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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

December 10, 2014

Dear Colleague:

We are delighted to announce the awards for the 2014 Preschool Development Grants competition. The goal of Preschool Development Grants is to support states in building, developing, and expanding voluntary, high-quality preschool programs in high-need communities for children from low- and moderate-income families.

We received many strong proposals from states and are pleased to announce 18 awards. Alabama, Arizona, Hawaii, Montana, and Nevada will be awarded Development Grants. Arkansas, Connecticut, Illinois, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, Tennessee, Vermont, and Virginia will be awarded Expansion Grants.

President Obama is committed to closing opportunity and achievement gaps and working with States and local communities to ensure high-quality early learning for every child, so that all children enter kindergarten ready to succeed in school and in life. Collectively, these 18 distinguished states will work with their local communities to provide high-quality preschool programs for over 18,000 additional children in Year 1 of the program.

We congratulate the winners and salute the other applicants for their hard work and encourage them to continue to expand and improve the quality of their early learning programs in their states. All applications, comments, and scores for all proposals will be posted on the Preschool Development Grants website.

Our Departments look forward to supporting these and other State and community efforts to put high-quality preschool programs in place for more children across the country. Thank you for your continued focus on enhancing education for all children. Our country will truly benefit from your work and focus.

Sincerely,

/s/

Arne Duncan, Secretary
U.S. Department of Education

/s/

Sylvia Mathews Burwell, Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and
Human Services