



Overview of 2023-24 Preschool Funding Resources



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Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

Today's goals:

- Build your understanding of what funding sources can support preschool programming
- Learn how to complete the 2023-2024 Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template





Please introduce yourself in the chat: Who are you, where are you from, and what is something your community is doing with young children and families that you are really excited about?



The vision: Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.



Keep in mind:

- Early childhood investments pay off in the long run.
- Early childhood needs and programming vary from community to community.
- Preschool is not the only strategy that can support kindergarten readiness.
- KSDE is eager to help you combine your preschool opportunities (for example, early childhood special education, Head Start, Preschool-Aged At-Risk) into integrated classrooms.
- Reporting accurate data is important.



Kansas districts can offer preschool in a variety of settings.

K.S.A. 72-3215: Preschool programs; interlocal agreements; contracts to provide programs; fees.

(a) The board of education of any school district may:

(1) Offer and teach courses and conduct preschool programs for children under the age of eligibility to attend kindergarten.

(2) Enter into cooperative or interlocal agreements with one or more other boards for the establishment, operation and maintenance of such preschool programs.

(3) Contract with private, nonprofit corporations or associations or with any public or private agency or institution, whether located within or outside the state, for the establishment, operation and maintenance of such preschool programs.

(4) Prescribe and collect fees for providing such preschool programs.

(b) Fees for providing preschool programs shall be prescribed and collected only to recover the costs incurred as a result of and directly attributable to the establishment, operation and maintenance of the preschool programs. Revenues from fees collected by a board under this section shall be deposited in the general fund of the school district and shall be considered reimbursements to the district for the purpose of the Kansas school equity and enhancement act, K.S.A. 72-5131 et seq., and amendments thereto, and may be expended whether the same have been budgeted or not and amounts so expended shall not be considered operating expenses.





*Resources: www.ksde.org → Early Childhood
→ 2022 Summer Budget Workshops - Early
Childhood Funding Information Handout
AND
→ 2023-2024 Preschool Revenue Calculator
and Budget Template (Updated Dec 8, 2022)*

Enrollment

Two categories of preschool students count as ½ student (0.5 FTE) when calculating a district's enrollment and accompanying weightings:

- 3- and 4-year-old students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) who are enrolled and attending special education and related services, and
- 3- and 4-year-old students who meet at least one Preschool-Aged At-Risk at-risk criterion who are enrolled and attending in a district operating an approved Preschool-Aged At-Risk program.



BASE (Base Aid for Student Excellence)

- In 2019, the legislature passed the school finance bill (House Sub for Senate Bill 16) that included amending the “base aid for student excellence” per pupil.
- Beginning in school year 2023-2024, the BASE will be adjusted by the average percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (CPI-U) in the Midwest region during the three immediately preceding school years.
- The BASE is used to calculate a district’s enrollment and accompanying weightings.

School Year	BASE for 1.0 FTE
2022-2023	\$4,846
2023-2024 (November 2022 estimate – finalized in April 2023)	\$5,103



A simple example:

- One 3- year-old student meets at least one Preschool-Aged At-Risk at-risk criterion.
- On Count Day (September 20, 2022), she is enrolled and attending preschool in a district operating an approved Preschool-Aged At-Risk program for both 3- and 4-year-olds.
- The district correctly reports this student in the KIDS collection system, and the audit confirms that appropriate documentation is on file to confirm the student meets at least one Preschool-Aged At-Risk at-risk criteria.

School Year	BASE	BASE*0.5 FTE
2022-2023	\$4,846	\$2,423





*→ 2023-2024 Preschool Revenue Calculator
and Budget Template (Updated Dec 8, 2022)*

→ Type your USD# into Cell C6

The Preschool-Aged At-Risk program

Each student enrolled as a preschool-aged at-risk student should be in a classroom that meets the requirements of the Preschool-Aged At-Risk program.

Resources:

- [KSDE Early Childhood Preschool Programming Page](#)
 - SY2022-2023 Preschool-Aged At-Risk Requirements and Assurances ([PDF](#))
 - KSDE Preschool Frequently Asked Questions
- [KSDE Fiscal Auditing Page](#)
 - Enrollment Handbook (Under “Audit Guides”)
- For support starting a program, contact Natalie McClane, nmcclane@ksde.org



Indicator 6: Preschool Environments

Indicator 6: Preschool Environments for Children Aged 3-5 (Least Restrictive Environment) is an important data point to track as districts seek to improve kindergarten readiness. This refers to the extent to which preschool students with disabilities receive the majority of their special education and related services in the least restrictive environment with their peers without disabilities.

