

## Pennsylvania Department of Education – Office of Child Development and Early Learning

Pennsylvania received a three-year Preschool Development Grant – Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Renewal Grant in December 2022. The following is a snapshot of this grant.

[Read the Abstract of Pennsylvania’s PDG B-5 Renewal Grant Application](#)

### Summary of Planned Activities:<sup>1</sup>

#### ► Maximize Parent & Family Engagement in the B-5 System

Pennsylvania will maximize parent and family choice and knowledge about Pennsylvania’s birth to 5 early childhood education system, support and services. Staff will provide equitable, cultural, and linguistically responsive parent and family training and leadership opportunities. They will develop partnerships to ensure families are informed and connected to services. They will address concerns and ensure families are informed about Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) services, resources, and inclusive early childhood education programs.

#### ► Support the B-5 Workforce & Disseminate Best Practices

Pennsylvania will offer a cross-discipline and cross systems approach for professional development and best practice activities. Efforts will be made to improve the training and experiences of the birth to 5 early childhood workforce by building coaching capacities and supporting a trauma sensitive and informed workforce. Strategies will be developed for culturally and linguistically responsive professional development and higher education opportunities. Strategies to recruit and retain an early childhood education workforce will include enhancing the statewide professional development registry to complete a statewide workforce evaluation and expanding the impact of professional development organizations.

#### ► Support Program Quality Improvement

Pennsylvania will invest in mindfulness interventions for every early childhood professional through guided apps and professional development opportunities as well as continued expansion of the Infant Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (IECMHC) program. There will be a reduction in the administrative burden by having two data systems: PELICAN and the Professional Development Registry. There will be expansion of IECMHC supports by hiring more mental health consultants. There will be increased support for children experiencing homelessness. The RULER (Recognizing, Understanding, Labeling Expressing and Regulating) Approach to social emotional learning will be used to train staff, implement a pilot in a childcare center and family childcare and provide universal training opportunities.

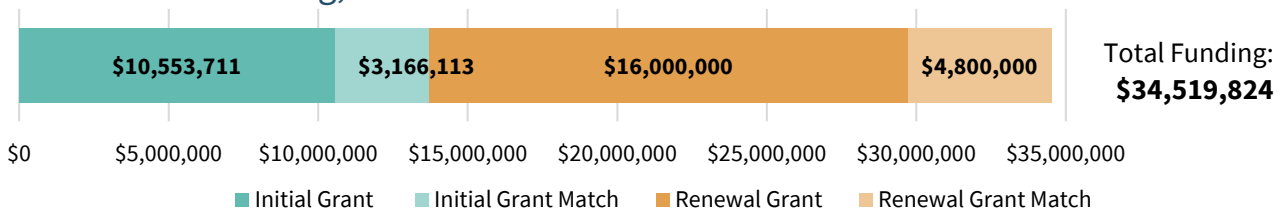
#### ► Subgrants to Enhance Quality & Expand Access to Existing and New Programs

Pennsylvania will expand access to existing or new early childhood education programs with start-up grants for childcare providers. They will support quality improvement activities by having local rapid response teams for programs with children with challenging behavior who are at risk of being expelled. A toolkit and training approach will be developed. They will award grants to create, support or enhance existing teams.

### PDG B-5 Partners:

- Department of Human Resources
- Department of Health
- Pennsylvania Commissions on Early Childhood Education and Care
- State Interagency Coordinating Council
- Early Learning Investment Commission

### Total PDG B-5 Funding, Federal and Non-Federal Funds



<sup>1</sup> These activities are in addition to updating its Needs Assessment and updating its Strategic Plan.