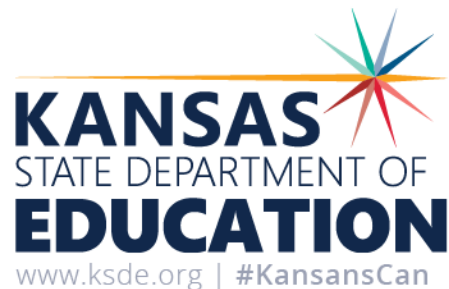




# 2024-2025 Kansas Preschool Pilot grant webinar

## December 12, 2023



Amanda Petersen: [apetersen@ksde.org](mailto:apetersen@ksde.org)

Natalie McClane: [nmcclane@ksde.org](mailto:nmcclane@ksde.org)

*Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.*

# Today's goals:

- Review 2024-2025 Kansas Preschool Pilot grant requirements
- Review 2024-2025 Kansas Preschool Pilot grant application – due 5:00 p.m. Monday, January 15
  - Learn how to complete the 2024-2025 Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template





**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](http://www.ksde.org) → Early Childhood →  
Preschool Programming → 2024-2025  
Kansas Preschool Pilot Grants*

# 2024-2025 Kansas Preschool Pilot Funding Opportunity (Page 4)

- **Eligible applicants:** Kansas unified school districts (USDs) and other entities partnering with Kansas school districts.
- At least 50% of children served by Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funds must meet criteria to be at risk of entering kindergarten socially, emotionally, or academically unprepared for success.
- **Due date:** 5:00 p.m. CST on Monday, January 15, 2024.
- **Timeframe:** July 1, 2024, to June 30, 2025.
- **Funding sources:** Children's Initiatives Fund (CIF) and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF).
  - Grant funding is dependent upon the final state budget approved during the 2024 Legislative Session.



# Kansas Preschool Pilot funding remains limited (page 4)

- The amount of Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding remains limited.
- KSDE anticipates that the same amount of funding will be allocated in 2024-2025 as was allocated in 2023-2024 (\$8,332,317).
- Districts are encouraged to consider other larger, more sustainable options to invest in preschool, including state school finance formula funds, special education funds, and federal Head Start grants.





# Kansas Preschool Pilot 2024-2025 renewal grants (page 4)

- 2023-2024 Kansas Preschool Pilot grantees will first have the opportunity to renew the 2023-2024 amount of grant funding for 2024-2025. Kansas Preschool Pilot grant awards will not exceed the gap between a program's revenue and expenses.
  - If the gap between forecasted revenue and expenditures remains larger or equal to the 2023-2024 grant award, the grantee will receive level Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding for 2024-2025. If other sources of funding will reduce the gap between forecasted revenue and expenditures, the grantee will receive a 2024-2025 grant equal to the size of the gap between revenue and expenses.



# Kansas Preschool Pilot 2024-2025 new grants (pages 4-5)

- Any remaining funding will then be awarded on a competitive basis to applicants proposing initiatives to improve the quality and availability of preschool in their community.
- Applicants may apply for up to \$50,000 in new Kansas Preschool Pilot funding.
  - These applicants may include both applicants who do not currently receive Kansas Preschool Pilot grants and current Kansas Preschool Pilot grantees demonstrating a gap between preschool revenues and expenditures.



# Kansas Preschool Pilot 2024-2025 new grants (pages 4-5)

- Initiatives to improve the quality and availability of preschool may include:
  - Expenditures that will improve the percentage of preschool students with disabilities receiving the majority of special education and related services in the least restrictive environment (Indicator 6)
  - Partnerships that increase overall community preschool capacity, particularly capacity to provide full-day/full-year early childhood care and education
  - One-time expenditures that will enhance the quality of programs (professional development, instructional materials, supplies, etc.)
  - Other innovative practices described by the applicant to improve preschool services in their community



# Kansas Preschool Pilot 2024-2025 new grants (pages 4-5)

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  - Other innovative practices described by the applicant to improve preschool services in their community



# Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Requirements and Applications document

- Grant Overview
  - Eligible Applicants
  - Population to be Served
  - At-Risk Criteria
  - 1-800-CHILDREN
  - Outcomes and Data Collection
  - Additional program requirements
- Budget Information
  - Funding Sources
  - Allowable Use of Funds
  - Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Administrative Costs



# Outcomes and Data Collection

- Kansas Preschool Pilot Reporting Requirements:
  - KIDS Collection System (Field D59, Kansas Preschool Pilot)
  - Auditing
  - End of Year Performance Reporting (Early Childhood Foundations for School Success)
  - End of Year Expenditure Reporting (CIF and TANF)



# How to apply

- [2024-2025 Kansas Preschool Pilot \(KPP\) Grant Application Qualtrics Link](#)
- **Due Date: 5:00 p.m. CST on Monday, January 15, 2024.**
  - Note that January 15 is Martin Luther King Jr. Day. KSDE staff will be unavailable to reply to questions after 4:00 p.m. Friday, January 12.
- Applicants will upload:
  - Kansas Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template
    - *We will discuss this in detail once we answer other questions.*
  - Applications that propose allocating grant funds to an entity that is not a school district must provide a letter from the school district and from each proposed partner that will receive grant funding indicating commitment to fulfilling the goals of the project.



