**FAQ Preschool Quality Partnership Grant**

1. The RFA references the grant period being 18 months and ending on 12/30/2025.  However, the scoring rubric says (under collaboration) three-year grant period.  Just wanted to clarify if it was 18 months or 3 years.

Answer: The Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) is a federal grant providing Kentucky with $11.9 million each year over a three-year period. More about Kentucky’s PDG B-5 initiative is available [here](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fkyecac.ky.gov%2FPages%2FPreschool-Development-Grant-Documents.aspx&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.bryant%40education.ky.gov%7Ce8b564b69ce84a46adc008dc1dd507db%7C9360c11f90e64706ad0025fcdc9e2ed1%7C0%7C0%7C638418048008167419%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000%7C%7C%7C&sdata=GC8VLv%2B0vW5ogsvjOPXA9uM7voci30mFEhnMLhVnUic%3D&reserved=0). The Preschool Quality Partnership (PQP) grant is an 18-month grant made possible with PDG B-5 funds. This PQP grant RFA provides a funding opportunity for an 18-month period.

1. If you have received the PPG previously, can you apply for it again?

Answer: Yes.

1. Would the grant allow/approve a district to purchase a vehicle used for the preschool transportation to a childcare facility off campus?

Answer: Yes, as long as the purchase is restricted to benefit preschool quality partnership grant program services.

1. The information shared states *"increase the availability of full-day, year-round, high-quality preschool services in their communities"*: Is a district required to increase the "year-round" services in their community, or will providing "full day" options be deemed appropriate and sufficient?

Answer: The intent of this grant is to provide full-day, year-round, high-quality preschool services. The goal is to maximize preschool student learning and achievement. “Year-round” means operating for the full year that the co-applicant is open. PQP students are expected to have access to partnership services following the co-applicant’s year-round schedule.

1. Where do I go to watch the Pre-recorded Technical assistance webinar?

Answer: [KDE Competitive Grants Page](https://www.education.ky.gov/districts/business/Pages/Competitive%20Grants%20from%20KDE.aspx).

1. We are doing Enhanced Head Start this year.  If we don't do the enhanced agreement next year, can we use them as our co-applicant? We have to do the Full utilization agreement where we give them their first 30 qualifying students. I can send a copy of our agreement if needed.

Answer: Head Start may serve as the co-applicant as long as the partnership avoids duplication of the full utilization agreement and does not supplant federal Head Start funding. Grant activities must supplement (enhance or extend) current services, not supplant federal Head Start services. For example, the PQP does not have income requirements for preschool students. Grantees may supplement existing services by recruiting and enrolling students who do not qualify for state-funded preschool or Head Start.

1. If we use daycare as a co-applicant and they are open year-round, our preschool is only open for the school calendar year.  Is that considered year-round?

Answer: Yes, as long as PQP students and families benefit from co-applicant services.

1. Are the funds spent or encumbered in the first year?

Answer: Grant funds must be expended or encumbered by Dec. 30, 2025.

1. Under allowable activities and expenses, the first bullet says supplement childcare teacher salaries. Does that include the applicant (preschool) and co-applicant?

Answer: Yes, funds may be used to supplement applicant and co-applicant salaries as long as PQP students benefit from this expenditure.

1. Can the funds be used to purchase programs related to training? Does this apply to the applicant and co-applicant?

Answer: Yes, as long as the purchase benefits PQP program services.

1. What is the ratio of how the funds are dispersed between the applicant and co-applicant? Answer: This is determined locally. Applicants may justify how funds are dispersed in the budget narrative section.
2. What is the ratio of how the funds are dispersed between the allowable activities and expenses?

Answer: This is determined locally. Applicants should make clear connections in the application between allowable activities and expenses, as well as align the need for program services in the need section with the design of services in the quality section and expenditures identified in the budget section.

1. Under Part 4: Budget, can you provide some clarification on bullet three?  Does that mean we have to keep in place everything we use this grant for and for how long?

Answer: Applicants must explain how services will be extended beyond the 18-month grant period for the benefit of preschool students and families. This may include identifying local resources to support and sustain activities. In response to bullet three, applicants may identify the time period for sustaining services and resources proposed to sustain these services.

1. What is the state evaluation of the preschool quality partnership grant program?

Answer: An independent evaluator will be identified to collect data and conduct an evaluation of program implementation. This data may be used to support grantees with technical assistance and professional development activities.

