

Early Childhood Education and Care Department Updates

Secretary Elizabeth Groginsky



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Let's Celebrate

Save *-the-* Date

The Early Childhood Education and Care Department is ***turning 1!***

When:
July 1, 2021

Where:
Santa Fe, NM
(location TBD)
Facebook Live Streamed
Agenda to follow

Build Back Better - Federal Stimulus

FEDERAL FUNDING	TOTAL FUNDING	OBLIGATION DEADLINE	LIQUIDATION DEADLINE
CARES Act from the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG)	\$29.4 million	Sept. 30, 2022	Sept. 2023
Governor's Emergency Education Relief Fund (GEER)	\$4.6 million	May 20, 2020	May 20, 2021
Coronavirus Response & Relief Supplemental Appropriations (CRRSA)	\$82 million	Sept. 30, 2022	Sept. 30, 2023
American Rescue Plan - CCDBG	\$123 million	Sept. 30, 2023	Sept. 30, 2024
American Rescue Plan Child Care Stabilization	\$197 million	Sept. 30, 2022	Sept. 30, 2023
Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV)	\$368,324	Sept. 30, 2023	TBA
Early Intervention Program for Infants and Toddlers (Part C)	\$1,226,000	TBA	TBA

GEERS Expenditures

Priority	Amount of Funding	Timing of Distribution	Individual/Program Benefits
Programming for NM PreK	3,229,906	Jan 2021 – May 2021	Total 1,296 children served in Summer Jumpstart. 1,247 children served in the 128-hours, 29 children in a tribal program and 20 children in a 64-hour option.
Home Learning Support	722,627	Jan 2021 – May 2021	Online learning programs through Waterford UPSTART and training for professionals on Brazelton Touchpoints.
Social-Emotional Support	\$722,627	Jan 2021 – May 2021	Professional Development to PreK and Head Start Staff

New Mexico CRSSA Plan

ECECD Strategic Priorities	Amount of Funding	Percent of Funding
Advance a Diverse, Well-compensated and Credentialed Workforce	\$16,220,000	20%
Increase Access and Quality	\$30,200,000	36%
Achieve Equity	\$17,200,000	21%
Enhance Authentic Collaboration	\$5,400,000	7%
Infrastructure Support for all Priorities	\$3,138,393	4%
HB2 swapped \$10 million in CRSSA for \$10 million in TANF	\$10,000,000	12%
TOTAL	\$82,158,393	100%

American Rescue Plan Fund

ECECD will allocate ARP funds in alignment with our strategic priorities

American Rescue Plan Relief Funds	Amount
Expanded Child Care Assistance	\$123,219,275
Child Care Stabilization Funds	\$197,076,860
TOTAL	\$320,296,135

Native American Early Education and Care Update

Assistant Secretary Jovanna Archuleta



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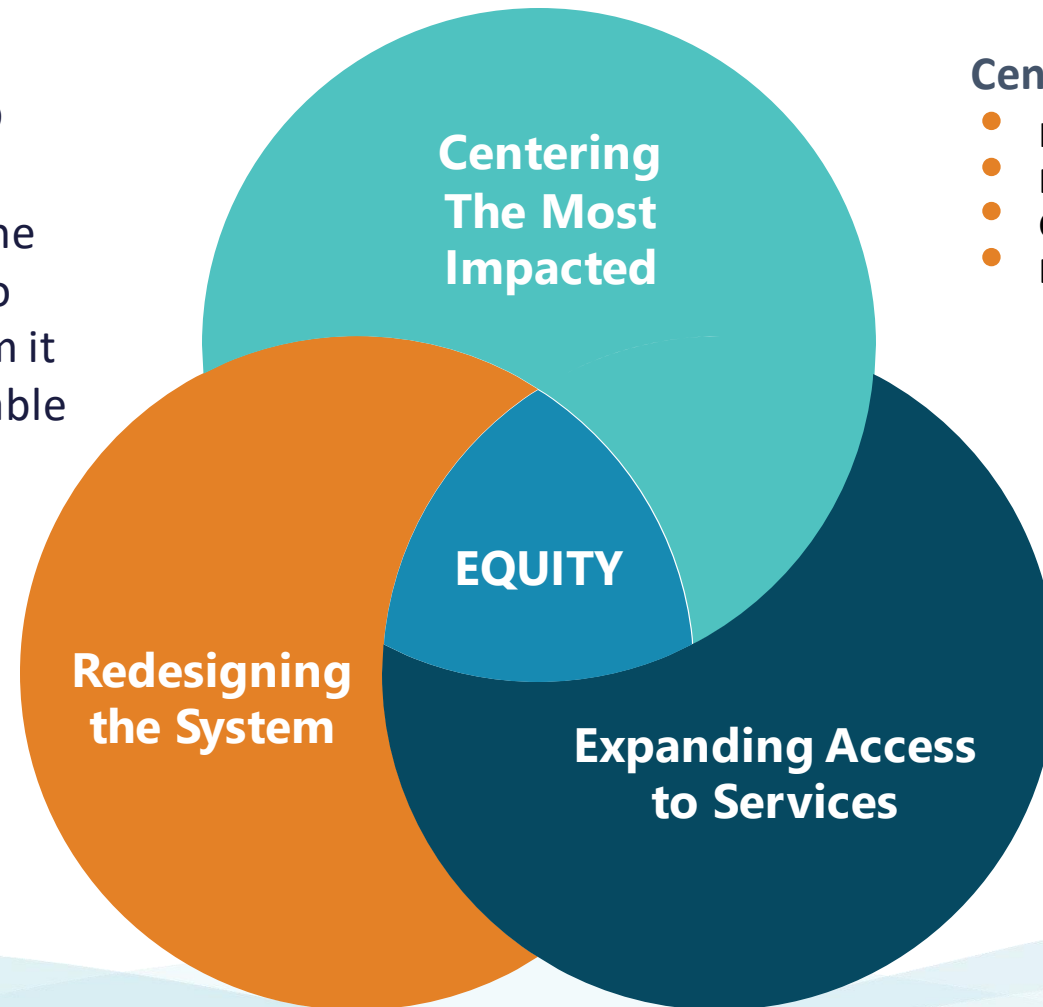
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New Mexico ECECD CHALLENGE

This diagram represents the community concern that the ECECD Guiding Team has identified to collectively work on. By centering the most impacted, expanding access to services, and redesigning the system it will lead ECECD to be a more equitable department.

Redesigning the System

- Map current system.
- Prioritize where to start the work.
- Identify opportunities to reduce/eliminate inequities.



Centering the Most Impacted

- Identifying the most impacted.
- Engaging the most impacted voices.
- Creating a Feedback loop.
- Developing Equity Councils regionally.

Expanding Access to Services

- Identify inequities and barriers to access.
- Define where access needed and to whom.



Native American Early Childhood Policy Analyst

Goal/Assignment 1: To Develop the agency's State-Tribal Consultation, Collaboration, and Communication Policies in accordance with the State-Tribal Collaboration Act.

Goal/Assignment 2: To assist in the amendments of the Indian Education Act and seek guidance from the Indian Education Advisory Council to prepare for the 2022 Legislative session.

Goal/Assignment 3: To participate in the bi-annual Government-to-Government consultation summits with Tribal leaders, Secretaries from the educational agencies, Legislators and Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham.

