



EARLY HEAD START CHILD CARE PARTNERSHIP STATE GRANTEE PROFILE

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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| Grantee Name | Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE), Division of Early Learning (DEL) |
| EHS Grantee Status | New EHS Grantee |
| Annual Award Amount (additional TA funds) | \$907,920 (22,698) |
| Proposed Funded Enrollment | 200 |
| % of Subsidy Proposed | 100% of participating children |

Partnership Snapshot

The Office of the State Superintendent of Education (OSSE) is the State Education Agency for the District of Columbia (DC) charged with raising the quality of education for all DC residents. OSSE is DC's lead agency for the Child Care and Development Block Grant, the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C and Part B, the Head Start State Collaboration Office, and the Early Head Start Child Care Partnership (EHS-CCP) grant.

OSSE leveraged the EHS-CCP opportunity to develop a neighborhood-based Quality Improvement Network (QIN) to improve and expand the quality of infant and toddler care in DC. The QIN includes two hubs that support a network of 12 child development centers that provide continuous, intensive, and comprehensive child development and family support services. The hubs provide coaching, professional development, coordination, and technical assistance to help child care partners meet Early Head Start (EHS) standards. OSSE is maximizing the impact of the QIN by leveraging local, federal, and private funding to increase by 1,000 the number of children birth to age 3 in EHS quality settings in the next five years. The QIN is supported by an Interagency Steering Committee comprised of District agencies that serve young children and families. The QIN serves District of Columbia Wards 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8.

Subsidy Administration

The child care subsidy program is the foundation of the QIN model. Child care partners are reimbursed for services based on enrollment rather than attendance. Each child care partner is given a number of EHS-CC slots. Eligibility for subsidy aligns with EHS eligibility allowing for continuous, quality services for children and their families.

August, 2016

Subsidy Policy Alignment

For the purpose of eligibility, participants entering the program must have income equal to or less than 250 percent of the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) guidelines and must exit the program when income reaches 300 percent of FPL. Twelve-month eligibility is in place.

Existing child care center providers participate in the QIN. Partners must be at “gold” level for DC’s Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) and be serving at least 40 percent subsidy children.

Leveraged Funding Strategies

OSSE blends federal and local funds to provide quality, continuous, comprehensive services and training and technical assistance supports. Leveraging resources means that all children at partner sites benefit from comprehensive services (e.g., family support, developmental screenings, mental health supports, referrals, and follow-up services).



- ✓ The EHS-CCP grant is part of a systematic strategy to enhance the District’s birth to age 5 early childhood system. OSSE is partnering with a university to conduct an external implementation and impact evaluation to learn how the QIN model is impacting children, families, teachers, and child care partners.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA'S CHILD CARE POLICY CONTEXT

| Policy | State Child Care | EHS-CC Partnership |
|--|---|---|
| Eligibility Period | 12 months | |
| Licensing Standards: Ratios | <p>Centers: Infants: 1:3 or 1:4 Toddlers: 1:4</p> <p>Homes: 1:6</p> | <p>Centers: Infants 1:4 Toddlers: 1:4, 2:8</p> <p>Homes: B-5 1:6 with no more than 2 children under 2 years old B-5 1 teacher/1 assistant</p> |
| Licensing Standards: Group Size | <p>Centers: Infants: 9 or 8 Toddlers: 9 or 8 (12-24 months) and 12 (24-30 months)</p> <p>Homes: 6</p> | <p>Centers: 8 children with 2 teachers</p> <p>Homes: 4 infants and toddlers with no more than 2 children under 18 months</p> |
| Infant/Toddler Teacher Qualifications | <p>Centers: The minimum qualification for the infant and toddler teacher: A valid Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, specifying that the individual is qualified for the assigned age classification (e.g. infant and toddler), or Satisfactory completion of a child care certification course of no less than 90 hours from an accredited college or university, approved by the Director of Health or his/her designee, and at least three (3) years supervised experience working with children in a licensed District of Columbia child development center or its equivalent in another jurisdiction</p> <p>Homes: High school diploma or a General Education Development certificate, with the exception that all Caregivers licensed on the effective date of these rules shall have four (4) years from that date within which to obtain the diploma or certificate; Attend at least three (3) child development-related training courses, approved by the District of Columbia government, per year, for a total of no less than nine (9) hours of training per year; Successfully complete training, as approved by the District of Columbia government, on precautions against Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, First Aid, and CPR for children.</p> | <p>Centers: I/T CDA; or equivalent</p> <p>Homes: I/T CDA; or equivalent</p> |