Resources:

- [KSDE Early Childhood Preschool Programming Page](#)
- www.ksdetasn.org, TASN Projects, KSDE Early Childhood Special Education (www.ksdetasn.org/ec)
- For support in this area, contact Julie Rand: jrand@ksde.org





→ *2023-2024 Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template (Updated Dec 8, 2022)*

→ *“Revenue Calculator” tab, rows 8, 10, and 12*



Weightings

Remember: If a preschool student is counted as $\frac{1}{2}$ student (0.5 FTE) when calculating a district's enrollment, they are also included when calculating accompanying weightings.

At-Risk (K-12) Weighting (Kansas At-Risk Pupil Assistance Program)

K.S.A. 72-5151: (a) The at-risk student weighting of each school district shall be determined by the state board as follows:

- (1) Determine the number of at-risk students included in the enrollment of the school district;
(K.S.A. 72-5132 defines an "at-risk student" as a student who is eligible for free meals)
- (2) multiply the number determined under subsection (a)(1) by 0.484. The resulting sum is the at-risk student weighting of the school district.

School Year	BASE	BASE*0.484
2022-2023	\$4,846	\$2,345
2023-2024* (preliminary)	\$5,103	\$2,470



2022-23 Guidance for At-Risk Funding

Visit www.ksde.org, [Fiscal Auditing](#) for the Enrollment Handbook FY23 and the CEP Schools or Preschool Programs (limited use) Household Economic Survey 2022-23



At-Risk (K-12) Weighting (Kansas At-Risk Pupil Assistance Program)

The purpose of the Kansas At-Risk Program is to provide at-risk students with additional educational opportunities, interventions, and evidence-based instructional services.

At-risk students can be defined by one or more criteria. Predominantly, a student who is not working on grade level in either reading or mathematics is the major criteria used. Criteria include (not a complete list):

- Is not working on academic grade level.
- Has insufficient mastery of skills or is not meeting state standards
- Has a high rate of absenteeism
- Has repeated suspensions or expulsions from school
- Is homeless and/or migrant
- Is identified as an English Language Learner
- Has social emotional needs that cause a student to be unsuccessful in school



At-Risk (K-12) Weighting (Kansas At-Risk Pupil Assistance Program)

View the [At-Risk Pupil Assistance Program Guidelines](#) at the [KSDE School Finance Guidelines and Manuals Page](#)

Does an at-risk student need to qualify for free lunch?

No, free lunch applications determine the funding while academic needs determine who is identified and served.

May at-risk funds be used for qualified preschool students?

Yes.



Evidence-based best practices include:

- Provide children quality early learning opportunities (PreK)
 - Head Start
 - The Opportunity Project (TOP)
- Engaging children and their families in the transition to kindergarten
- Parents as Teachers
- Administer the ASQ:3 and the ASQ:SE-2

View the complete KSDE-approved list of Evidence-Based practices and programs on the [KSDE Evidence-Based Practices page](#).





Categorical aid

→ *Fiscal Auditing*

→ *Special Education Reimbursement Guide*

AND

→ *Special Ed - Early Childhood FTE*

Calculator

Districts should provide the most inclusive classrooms possible.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) requires that to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, **are educated with children who are not disabled**, and special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs **only** when the nature or severity of the disability of a child is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily.

For support in this area, contact Julie Rand: jrand@ksde.org.



Categorical aid

All expenditures claimed for reimbursement under categorical aid must have been paid from the Local Education Agency (LEA)'s special education funds. This means that if a teacher is being claimed for categorical aid reimbursement, the FTE claimed should correspond to the portion of the teacher's salary paid with special education funds.

- For the 2022-2023 school year, KSDE estimates (as of November 2022) that 1.0 FTE of categorical aid will result in **\$30,900** in reimbursement.
- For 2023-2024, KSDE estimates (November 2022) that 1.0 FTE in categorical aid will result in **\$30,509** in reimbursement.



Early Childhood Special Education Service Delivery Models

See the Special Education Reimbursement Guide, pages 18-19: *It is important to recognize that categorical aid is reimbursed based on how the special education services are delivered rather than the programs in which children are served. Listed below are the various service delivery models where children, ages 3-5, are typically served.*

- Early Childhood Co-Teaching Service Model
- Early Childhood Itinerant Service Model
- Early Childhood Special Education Service Models



Categorical aid – ECSE Service Model

Calculating FTE for Early Childhood Special Education Service Model

Full Time Special Education Teacher

- Total caseload of students for the day (add all sessions with students with IEPs together)

EXAMPLE : 21 total students, 6 of them have IEPs (special education)

- Multiply the number of students with IEPs by 2, then divide by the total of all students served in the program.