Goal/Assignment 4: To serve as a consultant across service areas within ECECD that involve or impact Tribes by providing recommendations on policies and best practices.

Child Care Stabilization Grants

Claire Dudley Chavez, Director, Policy, Research and Quality Initiatives Division



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The Essential Work of Early Education and Care

1. Providing care, education and interventions which support the health, development and education of families and young children.
2. Ensuring safe, healthy, educational environments which support appropriate, healthy, and nurturing experiences that prepare children for success in school and beyond.
3. Allowing parents to work and/or pursue an education.
4. Employing and supporting the development of a strong early childhood workforce.



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Child Care Stabilization Funding

- American Rescue Plan Act – Child Care Stabilization Funds: \$197,076,860
 - ◆ 10 percent administrative (\$19,707,686)
 - ◆ 50 percent of the \$177,369,174 must be distributed by Dec. 2021
- Federal funding to invest in New Mexico’s child care system, ensuring providers are stable, and child care is available for all families
- ECECD is committed to ensuring a fair and simple distribution process
- Equity is integrated into the funding formula



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Eligibility

ELIGIBLE CHILD CARE PROVIDERS

- Licensed centers, group homes, and family child care homes that were open or temporarily closed on or before March 11, 2021
- Registered homes that were open or temporarily closed on or before March 11, 2021 and participate in the child care assistance program

NOT-ELIGIBLE

- Head Start programs (ARPA funding available to Head Start grantees)
- Child Care providers that were permanently closed on or before March 11, 2021
- Registered homes – food only programs



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Child Care Stabilization Grant Overview

- Grant application will be released in August 2021
 - ◆ Simple, straightforward online application
 - ◆ One application per licensed/registered site
- Grant awards will be issued by the State of New Mexico
- Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and payments will be issued on a weekly basis
- Grant application will be open for four (4) weeks



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Proposed Funding Formula

Grant awards will provide relief and support to cover lost income resulting from temporary closure, response and recovery operation costs, and other expenses

- Base Amount
 - ◆ Licensed Capacity
 - ◆ Part-Time/Full-Time
 - ◆ Remained Open During Peak Pandemic
- Enhanced funding - weighted on base amount:
 - ◆ Quality – Increased Weight for 3-, 4-, and 5-STAR programs
 - ◆ Infant and Toddler
 - ◆ Equity – Social Vulnerability Index (SVI) Score (Census Tract and Zip Code)



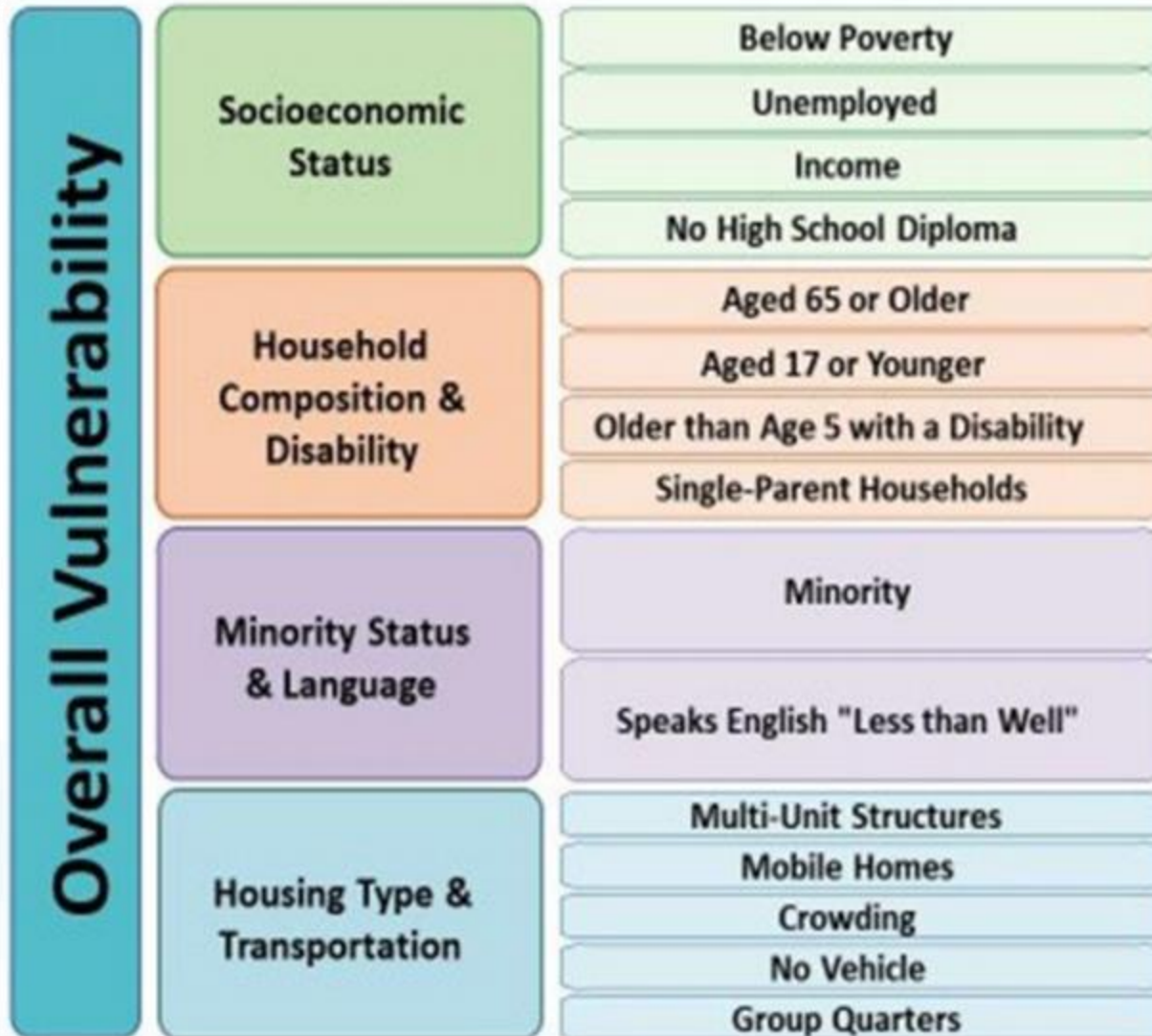
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Focus on Equity: Social Vulnerability Index



- Developed by the CDC to help local officials identify communities that may need support before, during, or after disasters
- SVI scores are from 0 to 1
- Takes into account 15 variables at the census tract level



