



Preschool Development Grants

Development Grants

GRANTEE ABSTRACT

Nevada

Overview

Nevada's proposal supports the improvement and expansion of Pre-K slots across the four years of the grant, while providing critical wraparound supports for vulnerable families. Nevada proposes to improve and expand Pre-K programs in "High-Need Communities", starting in Year One (1). Nevada's experience and current quality half-day day Pre-K program is a project-ready system prepared to expand into full-day high-quality Pre-K. The most significant gain in quality structural measures to Nevada's existing Pre-K program will be the increased number of programs improved from providing instruction to children a minimum of 10-hours a week, to programs that provide a minimum of 25-hours a week or 5-hours a day. This ambitious, yet achievable, plan will result in Nevada serving a total of 2,990 children in high-quality full-day Pre-K programs and the infrastructure to sustain Pre-K in Nevada long after the grant period. Nevada's proposal includes a more than 50% match increasing to 80% by year 4, and will allow for sustainability after the grant period.

Project Objectives and Activities:

NDE's proposal to build infrastructure for new high-quality Pre-K seats and to improve existing half-day seats to full-day, high-quality, utilizes a multi-pronged approach.

Lead Agency

Nevada Department of Education

Year 1 Federal Award Amount

\$6,405,860

Plan Period

January 1, 2015 – December 31, 2018

Preschool Development Grants will support states to build, develop, and expand voluntary, high-quality preschool programs for children from low- and moderate-income families.

There are two types of grants.

Development Grants: For states that currently serve less than 10 percent of four-year-olds and have not received a Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) grant

Expansion Grants: For states that currently serve 10 percent or more of four-year-olds or have received a Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) grant

First, NDE has identified sub-grantees from LEAs, private entities, non-profits, charter schools, and faith-based programs. This will allow Nevada to offer a variety of Pre-K seats for the most vulnerable children in our community, under the 200% FPL, in high-need communities. NDE is proposing to sub-grant 75% of grant, 10% higher than the grant requirement, as much of the initial development process has been completed in Nevada. Secondly, NDE will be utilizing 25% of grant funds to build the infrastructure and capacity by providing monitoring and evaluation; professional development to

expand to full-day; training; working as part of the team to identify physical space; wraparound services; direct support to partners; coaching and direct services to build a comprehensive Pre-K system.

The following highlight Nevada’s objectives:

1. Nevada is a WIDA Consortium State funded to support linguistically diverse students through high-quality standards, assessments, research and professional development for educators. The WIDA Consortium will work to link all standards for culturally and linguistically diverse students across each measure of early learning and beyond, for all schools;
2. Crosswalks have been established between the Early Learning Guidelines and Pre-K Standards, between the Pre-K Standards to the Nevada Academic Content Standards, and Pre-K Standards to Teaching Strategies Gold,™ Nevada’s Kindergarten Entry Assessment with the objective of having one set of comprehensive ELD standards for children birth through 3rd grade;
3. Nevada’s State Pre-K program has longitudinal data since 2002 that demonstrates significant student achievements – Nevada will be including all sites into the data system; and
4. Nevada will build upon the existing Silver State Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System to align with districts and will further align the district TQRIS model to the Nevada School Performance Framework.

Project Goals

Nevada’s priority is to enhance state capacity to implement and sustain high-quality Pre-K programs. As the first step in building a continued Pre-K infrastructure for Nevada communities Nevada proposes to increase high-quality Pre-K slots by 58% within four (4) years and serve approximately 15% of the state’s four-year-old population living under 200% of poverty. In addition, Nevada is working to build sustainable workforce development; professional development and outreach; standardized assessments; comprehensive Kindergarten Entry Assessment; enhance Early Learning and Development Standards, Parent engagement; Coordinated linkage for all sites into State’s Longitudinal Data System; Implement a comprehensive learning system; and support for sustaining a statewide P-3 investment.

High Need Communities to be Served under Nevada’s Plan	
Churchill County	State Public Charter School Authority
Clark County	United Way of Southern Nevada
Community Service Agency	Washoe County
Lyon County	
Nye County	