

## **Early Childhood Recommendations Panel – Family Engagement Stipend Policy**

### **Statement:**

Early Childhood Recommendations Panel members, who serve in the role of a “Parent or caregiver of a young child currently receiving early childhood services from the state of Kansas”, and who are not receiving compensation as an employee of an organization or agency to participate in monthly Recommendations Panel meetings, shall adhere to the following policy regarding parent stipends for attendance:

- Stipend of \$40.00 per monthly Panel meeting that the member attends (\$15/hour x ~2.5 hours.) Currently, no stipends for meetings or research done outside the monthly meeting time.
- Child care stipend of no more than \$50.00 is allowed per day. Child care will be only provided for weekend meetings or meetings during the week if the child is not in school.
- For Panel members who drive themselves to in-person meetings the following reimbursement option is available:
  - Mileage reimbursement based upon current approved mileage reimbursement rate. Mileage reimbursement based upon the most direct route from originating location to meeting location, which shall be confirmed by an online map service (MapQuest, Google Maps, etc.)
  - Panel members traveling more than 150 miles (one-way) from their home to the in-person meeting may be eligible for lodging reimbursement and per diem based on current CONUS rates. Only one (1) overnight stay per meeting is allowed for one-day meetings. All lodging must be prior approved and will be determined on a case-by-case basis. Lodging receipts required for payment.
- Panel members who will need to provide respite care for older kids/young adults with special health care needs are eligible for stipends.
- Stipend payments will be issued quarterly, in arrears. If the annual amount of stipend payments meets or exceeds \$600, a 1099 will be issued to the Panel member.

***Family Engagement stipends are being provided through the Preschool Development Grant Birth-5 (PDG) grant as part of “Family Engagement” grant activities and will be available commencing December 2021 while PDG grant funds are available. This policy does not alter the terms of Executive Order, 20-02, which stipulates “Members of the Panel shall receive no compensation or reimbursements for expenses and shall serve voluntarily. Officers or employees of state agencies who are appointed to the Panel as part of their duties shall be authorized to participate on the Panel and may claim subsistence, allowance, mileage, or associated expenses from their respective agency budgets as permitted by law.”***