1. How many co-applicants do we have to have?

Answer: Each application must have at least one eligible applicant and one eligible co-applicant. Applicants may identify more than one co-applicant. Co-applicants must meet the criteria identified in the application, and roles for each co-applicant should be identified and explained in the applicant’s narrative sections.

1. If planning to partner with two childcare facilities, can one of the facilities be one that the district is currently in partnership with through the original PPG?

Answer: Yes, this is a new and separate grant opportunity. PQP grantees will be expected to fulfill the requirements identified in the PQP application.

1. In regard to "redacting/blinding" within the application, is this throughout the entirety of the application (much like when writing for National Boards?)-no identifying information? Can partners be named in the application? Would it be better to use "our district"? "Our Head Start”? because otherwise the County will be named within the application.

Answer: The decisions about how to address redacting are left to the applicant. It would be acceptable to call yourself, “the district, the applicant, the co-applicant, etc.” What is required is that city, county, district, and school names be redacted. The find and replace feature in Word can be used to replace those words with XXX’s.

1. Is the purpose of the grant supporting providing a full-day preschool classroom in the state-funded school site, or defining “full day” as the services received at preschool half day and the remainder of the day at the partnering daycare?

Answer: The purpose of the grant is to provide full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services to 3- and 4-year-old children. “Full day” means an early childhood program provides a minimum of six hours of operation, four or five days per week. Either option could meet the definition, as long as the minimum number of operational hours and days are met. The program schedule should be designed to meet the needs of children, families, and communities served by the partnership.

1. Are there a certain number of childcare centers that our school district will need to partner with? Also, will funds need to be dispersed equally among partnering centers? Can any portion of funds go to the district or do all funds need to go to the childcare centers?

Answer: Each application must have at least one eligible applicant and one eligible co-applicant. Applicants may identify more than one co-applicant. Co-applicants must meet the criteria identified in the application, and roles for each co-applicant should be identified and explained in the applicant’s narrative sections. The dispersal of funds or the portion of funds going to partnering centers is locally determined and may be addressed in the budget narrative.

1. Can you share more details about this grant, the parameters, requirements, etc.?

Answer: The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children.  The local school district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the [KDE Competitive Grants Page](https://www.education.ky.gov/districts/business/pages/competitive%20grants%20from%20kde.aspx).

1. Our childcare program is not open in June and July.  Are we still eligible to receive the grant?

Answer: Only if you partner with an eligible co-applicant operating a year-round schedule, and Preschool Quality Partnership (PQP) grant students and families benefit from co-applicant services. “Year-round” means operating for the full year that the co-applicant is open.

1. We are a private school that runs 9 weeks in the summer as well as the normal school year. Would we be a candidate for the Preschool grant?

Answer: Each application must have at least one eligible applicant and one eligible co-applicant. Public school districts serve as applicants. Licensed and certified child care providers, including Head Start, may serve as co-applicants. If you are not a public school but operate a licensed or certified childcare program, you may be eligible as a co-applicant. Please contact your local school district about opportunities to apply as a co-applicant.

1. Does the Preschool Quality Partnership grant require a center to be a certain All STARS level?

Answer: Yes, centers must meet the definition of “high-quality” programs, meaning a level three rating or higher in the Kentucky All STARS system.

1. I am a private school following 10 10-month program that follows the school calendar - I am not eligible for this grant?

Answer: Each application must have at least one eligible applicant and one eligible co-applicant. Public school districts serve as applicants. Licensed and certified child care providers, including Head Start, may serve as co-applicants. If you are not a public school but operate a licensed or certified childcare program, you may be eligible as a co-applicant. Please contact your local school district about opportunities to apply as a co-applicant.

1. Who do I (as a child care provider) reach out to within the school system to get this started? Most public schools have their own preschool so why would they partner up with a stand-alone facility?

Answer: A list of school districts is available on KDE's website (<https://openhouse.education.ky.gov/Directory>). A public-school decision to partner with child care is made locally. School districts must partner with one or more licensed or certified child care provider(s) in order to quality for competitive grant funding.

1. Is this for daycares that have 3- and 4-year-olds?

Answer: The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children. The Local School district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.

