

# 2010 Maine Childcare Skin Cancer Prevention Mini-Grant and Sun Safety Program Application

*Application deadline: July 16, 2010*

Please check the box that indicates your interest level in participating in this program, and complete the appropriate additional pages of this application. Thank you!

- Our center **is applying** for a 2010 Maine Childcare Skin Cancer Prevention Mini-Grant  
(Complete all pages of this application)
- Our center **is not applying** for a 2010 Maine Childcare Skin Cancer Prevention Mini-Grant, but would like to be considered for a scholarship to attend training  
(Complete all pages of this application)
- Our center **is not applying** for a 2010 Maine Childcare Skin Cancer Prevention Mini-Grant, but would still like to attend training (no scholarship needed)!  
(Complete and return this page only. This will serve as your registration for training! If more than one person is attending training, please be sure to send information for all participants.)

Name of Childcare Center: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address  
(Please PRINT clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Please return this page to: Andrea G. Fletcher, MS  
Maine Comprehensive Cancer Control Program  
DHHS/Maine CDC  
11 State House Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Augusta, ME 04333-0011

[andrea.fletcher@maine.gov](mailto:andrea.fletcher@maine.gov)

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## **Background**

Skin cancer is the most common form of cancer, but it is also one of the most preventable. Most skin cancers are caused by too much exposure to the sun's harmful UV rays, especially during childhood and adolescence. Even one sunburn early in life can increase an individual's risk for developing skin cancer as an adult. Teaching young children how to protect their skin from the sun, and creating environments to support these positive behaviors, can immediately result in reduced exposure to harmful UV rays, as well as the future development of healthy, life-long skin protection habits.

## **Purpose of the Mini-Grant**

Since most young children in Maine are under the care of a childcare provider during peak sun hours, childcare centers have a unique opportunity to make a difference in the health of the children for which they care. The purpose of these mini-grants is to support the integration of skin protection education into early childhood curricula, the practice of sun safety within childcare centers, and the creation of sun-safe childcare environments for the children of Maine.

## **Availability of Funding**

**Individual mini-grants of up to \$1,000 each are available for up to 20 childcare centers in Maine.** Funding for these mini-grants is provided by the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention's Comprehensive Cancer Control Program through Cooperative Agreement 5U58DP000785-03 with the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

## **Eligibility**

Any **state-licensed childcare center** in Maine can apply regardless of the center's current level of skin cancer prevention and sun safety activities.

## **Project Goal and Objectives**

The goal of this project is to reduce the overall UV exposure among children attending childcare centers in Maine through the implementation of the *Sun Blocks* program. Specific objectives include:

1. To increase the proportion of Maine childcare centers that have developed and adopted a formal sun safety policy by June 30, 2011.
2. To increase the proportion of Maine childcare centers that have provided staff with skin cancer prevention education and sun protection training by June 30, 2011.
3. To increase the proportion of Maine childcare centers that provide children with sun protection education by June 30, 2011.
4. To increase the proportion of Maine childcare centers that have adequately shaded play areas by June 30, 2011.
5. To increase the proportion of Maine childcare centers that distribute sun protection information to parents by June 30, 2011.

## **Project Resources**

All grantees will be provided with the following program materials:

- Early childhood sun safety teaching plans
- Adaptable support materials for parents
- Adaptable sun safety policy
- Staff training materials

## **Mini-Grant Requirements**

All grantees will attend a program training from 9:00am to 2:00pm in Hallowell, Maine on Friday, August 13, 2010. All grantees will receive program materials during this training.

All grantees will use provided program materials as a guide to:

- Facilitate the development and adoption of a formal sun safety policy for their center.
- Educate children, parents and staff on sun safety and skin protection behaviors including wearing sun-protective clothing (hats, sunglasses, pants, sleeved shirts), seeking shade when playing outdoors, and applying sunscreen SPF 15 or higher.