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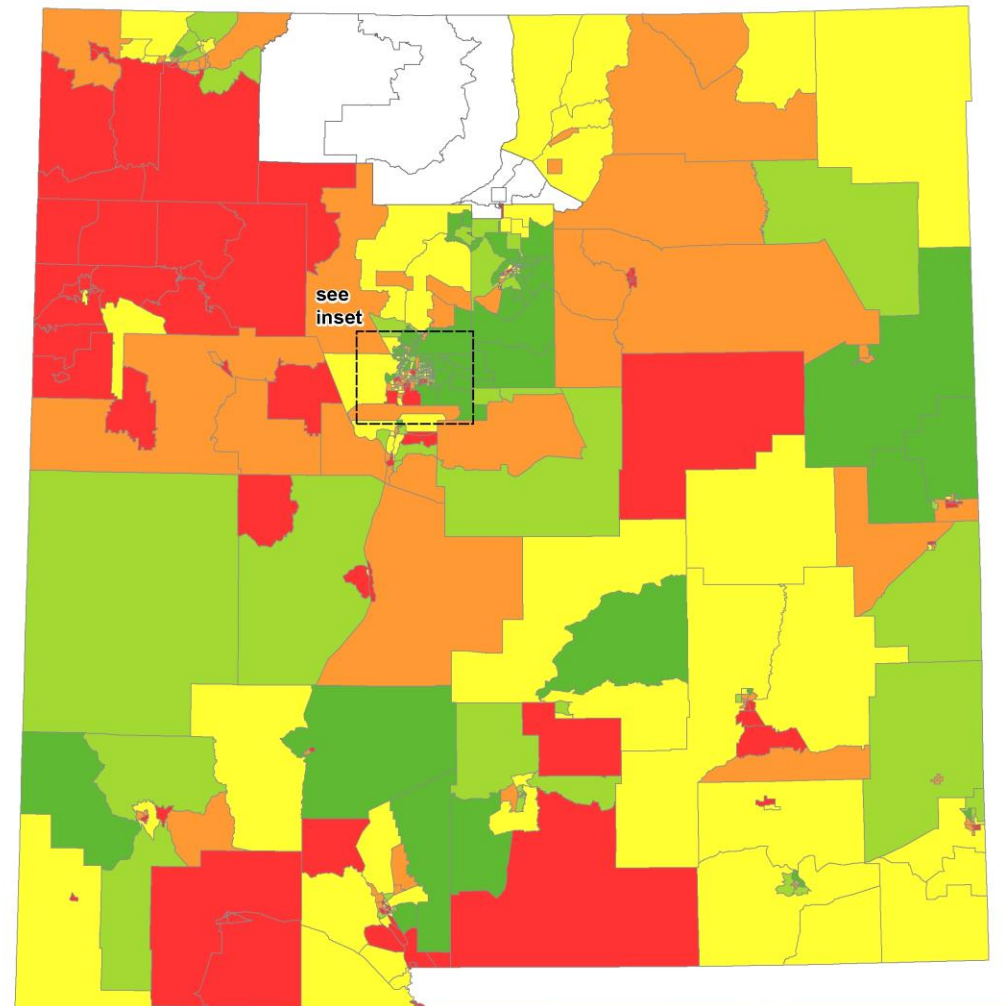
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Focus on Equity: Social Vulnerability Index

- Programs located in areas with a high SVI (red areas) are likely to serve children and families with additional systemic barriers to success
- SVI is highly correlated with the percent non-white population within a census tract, supporting racial equity goals
- Targeting the most under resourced communities with additional supports (SVI > 0.81)
- SVI is used by other state agencies



**Social Vulnerability Index
by Census Tract,
New Mexico, 2016**



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Eligible Expenses

- Personnel costs and benefits
- Premium pay, or costs for employee recruitment and retention
- Rent (including under a lease agreement) or payment on any mortgage obligation, utilities, or insurance
- Facility maintenance or improvements, including outdoor learning spaces / playgrounds
- Personal protective equipment, cleaning and sanitization supplies and services, or training and professional development related to health and safety practices
- Purchases of or updates to equipment and supplies to respond to COVID–19
- Goods and services necessary to maintain or resume child care services
- Health and safety trainings for staff, including but not limited to, CPR, first aid and medication administration
- Mental health supports for children and employees



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Certification and Attestation

The applicant must:

- Agree to use the funds only for the categories and purposes indicated in their application.
- Maintain records and other documentation to support the use of funds and document compliance with the requirements described in A, B, and C.
 - a. Implement policies in line with guidance and orders from corresponding state, tribal, and local authorities and to the greatest extent possible, implement policies in line with guidance from the CDC.
 - b. For each employee (including lead teachers, aides, and any other staff who are employed by the child care provider to work in transportation, food preparation, or other types of service) the applicant must continue paying at least the same amount of weekly wages and maintain the same benefits for the duration of the subgrant. Employees may not be furloughed from the date of application submission through the duration of the subgrant period.
 - c. Provide relief from copayments and tuition payments for the families enrolled in the child care program, to the extent possible, and prioritize such relief for families struggling to make either type of payment.



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Reporting Requirements

- Awarded providers will be required to submit a summary report detailing how funds were spent
- ECECD must provide aggregate reports to the Administration of Children and Families; reports must include, but are not limited to the following:
 - ◆ Number of awards approved
 - ◆ Amount of funding distributed
 - ◆ Licensing status of awardees and provider type
 - ◆ Ethnicity and gender of the owner



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Next Steps

- Online application process
 - ◆ Release: August 2021
- Outreach and communications plan
 - ◆ Meet with key stakeholders and regional partners
 - ◆ Distribute information through partner listservs and websites
 - ◆ Announce via Tuesday bi-weekly Cabinet Secretary call
 - ◆ Post information through social media platforms
 - ◆ Share in ECECD weekly communication and on website
- Technical assistance available in English and Spanish
 - ◆ Email, phone, and virtual and in-person office hour sessions



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Discussion

- What do you think about the eligibility criteria?
- What are your thoughts on the [proposed](#) funding formula?
- What other suggestions/ideas do you have to help promote the grant opportunity?
- What suggestions/ideas do you have around supporting providers in successfully applying for the grant opportunity?



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Family Support and Early Intervention Division Update

Ellie Ortiz, Deputy Director

LouAnn Sanchez Lovato, Home Visiting Supervisor

Kathey Phoenix Doyle, Family Infant Toddler Program Bureau Chief

Kristi Romero, Families First Program Manager



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Home Visiting Falling Colors and Centennial Pilot

Lou Ann Sanchez-Lovato, Home Visiting Supervisor



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Early Childhood Centennial Home Visiting

November	December	January - March	March - April	May-June	July
<p>Launched Core Team</p> <p>Clarified and finalized scope and objectives of Workgroup and develop structure</p>	<p>Select Project Team Chairs</p> <p>Finalize and present the ECHV Workgroup plan</p>	<p>Establish Project Teams</p> <p>Meet monthly to establish the challenges and needs, including background, history, and:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify and prioritize strategies for improvement Determine policy and operational recommendations 	<p>Draft Project Teams' recommendation into a final brief</p> <p>Present Project Teams' plans to Core Team</p> <p>Develop final report</p>	<p>Final Interim Report</p> <p>Prioritization of ECHV/CHV Priorities</p> <p>Draft with recommendations and proposed criteria for judging impact and feasibility.</p>	<p>On Board 5 new programs: MECA, YDI, CAASNM, PMS, Aprendamos =7 total</p> <p>Expanding by 638 new families statewide= 758 total</p>



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ECECD's Working Goals for Home Visiting

1. Establish a sustainable funding approach to deliver high-quality services
2. Elevate home visiting as a critical service for families
3. Focus on continuous quality improvement – use data to drive decision-making and planning
4. Ensure access and engagement by families to the type of home visiting/family support that meets their needs



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FALLING COLORS



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ECECD's Goal for the Transition to Falling Colors

Ensure equity in payment processes and reimbursement rates

- Pay providers for approved services as quickly as possible
- Simplify processes and avoid duplication of effort, as much as possible, for providers
- Add transparency by allowing providers to see the status of invoices and remaining balances
- Go-live on 7/1/2021 – no disruption in services!



