



**EARLY CHILDHOOD HIGHER
EDUCATION PREPARATION GRANTS
WEBINAR 10/12/2022**



**Illinois
State Board of
Education**



**Governor's Office of
Early Childhood Development**

Agenda

- Purpose of the grant
- Background and goals of the grant
- Criteria for the grant and grant funding
- Grant Timeline: application deadline, anticipated announcement date, appeals, grant period
- Proposal format
- Review and scoring rubric
- Questions

Purpose of the Grant

The purpose of the grant is to expand the pipeline of early childhood faculty by recruiting and supporting cohorts of *diverse candidates* in ECACE Consortium institutions to complete a master's program and/or to pursue a doctoral program to become faculty in Illinois higher education institutions.

The goals of the grant are to:

- Increase the diversity of early childhood faculty in Illinois
- Expand the educational pipeline to increase the number of people preparing to become early childhood faculty in Illinois
- Contribute to the advancement of the next generation of higher education faculty
- Promote equitable opportunities to access, persist, and complete graduate degrees through these grants

The 2021 IBHE's Strategic Plan for a Thriving Illinois

EQUITY

Close the equity gaps for students who have been left behind.

SUSTAINABILITY

Build a stronger financial future for individuals and institutions

GROWTH

Increase talent and innovation to drive economic growth

Criteria for the Grant



Grant requirements starts on page 4 of the memo

These are required for submission



Priority items

These are not required for the grant, but during the review process, additional consideration and points are given for proposals that meet one or more of these items



Funding allowances and Fiscal Information

These are listed on page 6 of the memo

Grant Requirements (starts on page 4 of the memo)



- Demonstrate wider institutional support for the program from the institution's academic leadership
- Offer, during the grant period, a graduate or doctoral program of study designed to prepare a diverse group of early childhood professionals to become Illinois faculty
- Describe the program model for recruitment of a diverse group of post-baccalaureate candidates, and enrollment process.
- Demonstrate how this funding will allow for opportunities that would be challenging for candidates to achieve otherwise
- Validate the ability to provide experience for diverse graduate students that will prepare them to teach in an Illinois academic program
- Make curricular adjustments to accommodate the needs of working adults and diverse learners, including one that requires minimal campus attendance, provides virtual learning experiences, and offers planned opportunities and experiences to be together in person
- Designate a "coordinator" or mentor, who will help navigate the complex higher education network of departments and support academic challenges associated with graduate studies
- Have the capacity to provide wrap around services for adults that allow for greater candidate success, including things like customized advising, coaching/mentoring, leadership development, and the resources and supports necessary
- Identify and address barriers to access, persistence, and completion through the program
- Agree to participate in a professional learning community with other grantees
- Include a plan and budget to assess the outcome of the Early Childhood Faculty Preparation (ECFP) Grant
- Outline ways in which the applicant will assess the success, impact, and lessons learned from the program

Priority Items



The Priority Items are not required for the grant, but during the review process, additional consideration and points are given for proposals that meet one or more of these items:

- Illustrates the completion of the program within the grant period or provides a plan for students to complete after the grant term, potentially with alternative funding
- Has an existing long-term commitment to cultivate faculty to instruct adults and to include them in your institution as part of the community
- Has a long-standing tradition of preparing educators, particularly faculty
- Offers career, leadership, and/or professional opportunities, which might include things like opportunities to teach adult learners; opportunities to work with early childhood scholars in the in Illinois and/or nationally; professional membership and/or participation in conferences; exposure to academic and/or career resources; and access to other institutional resources
- Has a demonstrated capacity for innovation in supporting the student lifecycle and needs
- Fosters the development and implementation of innovative cohort models that reflect the experience and needs of students

Funding Allowance and Fiscal Information



In addition to tuition cost during the grant year, funding can be allocated to plan and implement this specialized program for diverse faculty candidates. Allowable costs include the following:

- Faculty or other personnel salaries or stipends to build pathways, forge partnerships, or teach courses in lieu of tuition
- Books and other materials and supplies
- Student support services, such as tutoring and coaching, student success mentors, writing coaches, childcare, transportation, or other support aimed to mitigate barriers to success
- Compensation for coordinator or current faculty with release time
- Operational and instructional costs to the institution, including course fees or other fees, in return for a waiver of tuition and fees
- Participant support costs may be subject to pre-approval, and institutions are not allowed to draw indirect upon these costs

Timeline

- Application deadline: 5:00 p.m. October 28, 2022
- Anticipated announcement: November 28, 2022
 - Appeals must be received by the 14th day after the date that the first grant award is published
- The grant period is from approximately December 15, 2022 and ends June 30, 2024.

Proposal Format

There are forms and attachments to the application.

- Please make sure you use your institution name and the attachment number on each document.
- The attachments to submit are:
 1. Uniform Application for State Grant
 2. Listing of Entities Participating in the Grant
 3. Proposal Narrative (limit to 15 double spaced pages)
 4. Required Documentation
 1. Letter of support from both the Dean of the college and the Provost
 2. Letters of support from potential partners (required only if other entity is receiving funds)
 3. Documentation of any in-kind services or support, resources, or funding (optional)

Proposal Format (continued)

The attachments to submit (continued):

4. Uniform Budget Template – include a detailed narrative of the estimated expenditures in the budgeted category

- Expenses must be connected to the program to recruit, retain, and support candidates to be successful and complete the degree
- No expense may be used for promotional materials (swag)

There are other items that are for informational purposes:

- Project period, expenditure reporting and grant payments
- Scoring rubric

Scoring Rubric

The grants will be scored by a committee convened by the IBHE using a scoring rubric. The rubric is on pages 9, 10, and 11 of the memo.

The main criteria are:

- Quality of Program Content
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
- Learning and Professional Opportunities
- History and Capability
- Impact of the Grant
- Recruitment

Questions



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