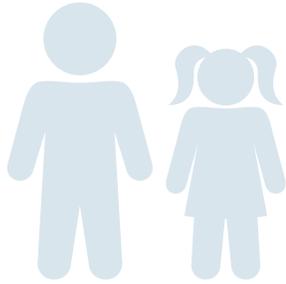


Preschool Development

Birth to Five Renewal Grant Summary



The Office of Early Childhood (OEC) received a \$26.8 million federal Preschool Development Birth Through Five Renewal Grant. Connecticut's three-year grant award will build on the 2019 Grant toward the following goal:

STRATEGIC GOALS



FAMILY RESILIENCE



CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



Families are safe and healthy

- ◆ Children and their parents have excellent health outcomes.
- ◆ The home environment is safe and healthy.



Families are supported

- ◆ Families access services, programs and activities in their community that help them lead and support themselves.
- ◆ Families have connections to friends, family and community for support.



Families are financially secure



Children are supported by healthy relationships with adults

- ◆ Families help their child develop and learn with positive parenting practices.
- ◆ Families speak well about their child's strengths, abilities and special needs.
- ◆ Professionals support the development and education of young children.



Children are able to be successful members of their home, child care, school and community

- ◆ Children meet age-specific developmental goals.
- ◆ Children have positive social-emotional skills (including social relationships) and problem-solving skills.

THE
GRANT
OF

\$26.8 million



STARTS: JAN 1, 2020 FOR A 3-YEAR PERIOD.

► For more information, please contact Cathy Lenihan at Catherine.Lenihan@ct.gov.



Major Grant Activities

The grant strengthens the Birth to Five system by working with eight state agencies to streamline services; focus on customer service; develop strategies to serve struggling populations; and grow public-private partnerships.

Support Early Childhood Workforce and Program Quality



- ◆ Provide funds to support and reward child care providers who get advanced degrees, including family child care providers, as OEC works to refine workforce requirements.
- ◆ Grow the Quality Improvement professional development and coaching system with more training in Spanish, for family child care providers, on trauma practices, and infant/toddler best practices.
- ◆ Support and expand family child care networks.
- ◆ Expand support to early care and education programs:
 - ◇ Support the transition from preschool to kindergarten through the Parent Teacher Home Visiting Project and the Pre-K to Grade 3 Leadership Program.
 - ◇ Support providers who work with infants/toddlers with challenging behaviors through the Early Childhood Consultation Partnership (ECCP).
 - ◇ Increase training for specialists through the Association of Infant Mental Health (AIMH) program and the Program for Infant Toddler Care Train the Trainer program.

Invest in Family and Community Leadership



- ◆ Establish an Office of Family and Community Partnerships to be more responsive to family and community feedback:
 - ◇ Train more parent leaders through PLTI (Parent Leadership Training Institute).
 - ◇ Develop a Parent Cabinet to advise the agency.
 - ◇ Gain feedback in multiple languages to understand community needs and share plans through webinars, meetings and publications.
- ◆ Fund local Birth to Five system partnerships through community grants.

Improve Family Outcomes to Support Family Resilience



- ◆ Fund projects to improve gaps and problem areas:
 - ◇ Build a network of bilingual doulas for families in home visiting.
 - ◇ Add child care where there are shortages in the state.
 - ◇ Add financial rewards to early care and education contracts for a focus on family outcomes.
 - ◇ Expand the OEC project to serve families with young children who are homeless.
 - ◇ Expand the use of screening for developmental delays and autism.
- ◆ Develop a process to track progress and report on goals, such as the Early Childhood Information System (ECIS) and data connection across state agencies.
- ◆ Increase funding for early care and education, and home visiting.