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Administrative Services Organization (ASO) for the New Mexico Behavioral Health Collaborative

NM Behavioral Health Collaborative

- 15 state agencies and the Governor's office
- Includes Child, Youth, and Family Dept; Human Services Dept; Dept of Health; Corrections, Aging and Long Term...

Falling Colors as ASO

- Managing ~\$100 million annually in health and human service dollars
- Contracted with 230+ providers
- Tracked 2.8 million services to 37,000 participants annually
- Manage ~60 behavioral health programs; including integrated Substance Use Disorder and Mental Health programs
- Offering end-to-end behavioral health service management: Contracting, participant data collection, outcome tracking, service and claims collection and validation, data collection, burn rate management, financial reporting

Involved in other States, public, and non-profit domains

Family Infant Toddler Program

*Kathey Phoenix Doyle, Family Infant Toddler Program
Bureau Chief*



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Regulation Change Personnel

H. Supervision of early intervention personnel providing direct services.

- Early intervention provider agencies shall ensure that developmental specialists and all other direct providers of early intervention (employees and subcontractors), and family service coordinators receive monthly planned and ongoing reflective supervision.



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Regulation Change Eligibility

- Expanded Established Condition eligibility to include perinatal factors, including preterm newborn, 28 completed weeks or less
- Expanded Bio/Medical eligibility to include perinatal factors, including prematurity (less than 35 weeks and more than 28 completed weeks) [or] small for gestational age (less than 1750 gram)



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Regulation Change Eligibility

The families of children who are determined to be ineligible for the FIT program shall be provided with prior written notice and informed of their rights to dispute the eligibility determination. Families shall receive information regarding other community resources, such as home visiting and how to access specific resources in their area.



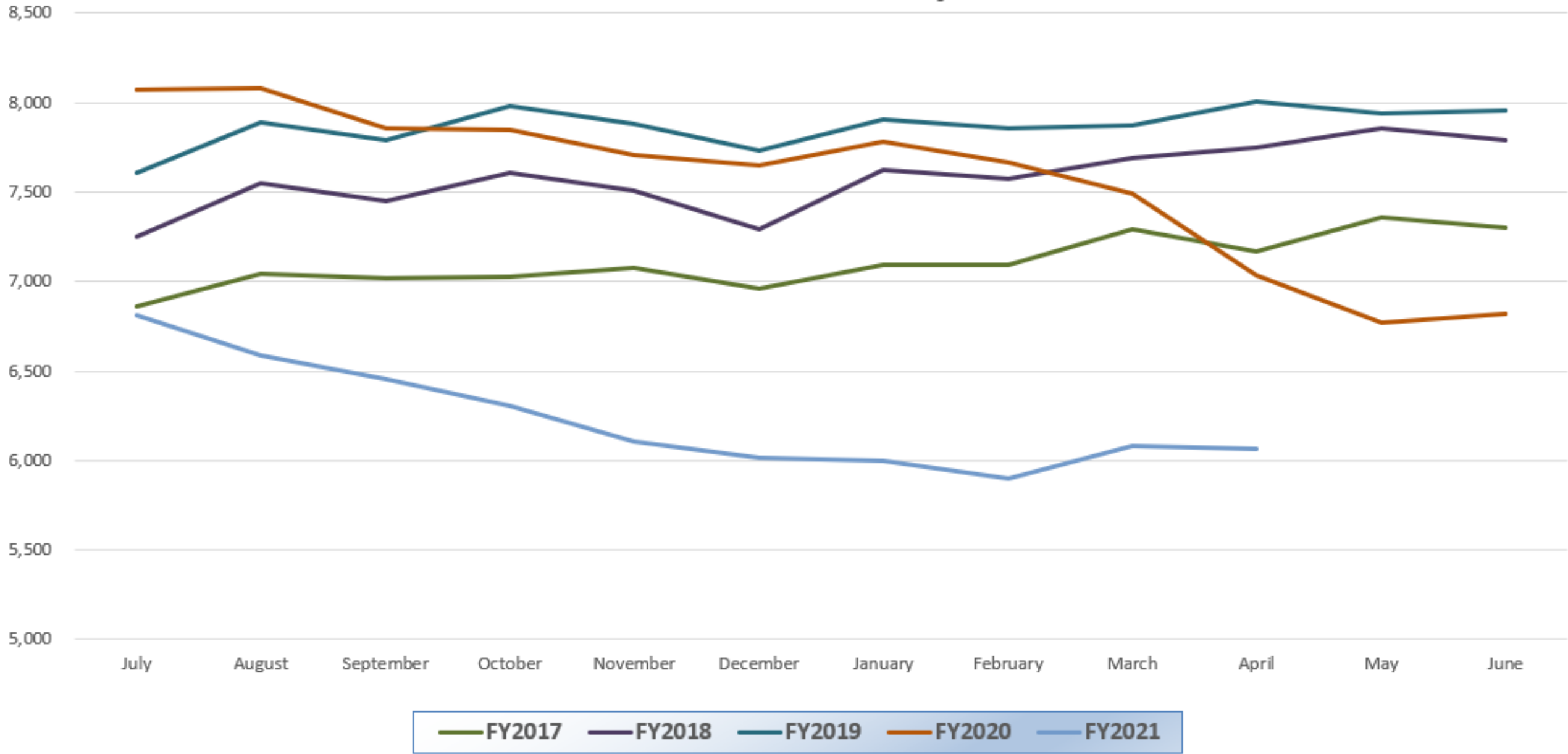
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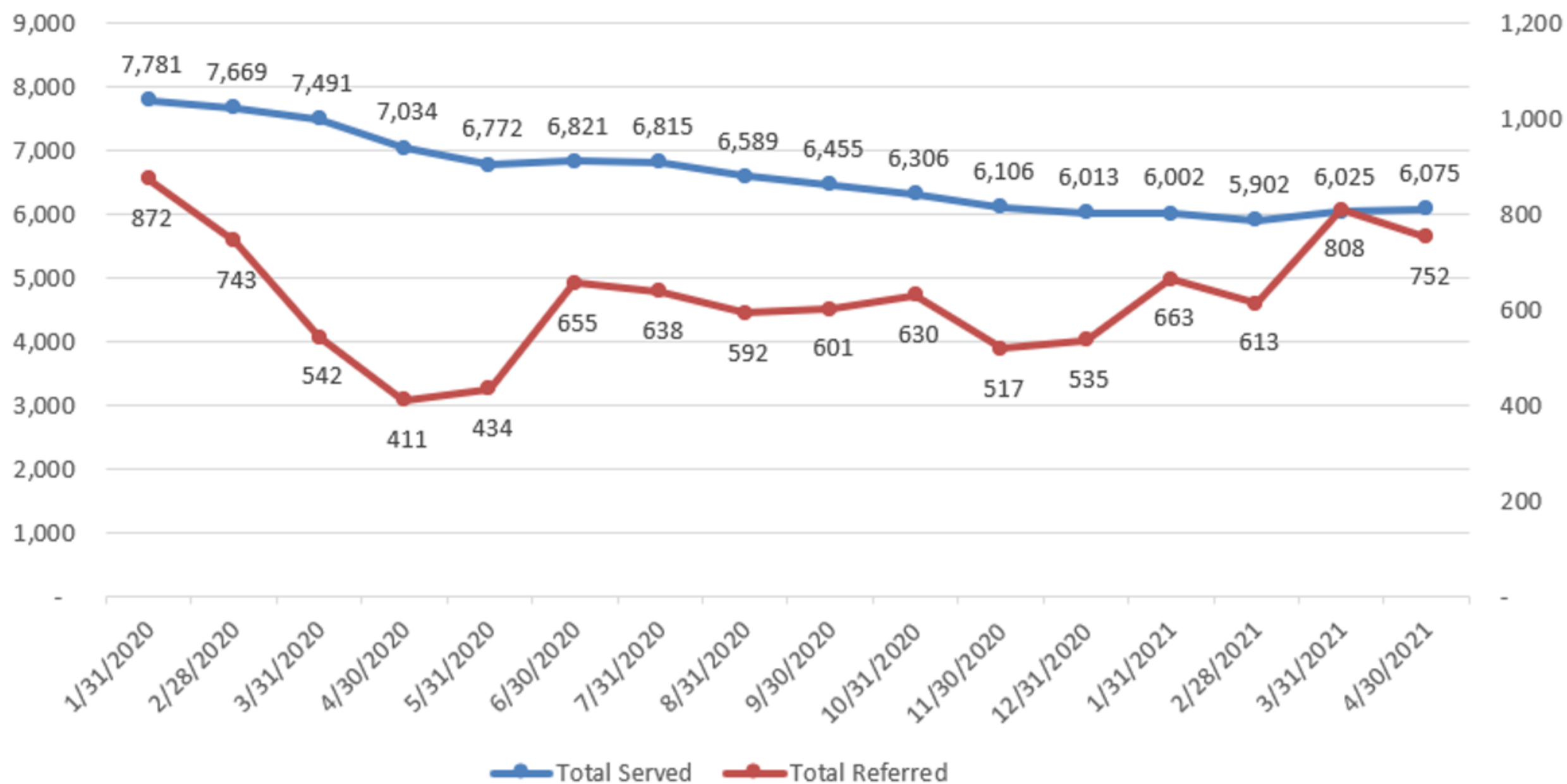
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Total Children Served By Month