1. Our center is licensed for 30 students, and we are currently in the process of expanding to be able to increase our capacity to 70 students ages 2, 3, 4, and elementary. We are open all year long, run a school program from Labor Day to Memorial Day following the state preschool curriculum, and have a summer camp program from Memorial Day to Labor Day. With the expansion, we are going to need to buy additional equipment, and supplies, and pay for additional staff. If we applied, could we use the award from this grant to pay for those things?

Answer: School districts serve as the fiscal agents for this grant, and decisions about how to budget and spend funding would be determined at the local level between the school district (applicant) and child care partner or partners (co-applicant). A list of allowable activities and expenses is located on pages 7 and 8 of the application.

1. We are interested in applying for the Preschool Partnership Quality Grant and have a question. We provide daycare services to children in our community ages 6 weeks – school age. Are we eligible to apply or do we need a school to apply, and our organization be the co-applicant?

Answer: Yes, you may apply as a co-applicant if you are licensed or certified as a child care provider, and you apply with a school district identified as the applicant. More about applicants and co-applicants is located on page 5 of the grant application.

1. How many classrooms can we do? Do we have to do all classrooms in the center, or can we write for 2 all-day programs?

Answer: This is locally determined between the applicant and the co-applicant. Applicants should consider basing their decisions on needs identified in the application’s need section.

1. I am a licensed childcare provider in XXXX County and I am interested in being a co-applicant for the grant. However, I am not sure about the next steps to take to apply.

Answer: The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children.  The local school district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.

1. Out of the three child care centers in XXX County, South XXXX Learning Center is the only one ranked five-star, but they are not a year-round facility. I see that Head Start may serve as a co-applicant. Would this grant allow them to become a year-round center or does this mean they do not qualify?

 Answer: Yes, Head Start may serve as the co-applicant as long as the partnership avoids duplication of full utilization agreements and does not supplant federal Head Start funding. Page 6 of the application includes information about Head Start serving as the co-applicant.

1. What if the Local School District does not participate or decides to participate with another Licensed Child Care Provider?

Answer: Decisions about applying for funds are made at the local level, including selection of co-applicants. A description of applicant and co-applicant requirements is provided on page 5 of the grant application.

1. Where is the state receiving this funding -- where is it coming from?

Answer: Funding for this initiative is made possible by the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5), a federal grant designed to improve state early childhood systems. The Governor’s Office of Early Childhood is the fiscal agent of Kentucky’s PDG B-5 grant. More about the Governor’s Office of Early Childhood is found at [https://kyecac.ky.gov/Pages/index.aspx](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fkyecac.ky.gov%2FPages%2Findex.aspx&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.bryant%40education.ky.gov%7C1740aa31dc18400a070908dc26859da9%7C9360c11f90e64706ad0025fcdc9e2ed1%7C0%7C0%7C638427602516000210%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=ufORlrXcNZ0k8ci%2Bn6l%2FzvDNV2Ck7nRdiV5XUMXxaVg%3D&reserved=0).

1. Is there a list of available partners for different counties? I work specifically with XXXX County STARS rated programs.

Answer: A search engine for Kentucky child care providers is located in kynect benefits ([https://kynect.ky.gov/benefits/s/child-care-provider](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fkynect.ky.gov%2Fbenefits%2Fs%2Fchild-care-provider&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.bryant%40education.ky.gov%7C8377a76cda6544d92b8408dc2686d36a%7C9360c11f90e64706ad0025fcdc9e2ed1%7C0%7C0%7C638427607709099078%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=mMAdycFu6Ot9jmy16o%2FImykleqD5dskwuYUDTDbcGBA%3D&reserved=0)). Searches are possible by location, zip code, name, or license.

1. I’m interested in the opportunity, but I need assistance with who to contact within XXXX to apply.

Answer: You could start by contacting the state-funded preschool coordinator in your district, but the best contact may vary from district to district. A school district directory is available here: <https://openhouse.education.ky.gov/Directory>.

1. I am the Director of a preschool program in XXXX, Ky. Our program follows the school calendar, August-May. Do we qualify for this PQP Grant?

Answer: The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children.  The local school district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.

1. How do you go about getting a school to be on your application and what if you are only a 2 star?

Answer: Please contact school districts in your area to gauge interest in applying for this grant opportunity. The co-applicant must have at least 3 STARS in Kentucky All STARS. A list of school districts is available on KDE's website (<https://openhouse.education.ky.gov/Directory>).