## **Use of Funds**

This mini-grant of up to \$1,000 may be used to purchase supplies needed to support the early childhood sun safety curriculum, duplicate parent and other program materials, purchase materials needed to build shade structures in outdoor play areas, participation in training, and/or sponsor special event days to enhance the program. *Funds may not be used to purchase sunscreen or SPF protective laundry detergent (Sun Guard).*

**Please note:** Centers that do not have adequate (one area of shaded space to accommodate several children) shade structures in their play areas must use a portion of the mini-grant to provide shade structures and create shaded areas for outdoor play. (Examples of shade structures include trees, awnings, gazebos, playhouses, etc.)

## **Expected Outcomes**

For this mini-grant, there are five measures of success.

1. The development and adoption of a formal sun safety policy
2. The number of childcare center staff that have received skin cancer prevention education and sun protection training
3. The number of children that have received sun protection education
4. The number of childcare centers that have adequate shade in play areas
5. The number of parents that have received skin cancer prevention information

## **Reporting Requirements**

All grantees will be required to complete a feedback form, submit a short written report summarizing the successes and challenges of this project, and provide a copy of their center's sun safety policy by *June 30, 2011*.

## **Application Requirements**

Only one application per center will be accepted. The application is limited to the space provided. **Applications must be received by July 16, 2010.** Applications received after this date will not be accepted.

## **Notification of Mini-Grant Awards**

All applicants will be notified in writing by *July 28, 2010* about the status of their application.

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Name of Childcare Center: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address  
(Please PRINT clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

Number of children: \_\_\_\_\_ Age range: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of staff: \_\_\_\_\_ Center hours: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

1. Does your center provide education to children?  Yes  No

2. Does your center currently have adequate shade structures in play areas?  Yes  No

If yes, please describe:

3. Did your center apply for a skin cancer prevention mini-grant in 2008 or 2009?  Yes  No

If yes, was your center awarded a mini-grant?  Yes  No

Has a representative from your center ever attend the *Sun Blocks*  
program training (November 2008 or August 2009)?  Yes  No

4. Will a representative from your center be able to attend the *Sun Blocks*  
program training on August 13, 2010 in Hallowell, Maine?  Yes  No

If more than one rep will attend, please indicate the number here: \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate distance you will be traveling roundtrip: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Mini-Grant Applicants Only (Please Complete Questions 5-7):**

5. How does your center currently address skin cancer prevention and sun protection?

(continued on next page)

6. How will you use this mini-grant to improve sun safety and skin cancer prevention within your center?

7. In addition to this application, **please provide a photo of the play area you hope to improve, as well as a copy of your department's current sun safety policy.** (If you do not have a current sun safety policy, please indicate that you do not, at this time, have such a policy.)

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**Unfortunately, it will only be possible to fund a maximum of 20 mini-grants this year; however each interested childcare center (regardless of award status) will have the opportunity to participate in the *Sun Blocks* program.**

Non-funded participation includes:

- Receiving a complimentary copy of program materials to be used with your center
- Attending the *Sun Blocks* program training to be held August 13<sup>th</sup> in Hallowell, Maine

**Please indicate your interest in being included in this program if not applying for, or not selected to receive, a mini-grant this year.** *Responses will not affect consideration for funding in any way.*

Please send our center information on attending training.

Would your center like to be considered for a \$100 training scholarship to  
Assist with travel and staff expenses incurred though participation in this training?

Yes     No

Please mail our center a complimentary copy of program materials (unable to attend training).

Our center is not interested in further involvement if not awarded a mini-grant this year.

If you have any questions, please call Andrea Fletcher at 287-4321.

Please return this application to:

Andrea G. Fletcher, MS  
Maine Comprehensive Cancer Control Program  
DHHS/Maine CDC  
11 State House Station, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Augusta, ME 04333-0011  
[andrea.fletcher@maine.gov](mailto:andrea.fletcher@maine.gov)

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