2020 - 2021 Referred and Total Served





Families First Program Updates

- Candidate for the Farmington Care Coordinator position
- Offering the safe sleep baby cradles across all regions



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Early Care Education and Nutrition Division Update

David Craig, Deputy Director

Kimberly Brown, Child Care Services Bureau Chief



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2021-2022 PreK Award Cycle

Presentation to the Early Learning Advisory Council



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2021-2022 PreK Awards Overview

- First **consolidated award cycle** under ECECD
- **Award review process** was rigorous
- **Lessons learned** from the award cycle will help inform future award cycles
- **Jumpstart** update



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Consolidated Award Cycle

- Using a single consolidated application, both private and public program applications were reviewed under an identical review process and award process documents were shared and integrated.
- This consolidated award cycle is an important step to fully realizing the vision of SB22 that coordinates and aligns pre-kindergarten and early pre-kindergarten into a single early childhood education and care system.
- Staff from ECECD and PED put incredible amounts of time and effort into this single consolidated process and the efforts resulted in a cohesive structure for all PreK providers.



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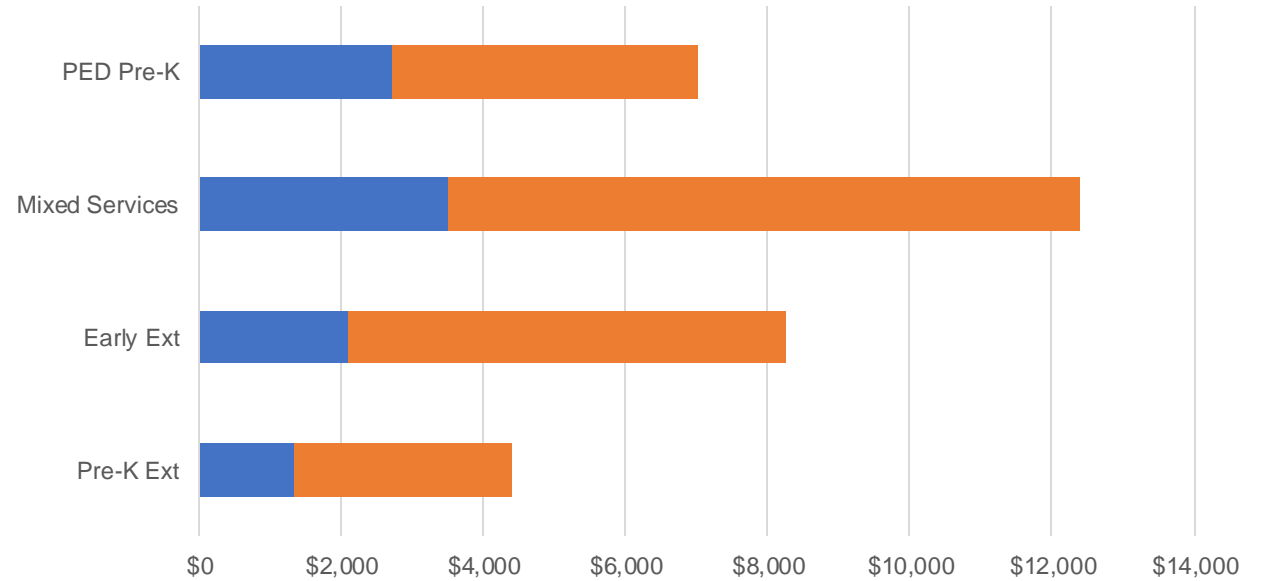
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FY22 PreK Awards Fast Facts

- Requests for funding outpaced available funding
- Applications for early PreK extended day programs continues to grow

PreK Requests* to Awards (in thousands)



*Does not include transportation or start-up/safety

■ Funded ■ Requested



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Summer Jumpstart

- Programs started June 1 or June 7.
- Awards were made to 76 private PreK and two public PreK programs.
- Most programs are providing 128 hours of educational services.
- Total funding for summer JumpStart = \$2,219,400, reaching 1873 students.
- The focus on summer JumpStart is on improving social emotional development, Kindergarten school readiness and support for children with IEPs.



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Regulatory Oversight

- Annual Visits Resumed April 1, 2021
- Printed Licenses Resumed April 1, 2021
- Emergency Regulation Changes
 - ◆ 8.16.2 NMAC
 - ◆ 8.17.2 NMAC



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Child Care Assistance

- In-person Services Resumed May 17, 2021
- Call Center Enhancements
- Statewide Caseload Distribution
- Provider Dashboard Pilot
- Emergency Regulation Changes
 - 8.15.2 NMAC



Visit www.nmcecd.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/CCA-Office-Hours-05.17.2021.pdf for local office hours



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Opportunities to Learn More and Share

- Roundtable Schedule – Spanish Interpreter Available

Northern Region Roundtable

Monday, June 14, 2021, at 12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/97593896314?pwd=b2t0aGYwdFExVUZoMUVVODdE5ueDRvUT09>

Statewide Roundtable (Homes)

Monday, June 14, 2021, at 5:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/98512782621?pwd=YzQ0MDFpQzE5YXdDK01ISEdFM3Zndz09>

Southeast Region Roundtable

Thursday, June 17, 2021, at 12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/97263698930?pwd=SmxaQ3NuTVErNDVMMkIKMEY3QmErUT09>

