

Preschool Development Grant
BIRTH THROUGH FIVE RENEWAL GRANT 2020

Renewal Grant Application
Due Date: November 5, 2019

DSS SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES | SC Child Care EARLY CARE & EDUCATION | FIRST STEPS SOUTH CAROLINA getting children ready for school. | SOUTH CAROLINA | Head Start

Welcome

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Just the Facts!

Funding Instrument Type: Grant
Estimated Total Funding: \$206,000,000
Expected Number of Awards: 23
Award Ceiling: \$15,000,000 Per Budget Period
Award Floor: \$5,000,000 Per Budget Period
Average Projected Award Amount: \$10,000,000 Per Budget Period
Anticipated Project Start Date: 12/31/2019



Possible Funding for PDG B-5 Renewal Grants:

Band 1: \$10M per year for 3 years
 AK, AR, CT, DE, DC, HI, IA, KS, ME, MD, MA, MN, MS, MT, NE, NH, NM,
 NV, ND, OR, RI, USVI, UT, VT (24 States)

Band 2: \$12.5M per year for 3 years
 AL, CO, IN, KY, LA, MO, NJ, OK, **SC**, TN, VA, WA (12 States)

Band 3: \$15M per year for 3 years
 AZ, CA, FL, GA, IL, MI, NY, NC, OH, PA, TX (11 States)

While a state may not request an amount greater than indicated, the state has the option to request less funding based on need or ability to provide a match.



OCC Review and Selection Process

- The Departments shall review all applications to determine if the program requirements have been satisfied.
- No state with a score below 70 will be eligible to receive a PDG B-5 grant award. Applicants must reach a total core score of 70 points prior to being considered for bonus points. A maximum of 9 bonus points may be awarded.
- All states, starting with the highest score and moving to the lowest score above 69, will be awarded a grant until all funds are awarded.



Submission Details

- 75 pages for all the components in the two files.
- File 1 (Project Description) must include the following:
- ✓ Table of Contents - suggested 1 page
 - ✓ Project Summary/Abstract - limited to 1 page
 - ✓ Project Description - suggested between 65-70 pages
 - ✓ Expected Outcomes
 - ✓ Approach
 - ✓ Activities
 - ✓ Project Timeline and Milestones
 - ✓ Organizational Capacity
 - ✓ Program Performance Evaluation Plan
 - ✓ Logic Model
 - ✓ Project Sustainability Plan
 - ✓ Dissemination Plan
 - ✓ Third-Party Agreements
 - ✓ The Project Budget and Budget Justification
 - ✓ Bonus Point, if chosen
- File 2 (Appendices) – suggested between 3-8 pages



PDG Renewal Overview

The PDG B-5 Renewal Grants assist states to **expand or build upon their initial grant work.**

Renewal grants may be used by states to:

- **Update or enhance** their birth through five needs assessment, program performance evaluation plan, and strategic plan.
- **Implement collaboration, coordination, and quality** improvement activities among existing programs in the state's mixed delivery system, including early childhood health programs, as detailed in their strategic plan.
- **Expand access** to existing programs and develop new programs to address the needs of children and families eligible for, but not served by, existing ECE programs.



PDG Renewal Overview

States will be expected to more effectively **coordinate with their existing ECE programs, engage parents, prepare children to enter kindergarten ready to succeed, and improve transitions from ECE programs to the local educational agency or elementary school.** To achieve this, states must:

- **Use existing federal, state, local, and non-governmental resources** efficiently to strengthen the delivery of existing programs;
- Improve the coordination and delivery of services across models and funding streams in the state's mixed delivery system;
- **Encourage new partnerships** and enhance existing partnerships among Head Start and child care providers, home visiting and preschool programs, state and local governments, Indian tribes and tribal organizations, private entities (including faith and community-based entities) and local educational agencies;
- Develop recommendations to better **use existing resources to improve the overall participation of children**, particularly vulnerable, underserved, or unserved children and children with, or at risk for, disabilities, in a mixed delivery system;
- Improve **program quality**, while maintaining access and availability of services;
- Enhance **school readiness**; and
- Maximize **family and parental choice.**



Program Activities

Activity One: 6 points

- **Refining and enhancing statewide, birth through five needs assessments** by ensuring they are updated periodically, not less than once during the renewal grant period, and exploring additional elements not previously assessed by or identified as initial gaps related to the availability and quality of existing programs in the state, including programs serving the most vulnerable or underserved populations and children in rural areas, and implementing a collaborative state data system to strengthen and enhance information on children and family needs.



Program Activities

Activity Two: 10 points

- **Refining, enhancing and/or implementing statewide birth through five strategic plans**, based on the most current needs assessment findings. The strategic plan shall include information that further describes how accomplishing the specific activities within the plan will better serve children and families in existing programs and recommend partnership opportunities that go beyond those previously identified that would improve coordination, program quality, and delivery of services.



Program Activities

Activity Three: 12 points

Maximizing parent and family choice and knowledge about the state's mixed delivery system of existing programs and providers by expanding the state's efforts to:

- ensure families are provided information about the quality (e.g., through inspection reports, QRIS ratings, etc.) and variety of early childhood education programs including health, mental health and family support for children from birth into kindergarten entry; and
- promote nurturing parent-child interactions, family and community protective factors and increase involvement by parents and family members of low-income and disadvantaged children in transitions between the various early childhood care and education programs and services.



