

Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five

Created as part of the bipartisan Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in 2015, the **Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) program is a competitive federal grant that supports states and territories as they work to improve their existing early childhood systems and create effective mixed-delivery models.** The inclusion of PDG B-5 in ESSA marks the first time that Congress dedicated specific funds to promote high-quality early childhood education in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). PDG B-5 affirms the importance of early learning in ensuring all children have the strongest possible start in life and represents a unique opportunity for the federal government to leverage the central role of states in leading early childhood coordination and quality efforts.

EMPOWERING STATES

Administered through the US Department of Health and Human Services in consultation with the Department of Education, the goal of PDG B-5 is to empower states to increase the quality and efficiency of existing early learning programs and systems, while also reducing fragmentation and overlap of program supports.

The PDG B-5 grantees are specifically asked to:

- Better **align existing programs**,
- Engage parents and families by **maximizing parental choice**,
- **Build on the success of existing programs** through the dissemination of best practices,
- **Foster partnerships** among key stakeholders and programs, and
- During the implementation phase, consider how to use monitoring and data for **continuous improvement** of programs and systems.

OVERWHELMING INTEREST

In the fall of 2018, when the initial planning grants became available, there was overwhelming interest in the new PDG B-5 program. **Forty-seven states and territories applied for one-year initial planning grants** to conduct needs assessments and gather data on their current early learning and care landscape. This information was then used to inform a strategic plan with the goal of aligning systems and fostering partnerships within the states and territories.

The Administration for Children and Families (ACF) at HHS sought to make as many initial grants as possible, and in December 2018, **46 states and territories were awarded initial grants to complete the planning process.** ACF negotiated with 39 states and territories to reduce their scope of work and take less than their requested funding (71% of their original request) in order to meet the overwhelming demand for funding.



In the fall of 2019, states and territories who did not receive planning grants were eligible to apply or reapply for an initial grant. **In December 2019, 6 more states and territories were awarded initial planning grants.**

Governors' have shown tremendous commitment to the program by designating a state agency to administer the grant and by putting forward a state match of 30% to federal funding. To read what Governors from across the country said about these critical federal investments, visit www.ffyf.org.

IMPLEMENTING STRATEGIC PLANS

After completing one year of planning, the 46 initial grantees were eligible to apply in the fall of 2019 for three-year renewal grants to support the implementation of their strategic plans.

◆ **In December 2019, after an incredibly competitive review process, ACF awarded 20 of the 46 state and territory applicants with renewal grants.** Again, due to the substantial interest, ACF was only able to meet 90% of the funding requests for awards.

◆ Grantees are required to match 30% of federal funds each year for the 3 year grant period.

Recognizing the potential for impact and the overwhelming interest from states and territories, Congress appropriated an additional \$25 million in funding for PDG B-5 as part of the FY2020 Budget. With this additional funding, ACF was able to extend three additional renewal grants in the spring of 2020, bringing the total number of implementation grants to 23.

THE FUTURE OF THE PRESCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Continued funding of PDG B-5 is imperative as states and territories launch and sustain their implementation efforts. The 23 renewal grantees have designed their implementation models with the promise of three years of federal funding. In order for implementation to occur with fidelity, and so that states and territories can build effective mixed-delivery systems, continued federal funding is a necessity.

◆ To learn more about the PDG B-5 program visit www.ffyf.org



| Jurisdiction | Initial Grant 2018 | Renewal Grant 2019 (per year) |
|---|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education | \$10,320,000 | \$11,178,750 |
| Alaska Department of Education & Early Development | \$2,617,353 | Not awarded |
| Arizona Department of Education | \$1,396,806 | Not awarded |
| Arkansas Department of Human Services | \$3,506,749 | Not awarded |
| California Health & Human Services Agency | \$10,620,000 | \$13,414,500 |
| Colorado Department of Human Services | \$5,801,793 | \$11,171,969 |
| Connecticut Office of Early Childhood | \$8,591,087 | \$8,943,000 |
| Delaware Department of Education | \$4,236,837 | Not awarded |
| District of Columbia Education Office | \$10,620,000 | Not awarded |
| Florida Department of Education | \$8,520,000 | \$13,414,500 |
| Georgia Department of Early Care & Learning | \$2,961,044 | \$3,721,584 |
| Guam Department of Public Health & Social Services | \$1,000,000* | N/A |
| Hawaii Department of Human Services | \$965,530 | Not awarded |
| Idaho Association for the Education of Young Children, Inc. | \$3,343,592 * | Not awarded |
| Illinois State Board of Education | \$3,702,937 | \$13,414,500 |
| Indiana Family & Social Services Administration | \$6,895,336 | Not awarded |
| Iowa Department of Management | \$2,190,119 | Not awarded |
| Kansas Department of Education | \$4,482,305 | \$8,943,000^ |
| Commonwealth of Kentucky | \$10,620,000 | Not awarded |
| Louisiana Department of Education | \$7,100,000 | \$11,178,750 |
| Maine Department of Education | \$1,011,080 | Not awarded |
| Maryland State Department of Education | \$10,618,584 | \$8,942,996 |
| Massachusetts Executive Office of Education | \$1,801,346 | Not awarded |
| Michigan Department of Education | \$5,058,813 | \$13,413,552 |
| Minnesota Department of Education | \$4,705,603 | \$8,941,881 |
| Mississippi Community College Board | \$10,620,000 | Not awarded |
| Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education | \$6,500,000 | \$11,176,961 |
| Montana Department of Public Health & Human Services | \$4,208,250 | Not awarded |
| Nebraska Department of Health & Human Services | \$4,141,560 | \$8,943,000 ^ |
| Nevada Department of Education | \$606,515 | Not awarded |
| University System of New Hampshire | \$3,843,557 | \$8,942,186 |
| Executive Office of the State of New Jersey | \$10,620,000 | \$11,178,750 |
| New Mexico Department of Children Youth & Families | \$5,374,596 | Not awarded |
| New York Office of Children & Family Services | \$8,732,006 | \$13,414,500 |
| North Carolina Department of Health & Human Services | \$4,486,842 | \$13,414,500 |
| North Dakota Department of Public Services | \$2,275,771 | Not awarded |
| Northern Mariana Islands Department of Community & Cultural Affairs | \$2,125,989 * | N/A |
| Ohio Department of Job & Family Services | \$10,486,896 | Not awarded |
| Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Foundation, Inc. | \$3,116,729 | Not awarded |
| Oregon Department of Education | \$4,257,418 | \$8,866,711 |
| Commonwealth of Pennsylvania | \$10,553,711 | Not awarded |
| Puerto Rico Administration for Integral Child Care Development | \$5,647,875 * | N/A |
| Rhode Island Executive Office of Health & Human Services | \$4,194,057 | \$8,943,000 |
| South Carolina Department of Social Services | \$3,453,679 | \$11,146,654^ |
| Texas Education Agency | \$1,789,455 | Not awarded |
| U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Workforce Services | \$725,112 | Not awarded |
| Utah Department of Workforce Services | \$523,000 | Not awarded |
| State of Vermont | \$3,363,695 | Not awarded |
| Virginia Department of Education | \$9,900,948 | \$11,178,750 |
| Washington Department of Education | \$5,270,656 | \$11,175,769 |
| Wisconsin Department of Children & Families | \$9,999,809 * | N/A |
| Wyoming Western States Learning Corporation | \$2,098,776 * | N/A |

* Jurisdictions that received Initial Grant Funding in December 2019.

^ Jurisdictions that received Renewal Grant Funding in Spring 2020.