

Governors Across the Country Celebrate Federal Preschool Development Grant B-5 Funding

PDG B-5 is a \$275 million competitive federal grant program designed to improve states' early childhood systems by building upon existing federal, state, and local early care and learning investments. Governors from across the country that were awarded PDG B-5 funding touted these critical federal investments. Read what they have to say about the positive impact that PDG B-5 funds will have on their states.

📍 GOVERNOR KAY IVEY (R-AL)

"Alabama's youngest citizens are the future of our state, which is why I am so proud to welcome this critical funding. As we continue to grow our First Class Pre-K program, we must also expand its learning methods and best practices from birth through third grade. When students are successful in their first few years of school, they are much more likely to be successful throughout their life."



● GOVERNOR TIM WALZ (D-MN)

"Minnesotans agree that they want our state to be the best place for children to grow up, no matter who they are or where they're from. This federal support will help achieve that goal by putting children at the center of government and helping connect families with the support they need to thrive."

◆ GOVERNOR MIKE PARSON (R-MO)

"The most important and impactful time of a child's development is the early years of his or her life. With this funding, we now have the opportunity to leverage existing infrastructure and data systems to strengthen our early childhood offerings, which is crucial to the development of a strong Missouri workforce."



■ GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R-WY)

"Having a strong start to a child's education journey helps propel them to a strong finish in their later education and workforce endeavors. I'm glad to support this opportunity to develop a strategic plan and vision for the state's early childhood system that will help Wyoming's communities and economy grow and thrive."



GOVERNOR CHRIS SUNUNU (R-NH)

“My approach since day one has been to increase family engagement in every setting. This grant will build on my administration's commitment to Early Childhood Development.”



GOVERNOR TONY EVERS (D-WI)

“The first years of a kid’s life set the tone for their future success. Right now, many families struggle to find affordable and reliable care for their kids before they reach school age. This grant provides us with an opportunity to clear some of those hurdles, and to connect the dots for our kids and their families.”

GOVERNOR BRAD LITTLE (R-ID)

“Improving early childhood literacy is one of my top priorities as governor. This funding will give educators and kids more tools to strengthen language and literacy prior to starting kindergarten. The earlier our kids start reading, the better chance they have to be proficient by third grade.”



GOVERNOR JARED POLIS (D-CO)

“Investing in early childhood education is a smart, responsible move for Colorado and young children across our state will benefit from this grant. These important resources will help support my budget proposals to expand pre-school in Colorado and improve the quality of early childhood education. [And] will also support providers’ effective practices, better connect families to needed services, and prepare our children for the classroom and the future.”

GOVERNOR GINA RAIMONDO (D-RI)

“Rhode Island is already a leader in early childhood education and development, and this grant will allow us to further support our youngest learners. I'm proud of our state's commitment to giving the next generation a strong start, but we need to do more. I look forward to working with my colleagues in the General Assembly to expand public Pre-K and ensure that every child has the opportunity to learn and grow.”



GOVERNOR ROY COOPER (D-NC)

“Every young child in our state deserves a strong start in a safe and nurturing family and early learning opportunities. Winning this grant represents our continued commitment to that goal and a step forward in improving opportunities for North Carolina’s children.”