of vehicles
- Utilities
- Extended warranties on items purchased before the grant – Extended warranties on items purchased with grant funding are eligible

Professional services

- Attorney or legal services
- Cleaning services – Including house cleaning, appliances, and ducts
- Grant writing
- Labor provided by provider or relative
- Lawn care or snow removal equipment or services

- Pest control
- Tax preparation

Program support and materials

- If a child can pick it up and carry it around, it is probably not eligible
- Curriculum and training
- Food and beverage
- Free-standing equipment or supplies to support curriculum

Renovation and associated expenses

- Bonus payments to vendors
- Building acquisition
- Construction contingency
- Costs connected to contractor claims against the grantee
- Extended warranties for items not included in project proposal
- Fines or penalties incurred by the violation of federal, state, or local laws, ordinances or regulations
- Interest charges or payments on bonds or indebtedness required to finance project costs
- Outdoor irrigation
- Reimbursement for project costs incurred prior to issuance of the grant award
- Remediation of environmental contamination as result of negligence during project
- Technology systems, including computers, phones, media devices, internet services