

EARLY CHILDHOOD BLOCK GRANT AND KANSAS PRESCHOOL PILOT COMBINED APPLICATION AND REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



For Children’s Cabinet Approval October 1, 2021

Purpose

- Integrate the Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG) and Kansas Preschool Pilot (KPP) grant applications into the Common App to streamline applications and reduce grant-writing and reporting burdens for grantees who apply for and/or receive state funding.
- Efficiencies for state agencies in reviewing and awarding grant submission and better understanding of the impact of state funding and alignment of different state funding streams.
- Blend and braid funding for highest level impact

Decision Points

RFP Component	Current ECBG RFP Language	Decision Point
Award Maximum	Maximum award amount: \$2,200,000	Recommendation: Remove award maximum for ECBG. Applicants’ proposal budget information will guide determination on funding streams and amounts.
At-Risk Criteria	This RFP is focused on children and their families at-risk of entering kindergarten socially, emotionally, or academically unprepared.	Recommendation: Update ECBG application to indicate expectation of meeting at-risk criteria and serving children at-risk first. Require applicants to describe how they will meet this expectation.
Match Amount	Grants must include cash and/or grantee and third-party in-kind contributions, to carry out the activities supported by the grant, in a combined amount equal to not less than 20% of the	Recommendation: Remove 20% match requirement and request applicants describe how they will meet statutory requirements to demonstrate mobilization of community support. From statute:

amount of the ECBG funded grant award with at least 5% in cash.

(b) All moneys credited to the children's initiatives fund shall be used for the purposes of providing additional funding for programs, projects, improvements, services and other purposes directly or indirectly beneficial to the physical and mental health, welfare, safety and overall well-being of children in Kansas as provided by appropriation or other acts of the legislature ... Community-based programs must demonstrate the availability of sufficient community leadership and the capacity to appropriately implement and administer the program that is funded. Programs which **require community mobilization** to successfully achieve program objectives must demonstrate a specific strategy to obtain the requisite levels of community mobilization. Moneys allocated or appropriated from the children's initiatives fund shall not be used to replace or substitute for moneys appropriated from the state general fund in the immediately preceding fiscal year.

Indirect Amount Allowable indirect costs will be limited to 10%.

Recommendation: Reduce allowable indirect percentage to 8% to align with KPP. Allowable costs will be determined by the guidance in the KSDE accounting handbook.
