

Hard to Reach Grant Questions and Answers

Logistics

- **How do I submit my application?**
 - Please send the signed original and 7 copies to:
IL Dept of Human Services/Bureau of Child Care
ATTN: Susan Hix, State Advisory Council
400 W. Lawrence, 1st Floor West Springfield, IL 62704

- **How Much will be awarded?**
 - Up to \$30,000

- **What is the maximum and minimum we can request?**
 - There is not a minimum and please budget for up to \$30,000

- **When creating the budget, how many years should we anticipate receiving funding?**
 - 1 year

- **Can the grant be extended?**
 - Yes, for up to 6 months, at the discretion of the Governor's Office

- **Is there a full RFP available?**
 - Yes,
<http://www2.illinois.gov/earlychildhood/Pages/HardtoReachGrantOpportunity.aspx> Click on the Hard to Reach Application Link

- **I was not able to participate in the Webinar can I still apply for the grant?**
 - Yes

- **Are there target areas in the state that will receive this funding?**
 - There are no geographic requirements or restrictions

Who Can Apply

- **Can Public Schools be considered?**
 - Yes
- **Is there a certain percentage that a school has to obtain for DHS families in order to apply for the grant?**
 - No
- **Are public housing authorities eligible to apply?**
 - Yes, if they partner with a High Quality Early Learning Program
- **How is High Quality Early Learning Program Defined?**
 - Any of the following programs
 - Preschool for All
 - Quality Counts Child Care Centers
 - Quality Counts Family Homes
 - Head Start
 - Early Learning Programs recognized by the Department of Defense
 - Accredited Child Care programs
 - NAEYC
 - NAC
 - NECPA
 - COA
 - NAFCC
 - Home Visiting (Addition)
- **What QRS Star Level do you have to be to apply?**
 - You do not have to be a certain level in the QRS in order to be considered a High Quality Early Learning Program
- **Does your organization have to be licensed to perform the services or can it be the parent organization?**
 - A parent organization can partner with a High Quality Early Learning Program.

- **Is Parent as Teachers Home Visiting Program considered a High Quality Early Learning Program?**
 - Yes

Evaluation

- **Do we have to demonstrate proof of collaboration with a university prior to our application, or is this something that that Office of Early Childhood Development will help us with if we are awarded?**
 - No – The OECD will facilitate the connection between the recipients and the University of Illinois
- **Which University will be doing the evaluation?**
 - University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana
- **How are the researchers chosen?**
 - The University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana will be the evaluator/evaluator for the grant

Application

- **Can you please discuss a bit further the attendance and retention requirements?**
 - There are no specific requirements around attendance. However the reviewers will be looking for strategies to retain these hard to reach children in early learning programs.
- **What is the number of children for each project are you looking to serve?**
 - There is not a specific number required for the grant.

Resources

- Will this webinar PowerPoint presentation be available to print?
 - Yes it is available at:
 - <http://www2.illinois.gov/earlychildhood/Documents/Oversight%20and%20Coordination/Hard%20To%20Reach%20Grant%20Webinar%20presentation.pdf>