Central Region Roundtable

Wednesday, June 30, 2021, at 12:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/94508740602?pwd=Z2lFWWJGRcZTHdiUjM1d3pZTmJoQT09>

Statewide Roundtable (Centers)

Wednesday, June 30, 2021, at 5:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/95795947810?pwd=OTZweUhSNzB0U2N4d2NNUkx2UCtNdz09>

Southwest Region Roundtable

Thursday, July 1, 2021, at 11:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/94666880213?pwd=d2FjTWd4R1pmZ3lJckFrNG1vRk9oZz09>



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Opportunities to Learn More and Share

- Provider Orientation Schedule

Provider Orientation – English

Wednesday, July 14, 2021, at 5:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/95099143482?pwd=akdxZkRRM3VCT3hVZVJ1c0EyRzZYUT09>

Provider Orientation – Spanish

Wednesday, July 14, 2021, 5:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/93827340081?pwd=azRXOCsrZk5ydkxxYTQ3c2hsalEyZz09>

Provider Orientation – English

Saturday, July 17, 2021, at 9:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/91722252958?pwd=REM5b0ZCc1VrcXhxYmRMRmEvcIFCUT09>

Provider Orientation – Spanish

Saturday, July 17, 2021, at 9:00 AM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://nmececdorg.zoom.us/j/99836530301?pwd=V0k5NnZNQkdUQkdMT1ZzS0FKSFZ1Zz09>



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Policy, Research and Quality Initiatives Division Update

Claire Dudley Chavez, Director of Policy, Research and Quality Initiatives

Brenda Kofahl, Director, PED Early Childhood Bureau



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PreK Pay Parity

Eligibility

\$3 million dollars in ECECD's FY22 budget to support pay equity for NM PreK private sector teachers with equivalent credentials to public sector teachers.

**Application will be live
August 15, 2021.**



Early Childhood Wage Supplement Program

Financial support and encouragement for early childhood professionals



Current Participants

July – December 2020: 128

January – June 2021 (est.): 375

Goal to Expand

500 participants by July 1, 2021



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Early Childhood Wage Supplement Program

Financial Support Available

- Working at least 20 hours/week in an eligible program as a:
 - Teacher or teacher's assistant
 - Family child care home professional
- Earn less than \$16/hour
- Have at least 5 credit hours of Early Childhood Education
- Supplements are paid out in 6-month periods: January through June and July through December

How to Apply

Visit www.ececdscholarship.org/wage-supplement for more information.



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Early Childhood Scholarships

Investing in early childhood professionals and their careers

Current Participants

Spring 2021: 647

Summer 2021 (est.): 719

Goal to Expand

1,000 Scholars by Fall 2021

CDC / Associates Degree

100% tuition, fees, and books

Bachelor's Degree

100% tuition, fees + 50% books

Graduate-level Degree

80% tuition upon available funding



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Early Childhood Scholarships

How to Apply

- Have a high school diploma or equivalent.
- Are enrolled in a qualifying New Mexico higher education institution working toward an early childhood education degree or New Mexico Child Development Certificate.
- Work a minimum of 20 hours per week at a:
 - New Mexico licensed child care program;
 - State-funded PreK or early PreK program, Early Head Start and Head Start;
 - State-funded home visiting or Family Infant Toddler (FIT) program; or
 - Public PreK, Title I or 619 preschool program.

Application form can be found online in English and Spanish at the www.ececdscholarship.org website.



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Bilingual Incentive Program

Current Participants

18 recipients since beginning of May (Spanish, Japanese, Tewa)

Eligibility

- \$1,500 one-time payment for certified bilingual professional
- Certifications:
 - PRAXIS – TESOL
 - La Prueba
 - Bilingual Seal on HS Diploma
 - Tribal Certification
- Current Scholarship and/or Wage Supplement applicants

How to Apply

Visit www.ececdscholarship.org
for more information and to apply.



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CCDF Plan

Regional and Stakeholder Engagement – 900 Participation

9 Regional Sessions

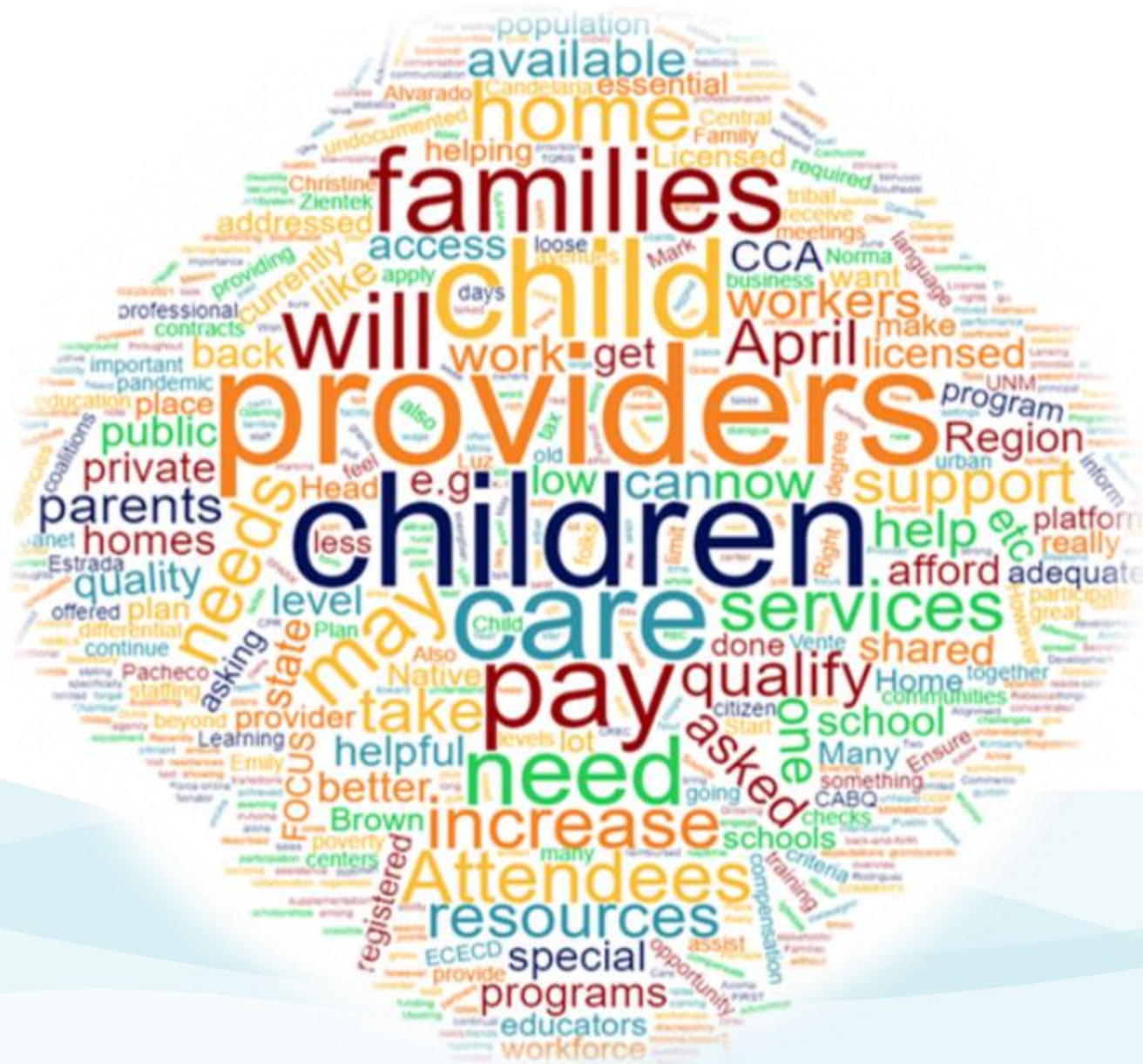
- Providers, Resource and Referral, Local Government

15 Stakeholder Meetings

- State Advisory Council, Resource and Referral, Emergency Management and Response, Other State Agencies, CCDF Tribal Administrators, Tribal Communities, Medicaid, Part C Agencies, Public Health Agencies, Head Start Collaboration, Out of School Time Providers, Mental Health Staff, Public Education, Child and Adult Care Food Program etc.