(special education money can be used to fund the students with disabilities AND an equivalent number of peer models)

(IEP \times 2)/Total

For the example above (6 X 2)/21=0.57 FTE.

*Always round up when estimating FTE



Categorical aid – ECSE Model

Paraeducators in Special Education Service Model

For purposes of categorical aid reimbursement, special education paraeducators are assigned to students and not to programs. A connection within the IEP or IFSP must be identified that justifies the need for paraeducator support as determined by the IEP or IFSP team. **Paraeducator FTE will not be prorated based on classroom ratios if full time para support is required by one or more IEPs or IFSPs.**

Time and Effort in Special Education Service Model

Categorical Aid funding will not be reduced for teachers of Special Education Early Childhood who are part of a Special Education Service Model classroom and whose percentage of time spent on special education activities falls below the claimed FTE or does not match the classroom ratios. This does not apply to other grades/areas, or itinerant teachers.



Revenue Calculator for Grant Applicants

- If teachers and/or paraeducators are delivering services to students enrolled in the district using the Early Childhood Special Education service delivery model, you should complete this portion of the Revenue Calculator regardless of whether your district or another agency employs those staff and claims the reimbursement.
- Districts providing special education using an Early Childhood Co-Teaching Service Model or an Early Childhood Itinerant Service Model are not required to complete this portion of the Revenue Calculator IF the cost of providing those special education services are not included in the district preschool budget.
- Similarly, if the cost of other special education staff is included in the district's preschool budget, the associated FTE claimed for reimbursement should be included in the Revenue Calculator.





Other funding sources

Potential funding sources include:

- At-Risk Education Funding may be used to serve qualified preschool students
- School District General Fund
- Preschool-Aged At-Risk Fund
- Preschool-Aged student with disability base state aid
- Early Childhood Block Grant (*Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund*)
- Kansas Special Education Categorical Aid
- Head Start (*federal Administration for Children and Families*)
- Child Care Development Block Grant (*Child Care Subsidy*) (*Kansas Department for Children and Families*)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Kansas Preschool Pilot
- McKinney-Vento
- ESEA Title I
- ESEA Title II *to support early educators' professional development and to provide programs and activities to increase the knowledge and ability of principals or other school leaders to support teachers, teacher leaders, early childhood educators, and other professionals to meet the needs of students through age 8, which may include providing joint professional learning and planning activities for school staff and educators in preschool programs that address the transition to elementary school.*
- IDEA Part B
- Parent fees/tuition
- Kansas Parents as Teachers
- Local Grants/Funding (private funders)
- Federal COVID relief funding (for qualifying expenses)



Other weightings to consider

Transportation: Visit with your district's transportation director

Bilingual: View Program Guidance on the [KSDE English to Speakers of Other Languages \(ESOL\) Page](#)

K.S.A. 72-5150: The bilingual weighting of each school district shall be determined by the state board as follows:

- (a) Determine the full-time equivalent enrollment in approved programs of bilingual education and multiply such enrollment by 0.395;
- (b) determine the number of students enrolled in approved programs of bilingual education and multiply such enrollment by 0.185; and
- (c) the bilingual weighting shall be either the amount determined under subsection (a) or (b), whichever is greater.



Head Start

Head Start and Early Head Start programs promote children's development through services that support early learning, health, and family well-being.

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) requires each school district receiving Title I funds to develop agreements and carry out coordination with Head Start and, if feasible, with other early childhood programs.

Resources:

- [Head Start and Early Head Start Locations in Kansas](#) (Kansas Head Start Association)
- [Head Start Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center](#) (ECLKC)
- [Kindergarten Transitions Toolkit](#) (Kansas Early Childhood Advisory Council)



The Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

- Preschool-Aged At-Risk programs must provide at least one meal or snack per classroom session to all children attending the program.
- Schools can earn reimbursement for providing nutritious meals and snacks.
 - Call the KSDE Child Nutrition and Wellness Team: 785-296-2276
 - [Website](#)
 - [Achieve with Good Nutrition for Preschoolers Fact Sheet](#)



Revenue Calculator for Grant Applicants

- Districts may choose not to include some services (like transportation) in their preschool revenue calculator and budget.
- If your district is requesting Early Childhood Block Grant/Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding for services like transportation, ESOL, meals and snacks, etc., forecast the associated revenue source.
- For example, if a district requests grant funds in 2022-2023 to support the costs of transporting students, they should connect with their local transportation director to forecast the amount of funding generated by preschoolers' transportation weightings and/or reimbursement. The estimated revenue should be entered in the spreadsheet with an explanation of how this forecast was calculated.