1. Does the co-applicant have to already have the 3-star rating on or before July 2024 or can they be in the process of obtaining that rating?  We are wanting to partner with a new childcare center that will not have a 3-star rating until after August 2024 due to the time of the establishment of their programming.  There is not currently a program existing, but it will be established in July 2024, so it will have not been rated yet.

Answer: Co-applicants are expected to have a three STAR rating at the time of application, as applicants must demonstrate the ability to implement or enhance a full-day, year-round, high-quality program to serve preschool children.

1. Would we have to contact the local school district to see if they will serve as the applicant for the grant for us?

Answer: Yes, school districts are required partners. To qualify for funding, you need to partner with a school district. A list of school districts is available here: (<https://openhouse.education.ky.gov/Directory>).

1. Do we (child care centers) receive part of the funds, as well as the school system? It is my understanding that the funds are used for quality improvements. Is this, for example, buying supplies, curriculum, learning toys, books?

Answer: School districts serve as the fiscal agents for this grant, and decisions about how to budget and spend funding would be determined at the local level between the school district (applicant) and child care partner or partners (co-applicant). Co-applicants are fully eligible to receive funding through the partnership. A list of allowable activities and expenses is located on pages 7 and 8 of the application.

1. I am writing to request an application for the FY24 Preschool Quality Partnership (PQP) Grant. Can you send a link to the application or direct me to the correct point of contact for questions?

Answer: All questions about the Preschool Quality Partnership should be directed to this inbox, KDERFP@education.ky.gov . The Questions deadline is at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, February 6th, 2024.

The Request for Application document and a recorded technical assistance session can be found on the [KDE Competitive Grants Page](https://www.education.ky.gov/districts/business/pages/competitive%20grants%20from%20kde.aspx).

1. What are the stipulations to apply,  do you have to be part of the Stars program?

Answer: The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children.  The local school district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.  Yes, a co-applicant must have three stars in All STARS, Kentucky’s quality rating improvement system.

1. Can you please give me more information about the grant? What are the qualifications, and how long is the program?

Answer: The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children. The local school district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page. Regarding the duration of the grant, 15 grantees may be funded up to $300,000 for an 18-month grant period. Grant funds must be expended or encumbered by Dec. 30, 2025.

1. Can a regular preschool program apply for the opportunity?

Answer: The grant application requires a local school district to serve as the applicant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare provider to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.  Regarding the duration of the grant, 15 grantees may be funded up to $300,000 for an 18-month grant period. Grant funds must be expended or encumbered by Dec. 30, 2025.

1. The RFA states that the applicant must demonstrate the ability to implement or enhance a full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood program.  But then it says that funds cannot be used to replace regular preschool services.  So, we are a licensed 3- & 4-year-old preschool who could benefit from this grant by enhancing our program.  Do we qualify?

Answer: “Regular preschool services” refers to state-funded preschool services. The grant application requires a local school district to serve as the applicant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare provider to serve as the co-applicant. Certified family child care providers are considered eligible to participate as co-applicants. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.

1. For the purposes of the PQP grant are we considered full-time (8:30-2:30)? We are adding a summer program. Would we be a candidate for the new grant?

Answer: The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children.  The local school district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. A “full-day” program is defined as an early childhood program providing a minimum of six hours of operation, four or five days per week. “Year-round” means operating for the full year that the co-applicant is open. The partnership is expected to offer a year-round schedule with limited closures (e.g., holidays, etc.). To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.

1. I am a 10-month program that follows the school calendar - I am not eligible for this grant?

Answer: Each application must have at least one eligible applicant and one eligible co-applicant. Public school districts serve as applicants. Licensed and certified child care providers, including Head Start, may serve as co-applicants. If you are not a public school but operate a licensed or certified child care program, you may be eligible as a co-applicant. Please contact your local school district about opportunities to apply as a co-applicant. A “full-day” program is defined as an early childhood program providing a minimum of six hours of operation, four or five days per week. “Year-round” means operating for the full year that the co-applicant is open. The partnership is expected to offer a year-round schedule with limited closures (e.g., holidays).

1. We are a state-funded public preschool. Are we able to apply for the grant using our school district's daycare facilities?  We have 2 that we are considering. One has a 5-star rating and the other a 4-star rating. They have a daycare director and follow daycare regulations.

Answer: Yes, as long as the child care center is licensed and has three or more STARS in All STARS, Kentucky’s quality rating improvement system.