Submit Plan by July 1, 2021





Feedback Themes



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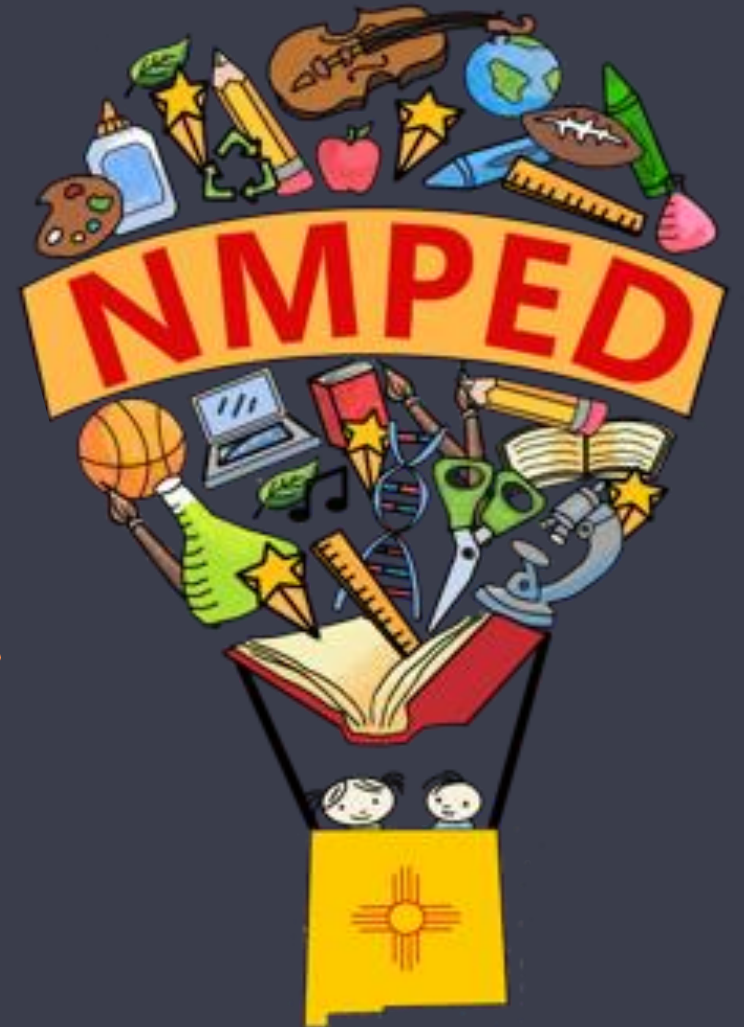
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Waterford Early Learning

*Accessing Technology for
Developmentally
Appropriate Early Learning*

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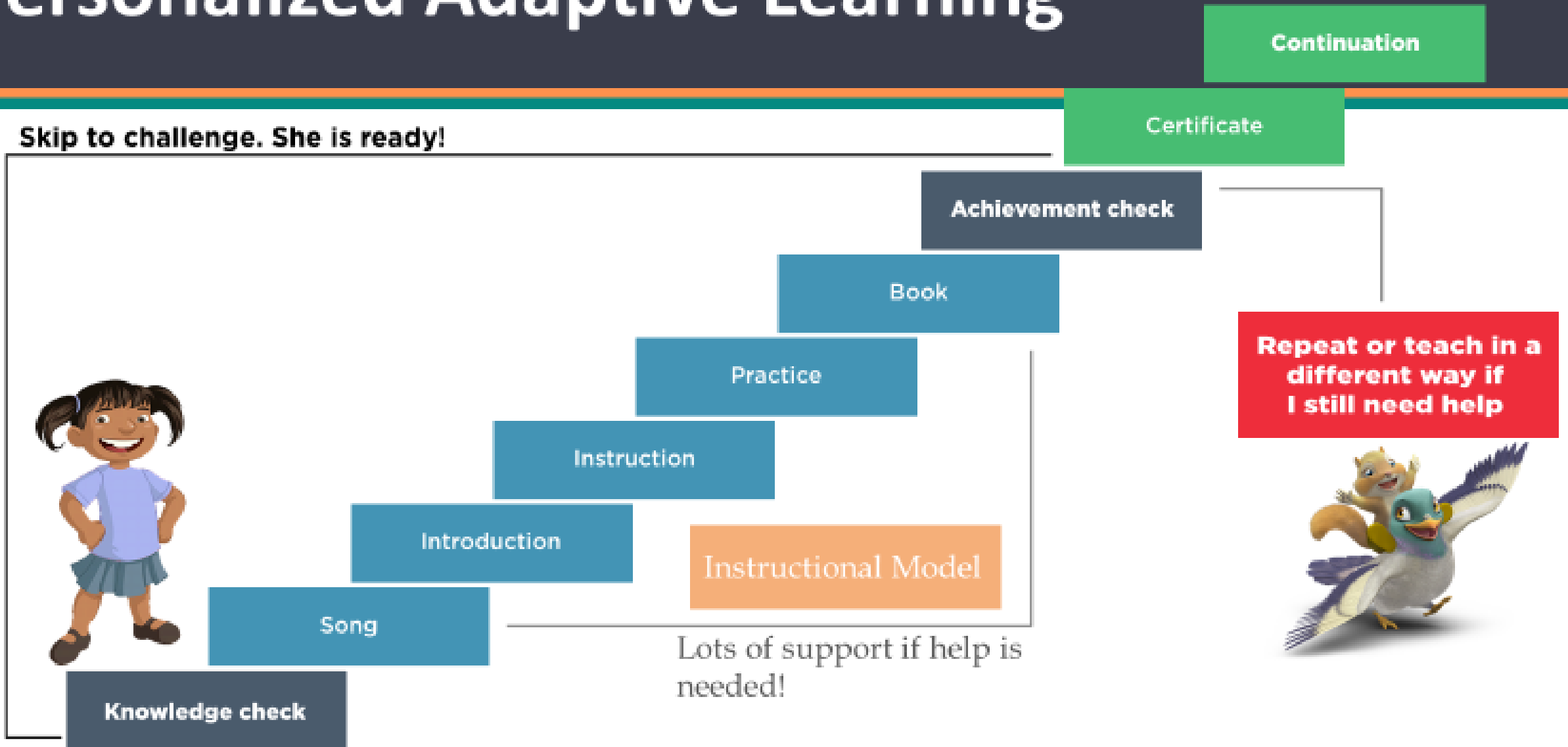
About Waterford UpStart

Waterford Upstart is an **in-home kindergarten readiness program** that was **created by the Utah State Legislature** in 2009. Under the program:

- Preschool-age children use **Waterford Upstart in the home for 15 minutes a day**, five days a week.
- Children receive a **personalized curriculum in reading, math and science**.
- **Each family receives coaching to ensure strong parental engagement**. Waterford Upstart forms a partnership with parents to ensure all children obtain the education necessary for success in school.
- **Computers and Internet service are provided** as part of the program if the home does not have it.
- **Waterford Upstart is aligned to New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines (June 2020)**; Head Start Early Learning Outcomes Framework; CASEL Social and Emotional Learning Competencies; and endorsed by the Council of Administrators of Special Education.