Program Activities

Activity Four: 12 points

- **Sharing best practices among early childhood education providers** in the state by expanding efforts to increase collaboration and efficiency of services, including improving transitions that happen across all age spans in early childhood.
- Providing **interdisciplinary professional development** to build shared understanding and connections across ECE, health and human services providers that serve families with young children.



Program Activities

Activity Five: 20 points

Improving the overall quality of early childhood programs and services in the state, by expanding efforts, including, but not limited to:

- developing and implementing evidence-based practices that ensure inclusion of all children, especially children at risk of or with a disability, a special health care need, or developmental need;
- improving collaborative professional development for early childhood providers;
- improving developmental, social-emotional, and other learning opportunities for children birth through five;
- aligning standards, curriculum, assessment, and child outcomes; and
- strengthening systems needed for data sharing and use, monitoring and quality improvement, accountability, effective governance, communication and decision-making.



Program Activities

Activity Six: 30 points

- **Refining, enhancing, and/or implementing the program performance evaluation plan** to align with the most current needs assessment findings and strategic plan. The program performance evaluation plan shall include information that details how states will leverage data to examine the implementation, outputs, and costs of strategic plan activities and support continuous quality improvement.



Bonus Points

Coordinated Application, Eligibility, and Enrollment for Families

The applicant proposes a clear and detailed plan that includes consultation with parents for developing a pilot, or expanding on an existing effort, for coordinated application/enrollment or centralized eligibility, waitlist, and enrollment systems in order to make a determination that streamline eligibility and enrollment for families who may be eligible for multiple child care and other public benefits supporting child health and development, mental health, early learning, and family economic mobility through employment for the family.

0-3 points



Bonus Points

Infant/Toddler Emphasis

The pilot or expanded effort supports activities that result in improved and expanded infant-toddler care, staffed family child care networks, better trained and more knowledgeable providers, a focus on identification and mitigation of developmental risk including infant and early childhood mental health consultation, integration of two-generation trauma-informed approaches that support the parent-infant/toddler relationship, the creation of a network of infant and toddler specialists and/or coaches and mentors, and the tracking of results in all these areas.

0-3 points



Bonus Points

Collaborative Transition and Alignment from Birth to the Early Grades

The applicant proposes a clear and detailed plan for developing a pilot, or expanding an existing effort, to support smooth transitions and alignment of services for children and families across early childhood care and education settings into kindergarten and the early grades that includes parents and staff knowledgeable of the options and transition processes that will support each child's individual progress and developmental needs.

0-3 points



Program Approach

- The program approach should be appropriate for the funding level and timeline of the renewal grant. States must reference the work completed on their needs assessment, strategic plans, and program performance evaluation plan. **The grantee must use the findings from the needs assessment to guide their work.**
- The Departments encourage states to propose a program approach designed to improve services for low-income and disadvantaged children and those living in rural areas.
- The approach should also efficiently use federal, state, local, and non-governmental resources and align and strengthen the delivery of quality services, thereby leading to prevention and/or elimination of fragmentation and overlap.



Principles to Guide States in Describing Their Approach

- **System integration** of services and supports for children and families across and among partners is intended to include a fully engaged mixed-delivery approach.
- Clear commitment to developing policies, dedicating resources, implementing professional development, and supporting practices that **enable children with, or at risk of, disabilities and their families to access early childhood care and education programs** that support their full participation and leverages the extensive experience and knowledge of parents of children with, or at risk for, disabilities about their children's needs.



Principles to Guide States in Describing Their Approach

- **Activities are driven by results from periodic needs assessments and program performance evaluations**, that involve families and communities in interpreting these results, and are supported by goals in the strategic plan.
- **Meaningful engagement** of a variety of stakeholders, including parents and community partners, is clear in the approach.
- Focusing on **continuous improvement**, monitoring, and evaluation of the work are essential to successful implementation.
- System for **identifying and expanding on best practices** will strengthen the mixed delivery workforce.



Principles to Guide States in Describing Their Approach

- State **innovation in planning, designing, enhancing, implementing, and evaluating an early childhood care and education mixed delivery system** that will support the healthy growth and development of all infants, toddlers, and young children, particularly low-income and disadvantaged children.
- Incorporation of **trauma-informed approaches** for early childhood care and education programs and providers to buffer the impact of trauma and adverse childhood experiences, thereby increasing each child's chances for success in kindergarten and beyond.
- Consideration of how best to **improve the training, support, and experience of PDG B-5 providers** across the mixed delivery system, including those serving infants and toddlers.
- Provision of **ongoing practice-based mentoring, coaching and professional development** to address the needs and improve the effectiveness of the PDG B-5 workforce, as the state works on developing its proposed approaches to improving outcomes for children and families.



NEXT STEPS

- Work group leads drafting responses to appropriate sections of grant (v1)
 - Alignment with needs assessment and strategic plan
- Feedback loop with work groups
- Revision (v2)
- Webinar to present v2 with large group
- Feedback loop with large group (survey)
- Revision (v3)
- Due to SCDSS Nov 1



