

2021-2022

Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant

Request for Proposals

Questions and Answers

Updated January 20, 2021



Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

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1. We provide early childhood special education using an Early Childhood Itinerant Service Model. We do not include the cost of providing special education services in our district preschool budget. Should we complete the FTE Calculator tab?

Districts providing early childhood special education using an Early Childhood Itinerant Service Model are not required to complete the Early Childhood FTE Calculator tab. If the cost of providing special education services are not included in the district budget. The Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Application Budget Forms are intended to provide the grant review team a complete picture of the revenue and expenditures supporting applicants' preschool programming. This applicant may choose whether or not they would like to include the costs of itinerant staff (and accompanying FTE claimed for categorical aid revenue). However, a school district's budget should include all costs related to providing preschool to all preschool students (including preschool students with IEPs) enrolled in the district. That means that the general education preschool classroom costs of this applicants' preschool students with IEPs should be included in the Partner Entity Budget tab.

The FTE Calculator is for districts using the Early Childhood Special Education Service Model. Please refer to the FY2021 Special Education Reimbursement Guide, available on the KSDE Categorical Aid webpage, for additional information regarding Early Childhood Service Delivery Models for Special Education.

Note: Those interested in discussing strategies to deliver preschool services in the least restrictive environment can contact KSDE Early Childhood Special Education Consultant/Section 619 Coordinator Julie Rand, jrand@ksde.org.

2. Using other grant funding, we provide grants to support private child care providers who serve students who are not enrolled as students in the district. Should we include those costs in our budget?

No, this applicant is not required to include costs for non-preschool services in the Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant Application Budget Forms. These forms are intended to provide the grant review team a complete picture of the revenue and expenditures supporting applicants' preschool programming.

3. In the 2020-2021 KPP there was a \$2500 per student limit. Will there be the same limit for the upcoming school year?

No. There is not a \$2500 per student limit for the 2021-2022 school year. Programs will need to justify their requested funding in the Budget Template.

4. Our program received funding from the Kansas Preschool Pilot in the past. Does this mean we will be funded in 2021-2022?

No, the application for 2021-2022 funding is a competitive grant application. Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funds should build on existing sources of state and federal funding, such as state school finance formula funds and special education funds. The Kansas Preschool Pilot grant application and award process will look quite different for 2021-2022. Rather than funding most applicants at a percentage of their initial funding request, a more competitive process will award funding based on the need and merit demonstrated in the program application.

5. Can the KPP Grant be used to provide a full day preschool program?

Yes.

6. Can KSDE fix the formula in the “Total Proposed Grant Budget” tab of the Kansas Preschool Pilot Budget Template? The original version links to the total budget from all sources.

Thank you, yes! KSDE uploaded a new budget template that fixes this formula on January 13.

7. I missed the Live Technical Assistance Webinar on how to use the Kansas CommonApp. Where can I access that training?

This training can be accessed here: <https://vimeo.com/498487743>

8. Does this year’s grant require programs who are counting students from their Preschool-Aged At-Risk Program on their KPP roster to provide them with a full day of services and if so, do they have to meet the same number of hours as their kindergarten classrooms as was required in the 2020-2021 KPP?

Those details are not called out in this year’s requirements. However, as noted in question 4, the grant is going to be more competitive this year. A program following those perimeters would result in a higher rating than a program who didn’t.

9. I attended the webinar on the Common App Program for grants where there was mention of obtaining a DUNS Number. I did not see mention of a DUNS number when completing the PAT and KPP grants. Also, where do I apply for a DUNS number and when will I use it?

The KPAT and KPP grants will not require you to have a DUNS number. If you'd like to know more information about DUNS numbers, please visit:

<https://www.grants.gov/applicants/organization-registration/step-1-obtain-duns-number.html>

10. Our district partners with another entity to deliver preschool services. How should we account for that in our Kansas Preschool Pilot Budget?

