

Early Childhood Education Grant Update for Public Children Services Agencies

The Department of Children and Youth (DCY) is actively working to identify services available to children across various state programs. Earlier this year, with the assistance of Public Children Services Agencies (PCSA), DCY was able to identify three- and four-year-olds served by Children Services who may be eligible to receive Early Childhood Education (ECE) Grant services.

The Early Childhood Education (ECE) Grant aims to maximize a child's early educational experiences. These experiences help to prepare children for success in kindergarten by providing high-quality early learning services to Ohio's preschool-age children. The state-funded ECE Grant is awarded to early care and education programs that are required to provide developmentally appropriate learning environments that address the outcomes and goals essential for healthy development and academic growth.

Children may be eligible for ECE Grant funded preschool services if they meet one of the following conditions:

- Family income that falls at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level (FPL);
- Children on an IEP (Individualized Education Plan);
- Children in foster care or kinship care with a case plan or family service plan; or a child placed in kinship care as documented through Kinship Permanency Incentive Program payments; or
- Children in a family experiencing homelessness.

Our team's goal is to assist in maximizing enrollment opportunities for eligible children in identified areas throughout the state. We are letting you know that these efforts are underway and asking for your assistance in linking eligible children to an ECE program. Soon, **PCSAs across the state will be contacted by their assigned Technical Assistance Specialist (TAS), who will provide information regarding potentially eligible children and potential service providers.** Thank you for your partnership and support in promoting early learning for Ohio's children.

If you have any questions, PCSAs can contact their assigned TAS.