



Karen B. Salmon, Ph.D.
State Superintendent of Schools

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March 1, 2017

Dear Early Care and Education Provider:

This is to inform you that Maryland's application for the Preschool Development Grants - Expansion Grants has been posted to the MSDE website at <http://earlychildhood.marylandpublicschools.org/prek-grade-2>. The grant opportunity is open to qualified vendors, i.e., State or nationally accredited licensed child care programs that are either (1) published at Level 5 in Maryland EXCELS; (2) are State or nationally accredited; or (3) are an approved nonpublic school. All programs receiving grant funds will be expected to achieve a Maryland EXCELS Quality Rating Level 5 by July of 2018. The grant provides funding to serve students at or below 200-300% of Federal Poverty Guidelines (FPL) in high-quality PreK education settings.

The funding level for eligible students aged 4 years old by September 1st is \$7,344 per student for new full-day students or \$3,672 per student for an improved slot (see grant application for definition). An introduction to filling out the PreK Expansion Grant Application will be held via webinar on Tuesday, March 7th at 9:30 am (local school systems) and at 1:30 pm (community based programs/non-public schools). Directions to the webinar will be posted on Friday, March 3, 2017. If you are unable to attend the live webinar a recorded version will be posted on the web site. Please contact Roann Tsakalas for more information.

Roann Tsakalas
Grants Coordinator
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Thank you for participating in the grant application.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Kelley
Acting Assistant State Superintendent
Director, Office of Child Care
Division of Early Childhood Development