

Taking Root Together Child Care Garden Grant

The Taking Root Together Child Care Garden Grant Program provides garden supplies and materials to child care sites sponsored by Our Daily Bread CACFP (ODBCACFP) to support the development and maintenance of gardens and Farm to Early Care and Education on their premises. The program offers three tiers of funding and support to enable both indoor and outdoor gardening for farm-to-school activities.

The grant runs on an annual cycle, with the same general schedule each year.

Program Timeline

The grant follows the same general schedule each year:

- **Late March** — Gardening 101 Kick-Off Webinar
- **Early April** - Application window opens
- **Mid-to-late April** — Application window closes
- **Late April** — Grant recipients notified
- **May** — Materials and supplies provided

Who Can Apply

To be eligible, a child care site must:

- Operate a child care site sponsored by ODBCACFP
- Demonstrate a commitment to integrating gardening into its educational program
- Have adequate space available for gardening activities and/or an outdoor raised bed garden
- Attend the annual Gardening 101 Kick-Off Webinar

Grant Tiers

Tier 1 — Indoor Gardening Supplies for Farm-to-School Activities

Indoor gardening supplies, including pots, soil, seeds, and educational materials.

Tier 2 — Container Gardening Supplies and Plants for Indoor/Outdoor Growing

Container gardening supplies and plants, including pots, soil, seeds, and seedlings.

Tier 3 — Outdoor Raised Bed Garden Built at Your Site

Materials and supplies for the construction of an outdoor raised bed garden at your child care site.

How to Apply

1. Attend the Gardening 101 Kick-Off Webinar.
2. Complete the grant application form.
3. Submit a photo of the classroom(s) where farm-to-school activities take place.
4. Submit a photo of the outdoor space available for a raised garden bed.

How Applications Are Evaluated

Applications are reviewed based on:

- Commitment to integrating gardening into the educational program
- Suitability of the site for gardening activities
- Potential impact of the grant on the site and its students
- The applicant's CACFP history

Exact dates vary by year and are posted at the start of each grant cycle.