What about wraparound child care?

- Child Care Aware of Kansas is able to support communities in planning to expand child care capacity. Visit ks.childcareaware.org/community-grants/ and click “Complete the Inquiry Form” to request assistance.
- Visit the [Kansas Department of Health and Environment Child Care Licensing homepage](#) for information on facilities licensure.





*→ 2023-2024 Preschool Revenue Calculator
and Budget Template (Updated Dec 8, 2022)*

→ “Budget Template” tab

Budget Template for Grant Applicants

- Grant applicants should complete a budget template for 2022-2023 AND 2023-2024.
- Make sure you select a “Cost Category” (Column C) for each expenditure. Calculations on the Summary tab will not autopopulate without this section complete.
 - Use the Accounting Handbook posted on the [KSDE School Finance webpage](#) under “Guidelines” to select the appropriate cost category for each expenditure.
 - District budget staff should be well familiar with these cost categories, which are the same ones used to report end-of-year grant expenditures for the Kansas Preschool Pilot.
 - If you have “Other Direct Costs” or “Indirect Costs” AND you have the version of the spreadsheet updated Dec. 8, 2022, there is a formula error for these costs. Contact Amanda Petersen for assistance.



Budget Template for Grant Applicants

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- If your district is requesting Early Childhood Block Grant/Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding for services like transportation, ESOL, meals and snacks, etc., forecast the associated revenue source.
- For example, if a district requests grant funds in 2022-2023 to support the costs of transporting students, they should connect with their local transportation director to forecast the amount of funding generated by preschoolers' transportation weightings and/or reimbursement. The estimated revenue should be entered in the spreadsheet with an explanation of how this forecast was calculated.



2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot

From the Nov. 10 KSDEweekly update "Preschool funding resources for 2023-2024": The 2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Requirements document is now available for review on the KSDE Preschool Programming webpage. The amount of Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding remains limited. To focus time and energy on more sustainable options to invest in preschool, the following will be in place for 2023-2024:

- Only current Kansas Preschool Pilot grantees are eligible to apply for 2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot grants.
- A grantee's 2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot renewal grant award will not exceed the 2022-2023 grant award.
- Kansas Preschool Pilot renewal grant awards will not exceed the gap between a program's revenue and expenses. Applicants will use the Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template to estimate the amount of funding they will receive (state enrollment aid and accompanying weightings, special education funds, Head Start funds) and demonstrate how they plan to spend that funding.



2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot

From the Nov. 10 KSDE weekly update "Preschool funding resources for 2023-2024" (continued):

- KSDE will first review and award grants to 2022-2023 Kansas Preschool Pilot – CIF and TANF grantees who apply for renewal funding. Any remaining funding will then be awarded to 2022-2023 Kansas Preschool Pilot – GEER grantees who apply for renewal funding. In 2022-2023, \$2,585,540 of Governor's Emergency Education Relief (GEER) funding provided additional Kansas Preschool Pilot grant awards that otherwise would not have received funding. This one-time source of funding will not continue in 2023-2024.
- Some applicants may be considering the Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG) administered by the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund. Kansas Preschool Pilot grantees funded in 2022-2023 with Children's Initiatives Fund (CIF) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funding are not eligible to apply for the ECBG. Kansas Preschool Pilot grantees funded in 2022-2023 with GEER funding may apply for either the 2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot or the Early Childhood Block Grant, but not both. Neither grant is guaranteed. Applicants should carefully review the Early Childhood Block Grant Request for Proposals to understand program requirements.
- Review the 2022-2023 Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Requirements document posted on the KSDE Preschool Programming webpage for key dates. **Kansas Preschool Pilot renewal grant applications are due by 5 p.m. Friday, Feb. 17, 2023.**



2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot

The KSDE Early Childhood team will be hosting a Zoom meeting to review the 2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Application, including FAQs regarding the Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template, on Jan. 25, 2023. There will be two sessions repeating content – plan to attend just one.

- [Click here to register for the Jan. 25 10:00 a.m. Zoom – Review of 2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Application, including FAQs regarding the Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template](#)
- [Click here to register for the Jan. 25 3:00 p.m. Zoom – Review of 2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Application, including FAQs regarding the Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template](#)



Contact Information



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