Early Childhood Update
State Preschool Programs (Preschool-Aged At-Risk and Kansas Preschool Pilot)
Early Learning Grants for the 2020-2021 School Year are now available

- Kansas Parents as Teachers, Preschool-Aged At-Risk programs, and Kansas Preschool Pilot grants
- Visit the Early Childhood page of the KSDE website: https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Early-Childhood
  - Grants are due on April 3rd
  - Awards will be announced in mid-May
  - Website includes the January early childhood webinar and frequently asked questions document.
What’s new with preschool programs?

- No slots required for Preschool-Aged At-Risk
- Additional clarity for Kansas Preschool Pilot funding
- New requirements for preschool programs:
  - Children experiencing homelessness included in at-risk criteria
  - Snack or meal required
    - Counts for instructional time in Pre-K!
  - Maximum class size of 20
    - Waiver
  - Daily attendance records for each student
- End of year reporting
Assurances include...
For the duration of the 2020-2021 performance period, the program shall:

- Implement an evidence-based curriculum aligned with the Kansas Early Learning Standards.
- Ensure that each child receives a developmental screening using an evidence-based screening tool. The program must share results with the child’s family.
- Implement an evidence-based assessment to measure children’s developmental growth upon entry and exit of the program.
Evidence-based: Any concept or strategy that is derived from or informed by objective evidence that demonstrates a statistically significant effect – most commonly, educational research or metrics of school, teacher, and student performance....

-https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Announcements-Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Best-Practices
Evidence-Based Preschool Curriculum

- Includes
  - literacy
  - math
  - social-emotional

- Must be approved by KSDE and align to the Kansas Early Learning Standards

- When selecting curricula, programs should consider
  - the plan for monitoring ongoing progress and additional assessments
  - supplemental curriculum/materials
  - the training plan
Evidence-Based Screening

• Each child must receive an evidence-based screening
• Results must be shared with the child’s family
• KSDE recommends but does not require the Ages and Stages Questionnaire-3 and Ages and Stages Questionnaire: Social Emotional-2
Evidence-Based Assessments

• Early childhood special education programs have a curriculum-based assessment (CBA).

• Programs are required to implement an evidence-based assessment to measure children’s developmental growth upon entry and exit of the program.

• End of year
  • Which evidence-based assessment was used to measure progress in the areas of literacy, mathematics, and social emotional development. For each area, programs will share:
    • Based on the assessment data, how many preschool-aged at-risk children in your district showed improvement from the beginning of the school year to the end?
    • How many preschool-aged at-risk children were assessed in this area from entry to exit from the program?
Additional information regarding curriculum may be found at:

• The What Works Clearinghouse: https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/

• Best Evidence from Johns Hopkins University at http://www.bestevidence.org/early/early_child_ed/early_child_ed.htm

• The KSDE Technical Assistance System Network: http://www.ksdetasrn.org

• Head Start Early Childhood Learning & Knowledge Center: https://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/curriculum
Programs are required to implement an evidence-based assessment to measure children’s developmental growth upon entry and exit of the program. At the end of the school year, programs will be asked to share which evidence-based assessment was used to measure progress in the areas of literacy, mathematics, and social emotional development. For each area, programs will share:

• Based on the assessment data, how many children in your program showed improvement from the beginning of the school year to the end?

• How many total children were assessed in this area from entry to exit from the program?
Reporting Requirements for 2019-2020 and 2020-2021

• How many direct staff received Professional Development during the school year?

• What research did your school district rely on in determining that a need for preschool-aged at-risk services or assistance exists in your community? Check all that apply:
  • Community Needs Assessment
  • The Kansas State Department of Education’s List of Evidence-Based Best Practices for At-Risk Programs and Instruction for Early Learning
  • Parent Survey or Feedback
  • Kindergarten Readiness Snapshot Data
  • District Data Analysis
  • Other
Update on work to strengthen early childhood in Kansas

- Reminder: Kansas is working to develop a statewide strategic plan for early childhood.
- Visit kschildrenscabinet.org/early-childhood/ to
  - Share feedback to inform the state strategic plan at kschildrenscabinet.org/share/
  - Join webinars (every other Wednesday at 12PM) share information, take questions, and get feedback.
  - Subscribe to weekly email updates to stay up to date and engaged.
Stay Connected

• Join the Early Learning listserv (Email bstrohm@ksde.org)

• Next Webinar: February 14, 2020 at 11AM
  • Find a schedule of dates and link to join on the KSDE Early Childhood page

• Email the Early Learning Team at earlylearning@ksde.org
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