Your district should include all students enrolled in your district (regardless of whether they are served by the district or by a partner) when completing the Preschool Revenue Calculator. You should include contractual expenses as line-items in the "Contractual" section. If the partner is also applying for Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funds, the partner should include a column to account for this revenue. The district and partner should collaborate to ensure that the projected revenue and expenditure amounts associated with the contract match between grants.

11. Are the questions on the KPP Application that refer to the number of students we plan to serve an approximate number for next school year or our current number we have this school year?

These questions refer to an approximate number for the next school year.

12. This year for our district to use both KPP and 4-year-old at risk funding on the same student, they attend all day pre-k (6.5 hours I believe).

Those details are not explicitly detailed in this year's requirements. However, the grant is going to be more competitive this year and a program following those perimeters would result in a higher rating than a program who didn't.

The application for 2021-2022 funding is a competitive grant application. Kansas Preschool Pilot grant funds should build on existing sources of state and federal funding, such as state school finance formula funds and special education funds. The Kansas Preschool Pilot grant application and award process will look quite different for 2021-2022. Rather than funding most applicants at a percentage of their initial funding request, a more competitive process will award funding based on the need and merit demonstrated in the program application.

13. For Row 6 on the Preschool Revenue Calculator tab, which students should I include in my count? Should that revenue correspond to Column J on the Partner Entity Budget tab(s)?

These are referring to the revenue generated by the at-risk weighting in the school finance formula. For Row 6 on the Preschool Revenue Calculator, you should fill in the headcount of your 4-year-old Preschool-Aged At-Risk students who also qualify for free lunch **plus** the number of your preschool-aged students with disabilities who also qualify for free lunch.

When budgeting Column J on the Partner Entity Budget tab(s), we recommend you review the [At-Risk Pupil Assistance Program Guidelines](#) (PDF) and the [KSDE approved list of Evidence-Based practices and programs](#) (PDF) posted on the [KSDE Evidence-Based Best Practices for At-Risk Programs and Instructions webpage](#).

14. How does the revenues generated in Rows 5 and 6 of the Preschool Revenue Calculator tab correspond to Columns H and I in the Partner Entity Budget tab(s)?

While districts are not statutorily required to spend the revenue generated by enrolled preschool students on preschool programming, the Kansas Preschool Pilot grant opportunity is designed to supplement existing sources of state funding. The purpose of the Preschool Revenue Calculator is to help districts estimate preschool funding received. Districts are not statutorily limited to spending this amount of funding on preschool, nor are they statutorily required to spend all state aid generated by preschool students on preschool programming. Columns H and I of the Partner Entity Budget tab(s) should reflect district investments in the preschool programming. The review team will compare the amount of estimated revenue from existing sources that will be received to the amount of district investments made to determine whether the Kansas Preschool Pilot grant will supplement existing sources of state funds.

15. In the Program Details section of the KPP Application applicants are asked to provide the number of 3 and 4-year-old students the program plans to serve. Does this mean all students we plan to serve, or only those that will be on the KPP Roster?

This should only include the students on your KPP Roster. This will include both those students that meet one of the KPP At Risk Criteria as well as the allowed 50% or fewer students that do not meet any at-risk criteria.

16. How much of the grant itself could be brought over from the last grant we wrote? Is that a possibility or do we need to rewrite the entire proposal?

If your program will look the same, you would carry over all of the information that remains the same. It is important to note that, in the past, this grant was not very competitive and all programs that applied usually awarded at least part of their request. That is not true for this year's Kansas Preschool Pilot Grant. In an effort to fully fund program requests, this year's grant will be competitive and fewer programs will be funded so you will want to be sure to submit a quality application.

17. Are school districts eligible for the Early childhood Block grant (ECBG)? Do we need to apply for this grant as well?

The Early Childhood Block Grant (ECBG) is a funding opportunity from the Kansas Children's Cabinet and Trust Fund. School districts are eligible to apply for this grant as well. To apply for this funding opportunity, submit an application in the Kansas CommonApp. An advantage to both the KPP and ECBG being housed in the same platform is that programs can copy and paste answers between the two grants.

There is a webinar available describing the CommonApp and how to apply for both funding opportunities here: <https://vimeo.com/498487743>