**Preschool Partnership Grant Q/A**

Q: We have received the partnership grant in the past when we partnered with the local YMCA. This year we are applying for a license to open our own child care center on site to provide extended care beyond the preschool day and calendar. Does the grant allow this type of partnership, as well?

A: Yes, this is allowable.

Q: Curriculum/supplies aren't listed as an allowable expense. Can we budget for supplementary curricula and supplies?

A: Yes, those items are allowed.

Q: Will there be any webinars concerning the partnership grant?

A: No

Q: Can we partner with more than one other community partner?

A: Yes, you can submit with multiple partners.

Q: Are partnerships allowed between county schools and county schools child care programs?

A: Yes, if all qualifications are met through licensing and they accept childcare assistance. If the district runs a child care program, they can partner with themselves.

Q: There are no licensed childcare providers in my town/county. Does this mean we are not eligible to apply for the preschool partnership grant? In the past we partnered with Head Start. Its 3/4-year-old programs that are blended with us are not licensed, but the Early Head Start on our campus is. Would this be an option since those children come to our preschool?

A: You could partner with a Head Start or Early Head Start program if those programs are licensed, but it won’t serve all the kids enrolled in the program because they may not be at or less than the federal poverty level. That leaves out many students who could use the services. Last time, the schools that did not have other childcare in their area extended their own services with a program run by their school system and used the money for that.

Q: We have an early learning center; our center has a partnership with the Community Action Council for EHS and PFE students (birth to age 3). However, our preschool is not included in that contract. I am interested in the Preschool Partnership Grant to provide our preschoolers with even better opportunities for learning and school readiness. Do I need to be in contact with the local school system and get its agreement to work with us? Is it just my filling it out and how we would use the money to best serve our preschool children or must there be an active partnership in place for preschool-age children?

A: Yes, you will need to talk with the local school district to secure partnership. The local school district will be responsible for the application and implementation of the contract.

Q: I am a licensed childcare provider. How does this preschool grant apply to childcare facilities? Does the application have to be completed by a preschool/school district first?

A: The application does have to be submitted by the school district; the child care facilities will partner with the school districts.

Q: Could this grant of an existing preschool teacher since we are adding a new classroom, or does it have to be for extending the times/services for extended care?

A: This is to extend services past the school day for the children that need the longer hours.

Q: Does American Rescue Plan fund this grant?

A: Yes, 100 percent

Q: I need to know who the representative is that would take care of filling out the letter of intent for the Preschool. Who would be the grant coordinator and the coordinators position, also is there a person we can contact to help with the grant application?

A: The best thing to do would be to reach out to the superintendent of your school district. The school choose anyone to be the liaison.

Q: I am a licensed type 1 daycare center level 3 STARS. What are the other requirements and how do I partner with the school system? Do the current teachers meet the requirements or do they need further training or college credits? Is there a certain number of kids I have to serve?

A: The best thing to do is to reach out to the local school district whether it is the preschool department or the superintendent and have a conversation about partnering. Any other qualifications will be set up by the school district on how they will implement the requirements.

Q: We currently are revamping and expanding our preschool to care for 3- and 4-year-old students outside the state KERA preschool day. We work closely with our local Head Start but would like to know if we can consider our center within our district as a partnership or would it be a conflict of interest to partner with ourselves while we expand our preschool to develop our center childcare aspect?

A: You can use their facility if it meets the requirements: be licensed, accept childcare assistance and be at least a level 3 or higher in the STARS program. We encourage working with programs within the community that meet these criteria, but we also are aware all centers do not meet those qualifications within all communities.

Q: The school district is interested in early and afternoon wraparound care. The center believes the transitions would be detrimental to students in that they would attend daycare until 7:30 a.m., attend preschool and then return for after-school care at 3:30 p.m. the center would like to retain the students for the entire day by hiring their own IECE-certified teacher. They would like for the grant funding to come directly to them. The school district would like to know if this is or is not a viable option.

A: For this to work, the county school would have to send its preschool teacher (and needed therapists) to the center for the three hours per day of public school preschool. Then, the supplemental funds could support the extended hours along with CCAP. It can work, but the school system will have to be willing to use a non-traditional model.