Quality Enhancement Grants
2020
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.
- 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
- 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
or
Email hfrench@kauffman.org