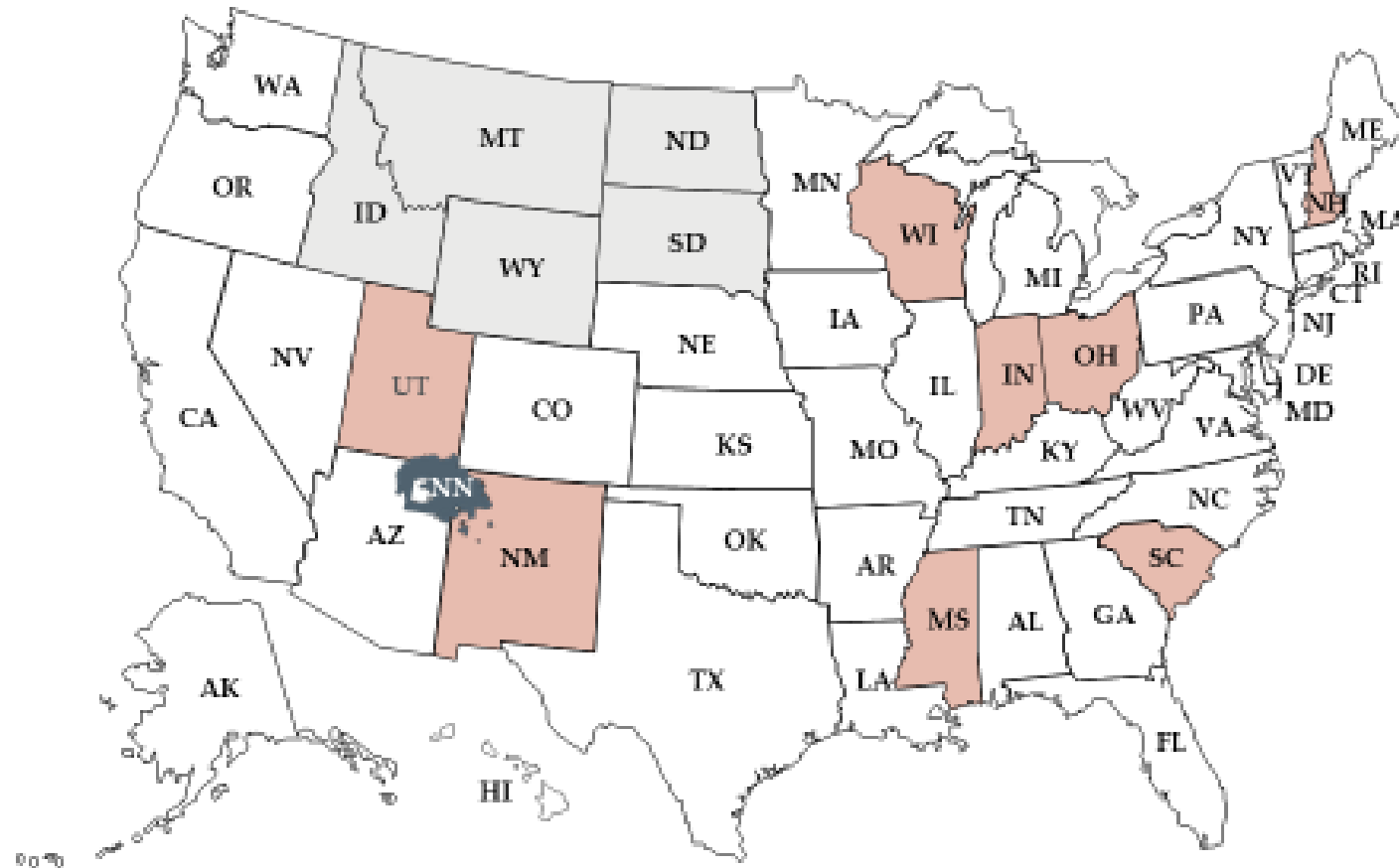
Personalized Adaptive Learning



Waterford Early Learning

- Aligns to the New Mexico Early Learning Guidelines
- Provides a developmental sequence of skills, moving at child's pace
- 15 minutes per child, 5 days per week
- Can be accessed as a center in school, and at home
- Works on tablets and computers
- Does not work best on phones
- Mentor family app is accessible via a smartphone

Waterford Upstart has been **piloted in 29 states and Navajo Nation** and is currently being implemented through **public funding in 13 states**.



Federally-Funded Programs

1. Idaho
2. Montana
3. North Dakota
4. South Dakota
5. Wyoming

Publicly-Funded State Programs

1. Indiana
2. Mississippi
3. New Hampshire
4. New Mexico
5. Ohio
6. South Carolina
7. Utah
8. Wisconsin

Family Empowerment

Waterford Upstart empowers parents in the education of their young children through a parent engagement curriculum developed over the program's 11 years of experience working with families. The program is designed to support small, incremental changes in behavior, with growth mindset activities that provide clear examples of ideas for parents and caregivers that are easy to implement.

- **Parent engagement activities are reinforced by live coaching from the Family Education Liaison** through weekly emails and personalized calls with parents to support program participation and fidelity, troubleshoot learning routines, and celebrate progress.
- While the curriculum is in English, **families are supported in English and Spanish**, with translation services offered for additional languages, as needed.



Family Empowerment

- In addition, **Mentor (Waterford Upstart's parent support app)** provides weekly messages that invite, support, and guide parents to engage with their child's development to produce stronger impacts on parental engagement and child outcomes. **Mentor** is included in the school version.
 - eBook Library in English and Spanish
 - Family Activities
 - Monthly Activity Calendars
 - Teacher Resources



Waterford Early Learning

ECECD and the PED Special Education Division partnered to offer a program license to 4-year-olds in public preschool programs, beginning in April 2021.

- 10,073 licenses are available
- Almost 6,500 licenses have currently been assigned in 58 school districts
- The remainder will be assigned in August.
- Licenses cover the in-school model, with home option,
- **ECECD** purchased full Upstart programs to offer to community-based PreK and Tribal Early Childhood Programs.

School Version: Reading, Math, and, Science

Includes:

- License for access to program
- Mastery-based activities in literacy, math, science and social-emotional learning
- Teacher Professional Learning
- Family Engagement and Support Sessions
- Helpline
- Chat Support
- Mentor application, including online library of eBooks and resources

Does not include:

- Computer
- Internet access, or
- Family Education Liaison
- These items and support are included in the full Upstart model only.

Future Meeting Date



NEW MEXICO

Early Childhood

Education & Care Department

Adjourn

Thank you all for joining us today!



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