Preschool Development Grant B-5 Update

State ECAC Presentation
February 5, 2020
Preschool Development Grant B-5
Federal Grant Cycle

- Initial Grant
- Renewal Grant Year 1
- Renewal Grant Year 2
- Renewal Grant Year 3
- No-Cost Extension of Initial Grant
Preschool Development Grant B-5 Initial Grant

Purpose: Conduct a year-long, comprehensive state planning process that seeks to operationalize MD’s strategic vision for children ages B-5 and their families. Focus on improving program effectiveness, funding efficiencies, and supporting innovative and research-based approaches.
Preschool Development Grant B-5 Renewal Grant

Purpose: Three-year grant to operationalize MD’s strategic vision for children ages B-5 and their families. Focus on increasing state early childhood system capacity, improving program effectiveness, funding efficiencies, and supporting innovative and research-based approaches. Continue ongoing Needs Assessment, Strategic Planning and Performance Evaluation processes.
Maryland’s State Early Childhood System Principles

- EQUITY
- COMPREHENSIVE DEVELOPMENTAL DOMAINS
- MIXED-DELIVERY SYSTEM
- TWO-GENERATIONAL APPROACHES
- VULNERABLE POPULATIONS
Maryland’s Prenatal to Grade 3 Vision

All of Maryland’s young children and their families will thrive.
Maryland’s Prenatal to Grade 3 Mission

Maryland’s vision for its Prenatal-Grade 3 Early Childhood State System is a well-coordinated and integrated system of programs, supports, and services where every child in the state has the opportunity to access a high-quality early childhood experience, arriving at school with a healthy body, healthy mind, and the foundational knowledge and skills needed to succeed; and that every family has access to the resources needed to be effective as their child’s first and most important teacher and advocate. A child’s access to quality early childhood experiences and the positive outcomes that result will not be contingent on income, race, zip code, disability status, nor English language proficiency.
From Needs Assessment to Strategic Plan to Evaluation

- Needs Assessment
  - Town Halls
  - Community Roundtables
- Strategic Plan
  - State and Local ESSA Plans
  - CCDF State Plan
- Evaluation Plan
  - Home Visiting
  - Part B & Part c

Additional Programs:
- Head Start Collaboration
- Kirwin Commission
- NGA P 3
- MD EXCELS
- Prtizker 0 3
Needs Assessment Data Sources

Document Review
- 107 documents conducted in the last 15 years

Town Hall Meetings
- 18 meetings across 9 sites in Maryland with 686 attendees

Stakeholder Survey
- 1,281 valid responses to the survey available in seven languages: English, Spanish, French, Urdu, Chinese, Amharic, and Arabic

Focus Group discussions
- 179 stakeholders participated in 17 focus groups
The report is organized according to the seven domains that shape the landscape of Maryland’s ECE system:

(1) Availability and Access
(2) Quality
(3) Transitions
(4) Systems Infrastructure and Coordination
(5) Parent Knowledge/Family Engagement
(6) Data Systems
(7) Costs and Funding
Key Findings

Many Marylanders experience limited access to ECE services, especially children and families who are:

- Low-Income;
- Living in rural areas;
- Meeting special needs
- Multi-language learners;
- Immigrant families
- Struggling with homelessness or substance abuse/misuse.
Key Findings

Families struggle to navigate the ECE system and parents often do not know about programs and services available to them.
Key Findings

Despite efforts to improve the coordination of Maryland’s ECE programs, the system is still fragmented.
Key Findings

ECE professionals experience access barriers to teacher preparation and professional development programs which leads to a shortage of qualified staff across the state.
Key Findings

Data driven decision making is made more difficult by gaps in coordinated data systems.
PDG B-5 Initial Grant Projects:

- Children Study Their World Curriculum Coaching
- MD EXCELS Quality Improvement Support
- WIDA Early Years 2nd Institute Cohort; Statewide Kick-Offs
- LENA Grow pilot underway in 3 Family Support Centers
- ZTT Critical Competencies Coaching
- Attendance Works
- LECAC Grants
- Library Grants
- Equity Training
- Higher Education Inventory
- Statewide Data System Modernization
What’s Next for Maryland’s Initial PDG B-5 Grant?

- Issuing a Strategic Plan that includes Strategic Actions and measurable Indicators to track progress and monitor success.
- Completing Program Performance Evaluation of Initial Grant.
- No-Cost Extension of Initial Grant through December, 2020.
MARYLAND WINS A $26.8 Million PDG B-5 RENEWAL GRANT!
Preschool Development Grant B-5 Renewal Grant Key Activities

- Modernizing Maryland’s early childhood data system;
- Training and coaching to support evidence-based curriculum for 3- and 4-year-olds;
- Professional development engaging young multi-language learners through WIDA Early Years;
- Promoting and supporting inclusive settings for young children with disabilities;
- Strengthening family engagement;
- Training and coaching for providing high-quality care and learning experiences for infants and toddlers and their families;
- Increasing alignment and opportunity across the state's higher education system to support the early childhood workforce; and
- Providing grants to local Early Childhood Advisory Councils and libraries to improve local service capacity and quality.
Preschool Development Grant B-5 Renewal Grant Now Funds Direct Services

The PDG B-5 Renewal Grant will also fund the expansion of direct services that will target areas of service gaps and, with a focus on supporting prenatal and early childhood health and wellness, infants and toddlers, and the needs of families experiencing adversity.
Preschool Development Grant B-5
Renewal Grant New Activities

• Increasing prenatal and developmental health service capacity in local communities through research-based models;
• Supporting early childhood professionals in earning their CDA;
• Fatherhood engagement;
• Museum partnerships;
• Early childhood leadership development; and
• Enhancing Judy Center services and infrastructure.
Questions & Comments