1. What are the requirements for your preschool program to qualify for the grant?  Do you have to have a certified preschool teacher? Or otherwise, ECE degreed staff member teaching in those programs? Where can I find the information?  Also, how do we determine the amount that we would qualify for?

Answer: Teachers in state-funded preschool classrooms must be interdisciplinary early childhood education (IECE) certified. Teachers in Preschool Quality Partnership (PQP) funded child care classrooms are expected but not required to have IECE certification unless students in these classrooms are enrolled in the state-funded preschool program. The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children.  The Local School district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.  Regarding the duration of the grant, 15 grantees may be funded up to $300,000 for an eighteen-month grant period. Grant funds must be expended or encumbered by Dec. 30, 2025.

1. Can we partner with a daycare center that has a religious affiliation (i.e., operates in a church)?

Answer: School districts may partner with faith-based childcare providers. Regarding religious education, the Preschool Partnership Grant (PQP) federal funds cannot be used to support inherently religious activities such as religious instruction, worship, or proselytization. For general guidance, please see HHS Equal Treatment Regulations for Faith-Based Organizations ([here](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.acf.hhs.gov%2Focc%2Ffact-sheet%2Fequal-treatment-regulations-faith-based-organizations&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.bryant%40education.ky.gov%7Ce3ab3a6657314413ea6808dc272eeb5e%7C9360c11f90e64706ad0025fcdc9e2ed1%7C0%7C0%7C638428329661215143%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=shUCjKHXlPIfyJ0WsW1glbxAoIby%2FMN6PZptzUEvlx4%3D&reserved=0)).

1. Can we partner with a new center that is in the STARS application process?

Answer: No. Co-applicants must have a STARS level three rating or higher in Kentucky All STARS, the state’s five-star quality rating and improvement system for early care and education programs.

1. Are there curriculum guidelines on religious education? We are a church-based, religiously affiliated organization.

Answer: School districts may partner with faith-based child care providers. Regarding religious education, the Preschool Partnership Grant (PQP) federal funds cannot be used to support inherently religious activities such as religious instruction, worship, or proselytization. For general guidance, please see HHS Equal Treatment Regulations for Faith-Based Organizations ([here](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.acf.hhs.gov%2Focc%2Ffact-sheet%2Fequal-treatment-regulations-faith-based-organizations&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.bryant%40education.ky.gov%7C42cc68a766e44f99de3e08dc272e642f%7C9360c11f90e64706ad0025fcdc9e2ed1%7C0%7C0%7C638428327407101554%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=z2%2Bf8TFO8RnffwxE8qvb1ot3L5NR8ALGpI0mfOuNol0%3D&reserved=0)).

1. Must Type I facilities currently be a level three STARS program at the time of application?

Answer: Yes.

1. Is this to *start* a preschool program within the facility, or would it apply to improving a *current* program?

Answer: The purpose of the grant is to implement or enhance a full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood program to serve 3- and 4-year-old children. All school districts must implement state-funded preschool services, and applicants must demonstrate the ability to implement or enhance current preschool services.

1. I am the owner of two 4-STAR-rated preschool programs. I am interested in expanding our programs to participate in the Preschool Partnership Grant. Both programs are open Monday-Friday full days but on slightly different schedules. We are closed during the fall, winter, and spring intercessions and offer summer camps for six weeks in the summer. What do I need to do to participate in the grant opportunity?

Answer: A “full-day” program is defined as an early childhood program providing a minimum of six hours of operation, four or five days per week. “Year-round” means operating for the full year that the co-applicant is open. The partnership is expected to offer a year-round schedule with limited closures (e.g., holidays). The Preschool Quality Partnership Grant (PQP) is designed to support full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood services for 3- and 4-year-old preschool children.  The local school district must serve as the applicant for the PQP Grant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare to serve as the co-applicant. To learn more about the Preschool Quality Partnership grant offered by the Kentucky Department of Education, please read the posted Request for Application (RFA) and view the recorded technical assistance session available on the KDE Competitive Grants Page.

1. Our in-house Preschool Program (not a Head Start program) is not a full day program. We plan to partner with a local Preschool that is a full day program. Can we use grant funds for teachers in our non-full day program to attend trainings?

Answer: Yes. Allowable expenses and activities include travel and participation in regional, state, or national early childhood training or meetings for the purpose of improving early childhood quality.

1. Does “School districts serve as fiscal agents” and “School district is the applicant” in the presentation refer to only public school districts? Can private/parochial districts be the applicant and fiscal agent, or do they have to partner with the local public school district and be the co-applicant?