# Tip for new applicants

- Note that the Kansas Preschool Pilot (KPP) Grant Requirements and Application document includes review and selection criteria on pages 18-20.





# Technical assistance:

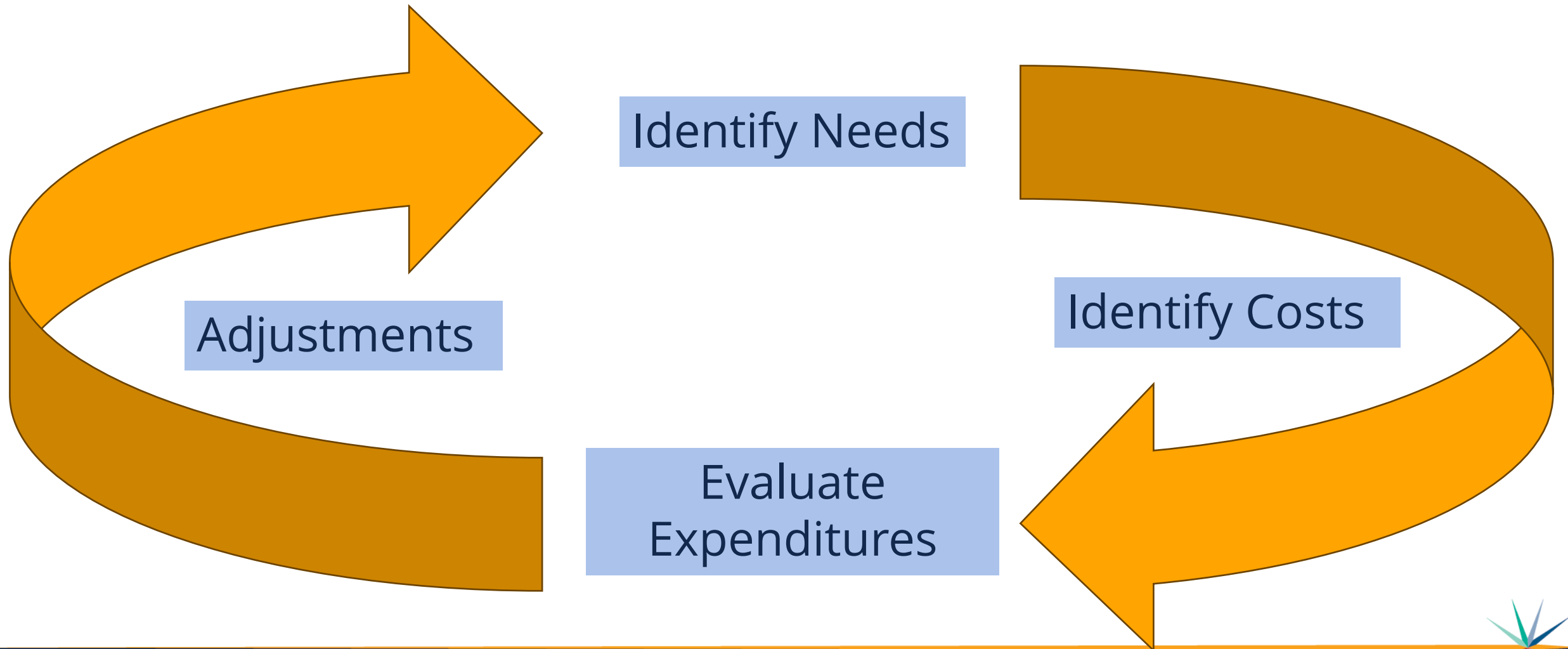
- Questions Regarding Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Requirements: All questions must be submitted via email to Natalie McClane at [nmcclane@ksde.org](mailto:nmcclane@ksde.org).
  - *KSDE Staff will not be available to reply to questions from December 23, 2023, through January 1, 2024 or after 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 12.*
- Support in using the Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template: All questions must be submitted via email to Amanda Petersen at [apetersen@ksde.org](mailto:apetersen@ksde.org).
  - *Amanda will not be available to reply to questions from December 20, 2023, through January 1, 2024 or after 4:00 p.m. on Friday, January 12.*





*Questions so far?*

# Budget Planning





*Resources: [www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org) → Early Childhood  
→ 2023 Summer Budget Workshops - Early  
Childhood Funding Information Handout  
AND*

*[www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org) → Early Childhood →  
Preschool Programming → 2024-2025  
Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget  
Template (Updated Dec 1, 2023) AND Users  
Guide*

