

OFFICE OF THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

NOTICE OF FUNDING AVAILABILITY (NOFA)

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2016-17

PRE-KINDERGARTEN ENHANCEMENT AND EXPANSION FUNDING

Application Release Date: July 1, 2016

Application Submission Deadline: August 1, 2016

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), Division of Early Learning, is soliciting applications for the allocation of Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion funding to be distributed by OSSE to community-based organizations (CBOs)¹ pursuant to the Pre-k Enhancement and Expansion Amendment Act of 2008, (the “Act”), effective July 18, 2008 (D.C. Law 17-202; D.C. Official Code § 38-271.01 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations (5-A DCMR Chapter 35).

The purpose of this allocation is to distribute funding, per student, as appropriate, in an amount not to exceed the uniform per student funding formula (“UPSFF”) pursuant to section 2401 of the District of Columbia School Reform Act of 1995, approved April 26, 1996 (110 Stat. 1321-107; D.C. Official Code § 38-1804.01), to CBOs providing pre-K education services² that meet the eligibility requirements and the high-quality standards set forth in section 201 of the Act (D.C. Code § 38-272.01) and its implementing regulations (5A DCMR 3500.3 and 3501).

The UPSFF rate for FY 2016-17 is \$12,974 for 3 year olds and \$12,587 for 4 year olds.³ The allocation of the Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion funding is currently not a competitive grant process; however, if the amount appropriated to OSSE is insufficient to fund all high-quality pre-K programs that meet the eligibility requirements and the high-quality standards, OSSE may distribute the funds through a competitive grant process. (See below “*Competitive Grant, If Applicable*”)

In order to apply for an allocation of Pre-K Enhancement and Expansion funding, a CBO providing pre-K education services shall:

1. be licensed and maintaining compliance pursuant to 29 DCMR Chapter 29;
2. be currently accredited by a national accrediting body approved by OSSE;
3. complete and timely submit a high-quality designation application, on a form furnished by OSSE, which demonstrates that the CBO meets each of the: (1) eligibility criteria

¹ “Community-based organization” or “CBO” means a Head Start or early childhood education program operated by a non-profit, for-profit or faith-based organization, or organization that participates in local or federally-funded early childhood programs, including the Child Care Subsidy Program.

² “Pre-K education service” means the purposeful, well planned and developmentally appropriate practice and instruction provided by community-based organizations to pre-K age children.

³ Rates will be final upon the legislative enactment of the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Support Act of 2016, Bill 21-669.

pursuant to 5A DCMR 3500.3; and (2) high-quality standards pursuant to 5A DCMR 3501; and

- attend at least one pre-application conference.

The aforementioned mandatory pre-application conference shall be facilitated by OSSE at the dates, times, and locations listed below. No one shall be admitted once a pre-application conference has begun, and attendance will be taken at the end of each conference. Failure to attend one of the pre-application conferences will disqualify a high-quality designation application. To attend one of the below listed conferences, please RSVP in advance to Mahlet.Getachew@dc.gov or (202) 727-0545.

Date	Time	Location
July 1, 2016	2:30-4 p.m.	Office of the State Superintendent of Education 810 First St. NE - Third Floor - Grand Hall A&B
July 11, 2016	2:30-4 p.m.	Office of the State Superintendent of Education 810 First St. NE - Eighth Floor - 806 A&B

The high-quality designation application shall be provided to all interested parties during each pre-application conference at OSSE on July 1, 2016 and July 11, 2016.

The completed high-quality designation application, including all supporting documentation, must be received by OSSE no later than **Monday, August 1, 2016 at 5:00 pm EDT**. OSSE reserves the right not to consider incomplete or late submissions.

Competitive Grant, If Applicable

If funds are allocated through a competitive grant process, a Request for Application (RFA) will be released on **Monday, September 2, 2016** on OSSE's website, <http://osse.dc.gov/>, and by contacting Mahlet Getachew at Mahlet.Getachew@dc.gov.

For additional information regarding this NOFA, please contact:

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