Answer: Yes, “school district” refers to school districts in Kentucky’s public school system. Private/parochial districts cannot serve as applicants/fiscal agents but may partner with public school districts as a co-applicant providing licensed or certified child care services. A directory of Kentucky school districts is available on KDE’s website: <https://openhouse.education.ky.gov/Directory>.

1. If a childcare center and a local public school partner together, who is responsible for hiring more teachers to cover the full day child care?

Answer: School districts serve as the applicant and fiscal agent for the grant. Decisions about hiring teachers would be made by the partnership (applicant and co-applicant).

1. How do funds flow between the public school and the child care center?

Answer: School districts serve as the grant’s fiscal agents for the purpose of receiving and directing partnership funds in support of implementing or enhancing full-day, high-quality early childhood services to preschool children. Decisions about how funds would flow between the school district and child care center would be locally determined.

1. If a child care center is able to open a new classroom of 20 children who are 3 – 4 years, must all of the new 20 children qualify for the State Funded Preschool Program?  Or can these children be from families that need child care?

Answer: All children 3-4 years of age would be eligible to participate in the program. Eligibility is not limited to state-funded preschool program requirements; however, if state-funded preschool children are enrolled in the child care center, the classroom must meet state-funded preschool program requirements.

1. In most child cares, a full day is 10 hours, what is the grant’s definition of a full day?

Answer: Ten hours of operation a day would meet and exceed the PQP grant’s definition of “full-day,” which is a minimum of six hours of operation, four or five days per week.

1. Do enrolled children pay tuition, or does the grant pay the tuition for the newly enrolled children?

Answer: PQP grantees must provide free preschool services to 3- and 4-year-old children during the grant period.

1. The funds from the Grant cannot be used to purchase food.  Does this mean we cannot use funds to purchase groceries for breakfast and snacks /milk for the children?

Answer: Food or refreshments are not allowable grant expenses. Partnerships may use other funding sources to support meals for children, including but not limited to meal programs administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA).

1. Can the partner be a "new center,” or does it have to be one which is already open and a level three?

Answer: The co-applicant must be a licensed or certified childcare provider with a level three STAR rating in All STARS, Kentucky’s quality rating improvement system at the time of the application.

1. If program is an extended day program with us offering preschool services to our children for 6 hours, can we still utilize CCAP funds to offset the additional hours we are open for program funding during non-preschool hours?

Answer: The PQP grant is intended to implement or enhance full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood program services to preschool children. While extending the program day is consistent with the intent of PQP, child care programs providing CCAP services must follow all state and federal requirements concerning use of CCAP funding. Questions about the CCAP program should be directed to Kentucky’s [Division of Child Care](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.chfs.ky.gov%2Fagencies%2Fdcbs%2Fdcc%2FPages%2Fdefault.aspx&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.bryant%40education.ky.gov%7C0f00f97545384a17417608dc276015ce%7C9360c11f90e64706ad0025fcdc9e2ed1%7C0%7C0%7C638428540848441516%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=lAmOw7GgsW7McTgUajQb52iFlRhXBLerGWwkPdyoChQ%3D&reserved=0).

1. What are the requirements for the continuation of the program once PQP grant funds run out?

Answer: Applicants are expected to address sustainability in the budget narrative section. Resources and support needed to implement grant activities beyond the grant period should be identified in this section.

1. My question is may we use these funds for students who are in RTI?  They don't qualify upon enrollment but could after all interventions and testing take place.   I understand that if they meet requirements and we start receiving funds for them, we could no longer use funds from the grant for those students.  The grant funds would supplement the cost of these students since we don't receive any other funding for them.

Answer: Yes, PQP funds may be used to serve 3- and 4-year-old students in RTI, including students who have not qualified for special education. Funds may be used to serve children who are not eligible for state-funded preschool or Head Start.

1. If we were awarded one of the grants would the funds from the grant replace the funds, we now receive from the states childcare assistance program (CCAP) for children in the program?

