



# Quality Enhancement Grants 2020

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FOUNDATION

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# Kauffman Foundation Early Education Strategy

## Impact Goal

Students of all ages in Kansas City are prepared for learning, work, and life after graduation, enabling them to be economically independent, contributing members of their communities.

## Early Education Goal

More students are entering kindergarten ready to learn.

# Quality Enhancement Grants Program

Supports quality improvement efforts in early learning programs serving children birth to five in the Kansas City region.

- Schools and centers
- Support organizations working with schools and centers on quality improvement initiatives

Organizations can apply for up to \$100,000 per year.

Grants will be awarded for a two-year period.

# What types of projects will be funded?

Quality improvement projects might include:

- teacher and/or leader development (e.g., training and coaching)
- curriculum enhancements (e.g. training or new implementation)
- child screening and assessment (e.g. training or new implementation)
- capacity building (e.g. board development, strategic planning, fund development, program evaluation)

The Kauffman Foundation will not consider:

- requests for building/construction
- indirect costs
- supply and equipment costs exceeding ten percent of the total request

# Eligibility Requirements

- Organization must be a 501(c)(3) public charity or a governmental, educational, or religious institution.
- Organization must be located in six-county metro area:
  - Cass, Clay, Jackson, or Platte (Missouri)
  - Johnson or Wyandotte (Kansas)
- Funding requested must support children ages birth to five.
- At least 40 percent of the children enrolled at the time of application must be receiving free/reduced lunch, child care subsidy, tuition assistance, or be enrolled in a public assistance program based on family income (schools and centers only).
- Program is required to use an evidence-based tool to assess kindergarten readiness (or progress toward) or be applying for funding to adopt such a tool as part of the application (schools and centers only).
- Organizations that received a Quality Enhancement Grant in 2019 are not eligible to apply in 2020.

# Support Organizations

- Organizations working directly with early learning schools and/or centers on quality improvement initiatives qualify for funding.
- Organizations should have partner sites identified prior to submitting an application.
- Partner sites should meet Quality Enhancement Grants eligibility requirements.

# Application Process

- Application opened March 2 and will close on April 6, 2020 at 11:59pm CT.
- Application and important program information can be found at [rfp.kauffman.org](http://rfp.kauffman.org).
- Applicants will be notified of their application status by June 15, 2020.
- Applicants are limited to one application per organization.

# Early Learning Program Profile (ELPP)

- The ELPP collects data on process and structural quality measures for early learning programs that lead to better outcomes for children.
- Programs observed using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS), a nationally recognized classroom quality assessment tool.
- Programs self-report information on seven key structural quality elements (e.g., family engagement, curriculum, teacher qualifications, etc.).
- Several programs currently participate in a pilot with Mid-America Regional Council with opportunities for quality improvement support based on ELPP results.
- Schools and centers will be asked about the ELPP on the application
- Programs not currently participating have the opportunity to engage.
- ELPP programs will be prioritized in the review process.



# Outputs and Outcomes

## Outputs

- What key project activities will the organization complete?
- Must occur within grant period
- Maximum of 5 outputs (can be less)

## Outcomes

- What does the organization expect to achieve as a result of the outputs and the project overall?
- Must occur within grant period
- Maximum of 5 outcomes (can be less)

# Outputs and Outcomes (cont.)

5 components of outputs and outcomes:

1. **WHO** will complete the output or be the beneficiary of the outcome?
  2. **WHAT** is the activity or result expected to be achieved?
  3. By **WHEN** will it occur?
  4. **HOW MUCH** will be done or accomplished (i.e., a numerical target)?
  5. **HOW WILL WE KNOW** the result was achieved?
- Refer to the [Kauffman Foundation Metric Guide](#) for additional examples and assistance.

# Outputs and Outcomes (cont.)

## Examples

Output #1: By May 31, 2020, Sunshine Learning Center will provide all lead teachers with 120 hours of training on the Creative Curriculum, as evidenced by training attendance logs and training agendas.

Outcome #1: By May 31, 2021, scores in the instructional support domain will increase from 1.7 to 2.4 averaged across all classrooms, as measured by the CLASS assessment.

Output #2: By September 30, 2019 and March 31, 2020, Sunshine Learning Center will assess 100 percent of children using the DRDP, as evidenced by DRDP portfolios and database records.

Outcome #2: By May 31, 2021, 85 percent of children will demonstrate age-appropriate growth in six of eight developmental domains, as measured by the DRDP against baseline measures taken the previous fall.

# Application Submission

- Grant guidelines, scoring rubrics, and application can be found at [rfp.kauffman.org](http://rfp.kauffman.org)
- 5 sections:
  - eligibility
  - application questions
  - Project budget (template provided)
  - Program enrollment verification (schools and centers only)
  - Socio-demographic verification (schools and centers only)
- Click “REVIEW & SUBMIT” once all sections are complete.

# Questions?

Schedule a 15-minute phone call at [rfp.kauffman.org](http://rfp.kauffman.org)

or

Email [hfrench@kauffman.org](mailto:hfrench@kauffman.org)