# 2024-2025 Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template – Updates

- Updated source data/years for 2024-2025
- Revenue Calculator: Deleted *Other Potential Sources of Revenue – Additional District General Fund Transfer*
- December 1, 2023: Revenue Calculator: Updates from November Consensus Revenue Estimates (Will be finalized April 2024)
  - Updated 2024-2025 (FY2025) BASE Estimate to **\$5,381** (Cell B45)
  - Updated 2024-2025 (FY2025) Categorical Aid FTE Estimate to **\$30,911** (Cell C63)





→ *Preschool Revenue Calculator and Budget Template*

→ *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](#)
  - SY2023-2024 Preschool-Aged At-Risk Requirements and Assurances
  - 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](mailto: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](http://www.ksdetasn.org), TASN Projects, KSDE Early Childhood Special Education ([www.ksdetasn.org/ec](http://www.ksdetasn.org/ec))







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

*→ "Revenue Calculator" tab, rows 8, 10, and 12*

# 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
2023-2024	\$5,088
2024-2025 (November 2023 estimate – finalized in April 2024)	\$5,381





# 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
2023-2024	\$5,088	\$2,463
2024-2025* (preliminary)	\$5,381	\$2,604



# 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](#).





# Evidence-based best practices list notice:

- The KSDE is currently making adjustment to the evidence-based programs and practices process. The list resulting from the improved process will be available in early 2024 for the 24-25 school year.
- Any current or future requests that have been received will be considered for the new list.
- The current list will not be changed, note that some programs are now marked with expiration dates after which At-Risk funding should not be used.
  - *None of the items listed on the previous slide are marked to expire.*





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.



# 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 2023-2024 school year, KSDE estimates (as of November 2023) that 1.0 FTE of categorical aid will result in **\$30,800** in reimbursement.
- For 2024-2025, KSDE estimates (November 2023) that 1.0 FTE in categorical aid will result in **\$30,911** 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.





# Budget Template for Grant Applicants

- If the district transfers funding to a special education cooperative / interlocal, that expenditure should be recorded as a line-item on the Budget Template. Column M should describe a description of how the special education assessment is calculated for preschool services provided to the school district.





# Other funding sources

# 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 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 2024-2025 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.



# 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
  - [KSDE CNW CACFP website](#)
  - [Achieve with Good Nutrition for Preschoolers Fact Sheet](#)



# What about wraparound child care?

Child Care Aware of Kansas supports Kansas communities working to address access to affordable, high-quality child care.

- If your community is early in the process of trying to grow child care capacity, email [communitysupport@ks.childcareaware.org](mailto:communitysupport@ks.childcareaware.org) to request support in establishing and facilitating a community team, planning, and getting connected with start-up funding.
- If you already have a licensed child care program, Program Administration Support provides one-on-one coaching and planning sessions focused on promoting solid business practices. Visit <https://ks.childcareaware.org/program-administration-support>.







# Requested 2024-2025 Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding

# Requested 2024-2025 Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding

- In cell B83 enter the amount of funding you wish to request from the Kansas Preschool Pilot for 2024-2025.
- This should match the amount of funding requested in the Qualtrics application for “Requested Kansas Preschool Pilot 2024-2025 grant funding”.
- This is the total requested grant funding for your project. This should include total requested costs for all activities for which funding is sought by the applicant organization and/or partnership.





→ *2024-2025 Preschool Revenue Calculator  
and Budget Template*

→ *“Budget Template” tab*

# Budget Template for Grant Applicants

- Grant applicants should complete a budget template for 2023-2024 AND 2024-2025.
- 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.



# Budget Template 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 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 2024-2025 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.





→ *2024-2025 Preschool Revenue Calculator  
and Budget Template*

→ *“Instructions and Summary” tab*

# Reviewing your work – Gap between revenues and expenditures

- Once you have correctly completed both the Revenue Calculator and the Budget Template, information from those two tabs will auto-populate in the summary on the Instructions and Summary Tab.
  - B62: the total revenue from all sources except for requested Kansas Preschool Pilot funds will auto-populate based on the previous tabs.
  - B63: the total expected expenditures will auto-populate based on the previous tabs.
  - B64: the revenue minus the expenditures will auto populate. This amount shows the anticipated gap between revenue and expenses. This is the maximum amount of grant funds an applicant could be eligible to receive if it selected for grant funding.



# Reviewing your work – Requested grant funding

- Cell B66 shows the Requested Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funding, as entered in cell B83 of the Revenue Calculator tab. It is wise to double-check that the amount of funding requested matches both what is listed in the Qualtrics survey and budgeted expenditures.





# If you get an error “#REF!”

- This likely means that your computer’s Excel settings differ from KSDE’s settings. Typically the formulas/autopopulated values work correctly on KSDE’s end.
- If you email the spreadsheet to Amanda Petersen ([apetersen@ksde.org](mailto:apetersen@ksde.org)), she should be able to see the autopopulated values and send you back a screenshot.





*Questions?*



Natalie McClane  
Education Program Consultant  
Early Childhood  
[nmcclane@ksde.org](mailto:nmcclane@ksde.org)

Amanda Petersen  
Director  
Early Childhood  
[apetersen@ksde.org](mailto:apetersen@ksde.org)

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