



Preschool Development Grants PDG B-5 in ESSA

Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Overview of Funding Announcement

This document provides an overview of the information found in the Funding Announcement for the Preschool Development Grant Birth Through Five as released on September, 7, 2018 by the Departments of Health and Human Services and Education. See the announcement for further information - <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/occ/resource/pdg-b-5-initiative>. Proposals are due on November 6, 2018.

Award Types and Amounts

- **Funding Instrument Type:** Grant
- **Estimated Total Funding:** \$242,500,000
- **Expected Number of Awards:** 40
- **Award Ceiling:** \$15,000,000 Per Budget Period
- **Award Floor:** \$500,000 Per Budget Period
- **Average Projected Award Amount:** \$5,000,000 Per Budget Period
- **Anticipated Project Start Date:** 12/17/2018 Length of Project Periods: Length of Project Period: 12-month project period and budget period

Definitions¹:

B-5 Early Childhood State System. -- The term “B-5 Early Childhood State System” refers to core early childhood care and education programs, including the Child Care and Development Fund and State child care, which may include center-based, family child care, and informal care providers, Early Head Start and Head Start, the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program, and other State or locally funded home visiting services, Part C and Section 619 of Part B of IDEA, State preschool programs, and programs funded by Title I of the ESEA.

Early childhood care and education programs. –This term has been updated to incorporate and reflect the definition of the term “early childhood education program,” which is defined in section 103 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1003) as a Head Start program or an Early Head Start program carried out under Head Start.

Purpose: To assist States to develop, update, or implement a strategic plan that facilitates collaboration and coordination among existing programs of early childhood care and education in a mixed delivery system across the State, designed *to prepare low-income and disadvantaged children to enter*

¹ See https://ami.grantsolutions.gov/files/HHS-2018-ACF-OCC-TP-1379_0.htm for more information on definitions.

kindergarten, and to improve transitions from such system into the local educational agency or elementary school that enrolls such children.

The primary purpose of the program is for states to:

- More efficiently using existing Federal, State, local, and non-governmental resources to align and strengthen the delivery of existing programs;
- Coordinate the delivery models and funding streams existing in the State's mixed delivery system; and
- Develop recommendations to better use existing resources in order to improve the overall participation of children in a mixed delivery system of Federal, State, and local early childhood care and education programs.

Additional purposes of the grant are to:

- Encourage partnerships among Head Start providers, State and local governments, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, private entities (including faith and community-based entities), and local educational agencies to improve coordination, program quality, and delivery of services.
- Maximize parental choice among a mixed delivery system of early childhood care and education program providers.

Eligibility: All 50 States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the United States Virgin Islands

Priority (Bonus Points): Applicants that *have not* previously received Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge (RTTELC) or Preschool Development Grant (PDG) funding and that obtain a score of 70 or better will receive 10 bonus points, since they have not benefitted from prior federal RTT-ELC or PDG funding. The 24 States/Territories eligible for these 10 bonus points are Alaska, Florida, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, and Wyoming, plus the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Match: Each State awarded a grant shall provide funds from non-Federal Sources (cash/in-kind) to carry out activities in an amount not less than **30% of the grant award**.

Required Activities:

- **Activity One:** Conduct or update a periodic, statewide birth through five **needs assessment** of the availability and quality of existing programs in the State, including such programs serving the most vulnerable or underserved populations and children in rural areas, and, to the extent practicable, the unduplicated number of children being served in existing programs and, to the extent practicable, the unduplicated number of children awaiting service in such programs.
- **Activity Two:** Develop or update a **strategic plan** that recommends collaboration, coordination, and quality improvement activities (including activities to improve children's transition from early childhood care and education programs into elementary schools) among existing programs in the State and local educational agencies.
- **Activity Three: Maximize parental choice and knowledge** about the State's mixed delivery system of existing programs and providers by ensuring that parents are provided information about the variety of early childhood care and education programs for children from birth to kindergarten entry in the State's mixed delivery system, and promoting and increasing involvement by parents and

family members, including families of low-income and disadvantaged children, in the development of their children and the transition of those children from an early childhood care and education program into an elementary school.

- **Activity Four:** Share **best practices** among early childhood care and education program providers in the State to increase collaboration and efficiency of services, including to improve transitions from such programs to elementary school.
- **Activity Five:** After activities one and two are completed, **improve the overall quality of early childhood care and education programs** in the State, including, but not limited to, developing and implementing evidence-based practices (as defined in this notice), improving professional development for early childhood care and education providers, and enhancing learning opportunities for children.

Logic Model & Evaluation Plan

An important requirement of the grant is the development of a **logic model** to guide the design and implementation of the project. A logic model is a tool that presents the conceptual framework for a proposed project and explains the linkages among program elements. While there are many versions of the logic model, they generally summarize the logical connections among the needs that are the focus of the project, project goals and objectives, the target population, project inputs (resources), the proposed activities/processes/outputs directed toward the target population, the expected short- and long-term outcomes the initiative is designed to achieve, and the evaluation plan for measuring the extent to which proposed processes and outcomes actually occur.

A program performance evaluation plan, derived from the logic model, describes how the state will monitor ongoing processes and the progress towards the goals and objectives of the project. The evaluation plan should include descriptions of the inputs (e.g., organizational profile, collaborative partners, key staff, budget, and other resources), key processes, and expected outcomes of the funded activities. In addition to aligning with the State's logic model, the program performance evaluation should align with the State's vision statement and needs assessment and should address how the State anticipates it will assess processes, costs, and outcomes of activities to be completed, including those set forth in the strategic plan.

Future Eligibility for Renewal Grants: Only states that are awarded a PDG B-5 Initial Grant, as well as existing PDG Development and Expansion Grantees, will be eligible to apply for PDG B-5 Renewal Grants for years 2- 4, contingent upon the appropriation of funds by Congress in 2019.

See www.ceelo.org/ESSA for additional information and resources on the PDG-B-5 Grants.