

	<u>Keystone STARS Merit Awards</u>	<u>A Running Start: ECE Facilities Fund</u>	<u>Fund for Quality</u>
<b>Goal</b>	Improve quality - support site in increasing STAR level or implementing a specific quality improvement initiative	Maintain quality - preserve/repair existing assets, enhance quality environments, may support quality improvement and/or expansion	Expand quality - yield additional slots
<b>Purpose</b>	Minor renovation	Minor-Mid level renovation & appliance purchase	Major renovation from planning, construction to interior fitting and classroom supplies
<b>Eligibility</b>	STAR 2, 3, and 4 family, group and center facilities with current designation for the fiscal year; must serve 10% or more subsidy or EI families, free from city, state, federal tax liens, and DHS license must be in good standing.	STAR 3 and 4 family, group and centers.	STAR 3 and 4 center facilities serving 50% or more low income families and with administrative capacity to expand in Philadelphia.
<b>Amount per grant</b>	Family max grant \$2,000; group max grant \$3,255; center max grant \$49,250 (all grants based on facility size and STAR level)	<i>Proposed</i> : Up to \$30,000 for centers and commercial groups; up to \$15,000 for families and residential groups.	Grants for projects up to \$300,000; low interest loans for projects beyond that. Planning supports valued up to \$85,000.
<b>Total Amount available</b>	Approximately \$5.2 million annually	\$1, 000,000 (includes fund administration) in FY16	\$15 million over five years. Second round begins in 2016. Funds for grants, planning, and buying down loan costs.
<b>Allowable expenses</b>	Adequate ventilation or lighting, Air conditioning units (incl. window unit), Canopies/Sun shade structures (not attached), Carpeting, Dishwasher, Grass seed, Intercom systems, Kitchen stove (replacement), Playground equipment installation, Playground resurfacing (Mulch or other material that is less than 1" is not allowed on play areas for children under 3 years old. Grant funds may be used for children 3 years old and up. You may also use grant funds to have mulch removed and to install a safe surface for children under 3 years old, Roof (repairs only – to partial roof), Security cameras/systems, Sheds (no foundations), Sinks (portable/permanent; plumbing must already be in place for permanent sinks), Trees (for shade)	The purchase of large appliances, Roof repair and/or replacement, Bathroom renovation and/or installation, Window repair and/or replacement, Plumbing repairs, Electrical upgrades, Lighting repair and/or replacement, Sinks (portable/permanent), Painting, Enclosing classrooms, Creation of new classrooms, Ceiling tile replacement and/or repair, Playground equipment installation, Playground resurfacing (mulch or safety surface), Playground repairs, Playground landscaping, Fencing installation and/or repair, Canopies/Sun shade structures, Facade repairs and/or upgrades, Flooring repair and/or installation, Intercom system installation, Security cameras/systems installation, HVAC installation and/or repair, Air conditioning units (incl. window unit), Mold remediation, Lead testing/remediation/abatement, Sprinkler systems, Fire suppression system repair and/or installation	Planning supports to address administrative capacity to ensure expansion is feasible and well managed and site can open meeting STAR 3/4 standards. Predevelopment supports including architects, legal representatives, engineering, and environmental assessments, etc. Construction and building. Interior fitting and classroom supplies.
<b>Other requirements</b>	Must submit two written price quotes for items (includes reno) costing \$3000 or more. Bids must be for identical merchandise, purchases, and/or work. Request payment for lowest bid amount. If applicant accept the highest bid, applicant is responsible for any amount above lowest quote. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): (Renovation, Repair, and Painting) Contractors performing renovation, repair and painting projects that disturb lead-based paint in homes, child care facilities, and schools built before 1978 must be certified and must follow specific work practices to prevent lead contamination. As of April 22, 2010, federal law requires that: Renovation firms be certified under EPA's Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule Individuals be trained in lead-safe work practices. Minor renovations which neither add to the permanent value of the property nor appreciably prolong its intended life, but keep it in an efficient operating condition, are allowable. Costs incurred for improvements which add to the permanent value of the buildings and equipment or appreciably prolong their intended life shall be treated as capital expenditures. Grant funds must be spend within the FY in which the award was disbursed.	Applicant must submit two (2) written price quotes with application; Project must not conflict with or duplicate current or previously funded work; Project must be able to be completed within current fiscal year (FY); Code violations or dangerous conditions that are found during initial site visit must be rectified before any additional work can be completed; If property is owned: No liens against property, Up-to-date licensing and inspections; If rented: No liens against property, Up-to-date licensing and inspections, Lease agreement must be at least 5 years, Owner must approve requested renovations	Grant is divided into two (2) phases: Guided Planning and Capital Implementation. All awardees enter through and must satisfactorily complete Guided Planning. Project and organizational goals are identified along with benchmarks to be met. Once all goals on the work plan have been achieved, grantee enters capital improvement phase. Funds for capital improvements not to be disbursed until guided planning has been completed unless otherwise discussed. Awardees must be able to show positive operating projections and demonstrate ability to complete the expansion project within the discussed grant timeframe. May be subject to post-award reporting requirements.