Answer: The PQP grant is intended to implement or enhance full-day, year-round, high-quality early childhood program services to preschool children. Child care programs providing CCAP services must follow all state and federal requirements concerning use of CCAP funding. Questions about the CCAP program should be directed to Kentucky’s [Division of Child Care](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.chfs.ky.gov%2Fagencies%2Fdcbs%2Fdcc%2FPages%2Fdefault.aspx&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.bryant%40education.ky.gov%7Cdc1ef48c1b4d4a42fe6508dc27e6c896%7C9360c11f90e64706ad0025fcdc9e2ed1%7C0%7C0%7C638429119371889426%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=Wia2nqfrnm8TzwsYJ0o%2FqrqlfZ3SSjpyq2T9IHbJ5N8%3D&reserved=0).

1. The previous preschool partnership grant had a lot of emphasis on SEL and mental health components. Is that an expectation for the use of funds with this grant as well?

Answer: PQP programs must focus on all domains of child development, including social emotional learning and child well-being. The PQP grant emphasizes developmentally appropriate early mathematics and early literacy activities in support of building a strong foundation for school success.

1. What does it specifically mean for a licensed Type 1 Childcare Facility to identify the strategies for jointly recruiting and screening 3–4-year-old preschool children to be served by childcare and state-funded preschool programs?

Answer: Applicants are expected to address how the partnership will recruit and screen 3- and 4-year-old children to be served with PQP funding in the grant application. Recruitment activities should align with local needs identified in the need section.

1. Does a plan of action need to be drafted and implemented before the grant's submission date?

Answer: The implementation of a plan of action for PQP activities prior to the grant’s submission date is not required.

1. Does the school we are partnering with already need to enroll qualifying preschoolers into the program?

Answer: Concerning qualifying preschool children, schools already are required to recruit and enroll preschool students who are eligible for state-funded preschool services. School districts must follow state and federal requirements concerning services for state-funded preschool students. The PQP grant may allow partnerships to extend services beyond current requirements to include 3-and 4-year-old children who don’t qualify for state-funded preschool or Head Start services.

1. Within the grant's budget, can a portion of the grant fund childcare tuition (specifically each child within the program)?

Answer: Yes, as long as 3- and 4-year-old children benefit from PQP program services. Concerning Child Care Assistance Program for Families (CCAP) services, child care programs must follow all state and federal requirements concerning use of CCAP funding. Questions about the CCAP should be directed to Kentucky’s [Division of Child Care](https://nam11.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.chfs.ky.gov%2Fagencies%2Fdcbs%2Fdcc%2FPages%2Fdefault.aspx&data=05%7C02%7Cjennifer.bryant%40education.ky.gov%7Cc9a9747228044d7970f608dc27f1fc9a%7C9360c11f90e64706ad0025fcdc9e2ed1%7C0%7C0%7C638429167495708127%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C0%7C%7C%7C&sdata=qb1L7xqJ%2B%2BFX%2F34OZa%2B8%2BcBtaPRv81VLsCl9AyhpQm8%3D&reserved=0).

1. Would I qualify as a certified family daycare?

Answer: The grant application requires a local school district to serve as the applicant, and they must have at least one licensed or certified childcare provider to serve as the co-applicant. Certified family child care providers are considered eligible to participate as co-applicants.

1. The application states that the services of the grant are for “At-Risk” children. What is the definition of an “at-risk” child for the purposes of this grant?

Answer: “At-risk” refers to children at risk of failing in school. The state-funded preschool program focuses on serving at-risk four-year-old children whose family income is no more than 160% of the federal poverty level. However, the PQP grant may serve additional 3- and 4-year-old children who may be at-risk of failing in school but who are not eligible for the state-funded preschool program. The goal is to increase the number of 3- and 4-year-old children participating in full-day, year-round, high-quality early care and education programs to address the unique and unmet needs of children and families across the state.

1. Does the money from this grant go to the school district or the child care center, or both?

Answer: School districts serve as the fiscal agents for this grant, and decisions about how to budget and spend funding would be determined at the local level between the school district (applicant) and child care partner or partners (co-applicant).

1. What is the benefit to child care centers to serve as a co-applicant? Do we get funding for staff, training, more students, etc.?

Answer: Benefits may include opportunities to supplement childcare teacher salaries, extend program hours or open new classrooms, and participate in early training for the purpose of improving program quality. Decisions about how to budget and spend funding would be determined at the local level between the school district (applicant) and child care partner or partners (co-applicant).

1. Can the regional cooperatives (OVEC, KVEC, etc.) be the applicant for a grant?

Answer: Regional cooperatives may apply as long as the applicant and co-applicant requirements are met. These requirements are stated on page 5 in the grant application.