



Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Early Learning Division



Early Childhood Equity Fund Application FAQ

02/14/2020

Q. If migrant education programs within a larger entity are eligible to apply (in our case within an ESD) are the same requirements in place in terms of representative leadership or does representative staffing meet this requirement? I.E. would ESD Board, leadership etc. need to represent the Latinx community or would it be sufficient for Migrant Ed staff to represent that community?

Applicants must meet all of the following eligibility criteria, as specified in the RFA. Please pay close attention to the fifth criterion below; people in leadership positions must belong to the cultural community served.

- 1) Be a culturally specific organization or operate a culturally specific early learning program
- 2) Serve communities within the geographic boundaries of Oregon or serve communities within Indian country of a federally recognized Indian tribe that is within the geographic boundaries of Oregon
- 3) Demonstrate experience providing outreach, support and resources to children and families who experience systemic disparities
- 4) Provide outreach, support and resources to children and families who experience systemic disparities because of two or more of the following factors:
 - a. Race
 - b. Ethnicity
 - c. English language proficiency
 - d. Socioeconomic status
 - e. Geographic location (urban, rural, neighborhoods)
- 5) Demonstrate how people in leadership positions (e.g., directors, managers and board members) belong to the cultural community served

Q. Are migrant education programs (that serve early childhood along with school age children) eligible to apply under the program definition or do they need to be early childhood specific organizations?

Early Childhood Equity Funds are intended for organizations serving children aged 0-5; however, this does not mean that an organization serving a broader age range of children cannot apply. Early Childhood Equity Funds should be used to serve children aged 0-5.

Q. What time frame are the grants awarded? When do recipients need to apply again?

Early Childhood Equity Funds awarded for the 2020-21 program year may be extended for up to two additional biennia (or four years), depending on availability of funds as well as program performance.

Q. Can the Planning Funds be used as Capital Funding, like renovating a building/classroom?

No, this is not an allowable expense. Planning grants are one-time grants that provide resources for outreach and engagement with families and communities, and other activities that may be required before delivering or expanding services to children, families, and communities.

Q. I have a Certified Family Childcare Program and provide early bilingual education. I am interested in the option of Parent-Child Education for children who speak Spanish. Can I apply for these funds?

If you meet the Eligibility Criteria found on page 4 of the [RFA](#), we encourage you to apply.

Q. Can I apply as a childcare provider for Equity Fund? When will you have another webinar in Spanish?

Yes, as long as you meet the Eligibility Criteria found on page 4 of the [RFA](#). Due to low enrollment for the webinar scheduled on February 3rd, a second opportunity is scheduled in Spanish on February 18th from 3-5 p.m. Please sign up [here](#).

Q. We are a current provider, but hoping to expand to a different city and county. Do we submit two different applications or one and list where we are planning to expand to?

It sounds like you are looking to apply for a Program Grant for an existing program and Planning Grant for an expansion of that program to a new area. You will need to submit two different applications: one for your Program Grant and one for your Planning Grant.

As described on page 7 of the [Early Childhood Equity Fund RFA](#), applicants may apply for program grants and/or planning grants. Program grants are designed to deliver culturally specific programs as outlined above. Planning grants are designed to help culturally specific organizations build capacity to deliver culturally specific early learning programs. Organizations may submit more than one application.

Q. Our Migrant Education Program exists within the ESD. I am wondering if Migrant Ed would qualify since it is a culturally specific program, but lives within the ESD, which is not culturally specific. For the question on leadership, where does the ELD draw the line in terms of representative leadership, is it with Migrant Ed or the ESD?

Organizations applying for funding must meet all the eligibility factors found in [RFA](#):

- 1) Be a culturally specific organization or operate a culturally specific early learning program
- 2) Serve communities within the geographic boundaries of Oregon or serve communities within Indian country of a federally recognized Indian tribe that is within the geographic boundaries of Oregon
- 3) Demonstrate experience providing outreach, support and resources to children and families who experience systemic disparities
- 4) Provide outreach, support and resources to children and families who experience systemic disparities because of two or more of the following factors:
 - a. Race
 - b. Ethnicity
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 - e. Geographic location (urban, rural, neighborhoods)
- 5) Demonstrate how people in leadership positions (e.g., directors, managers and board members) belong to the cultural community served

Q. Can School districts apply for the Early Childhood Equity Fund? We have 10% of our student population is tribal with the Confederated Tribes of Grand and we just received 19 kindergarteners. We want to start a Pre-K program.

Please review the eligibility criteria. If your School District meets the criteria, you may apply.

As a reminder, Early Childhood Equity Funds may be used for the following types of programs:

Parenting Education: Education programs focusing on enhancing parenting practices and behaviors such as developing and enhancing positive parenting techniques, learning age-appropriate child development skills and milestones, promoting positive play and interaction between parent and child, and locating and accessing community services and supports.

Parent-Child Interaction: Programs that serve both the parent and child together in order to support positive parent-child interactions and, as a result, promote healthy attachment, bonding, and child development.

Kindergarten Transition: Targeted programs that help prepare children, families, and schools for the transition between the early childhood period into kindergarten. These programs provide children and families the opportunity to get familiar with kindergarten skills, routines, and expectations, and help schools to prepare to serve children and families.

Tribal Language Preservation and Revitalization: Early childhood programs that integrate efforts to preserve, revitalize, restore, or maintain the tribal language through one of the previously described models above, or in partnership with an existing early care and education program or public school.

Q. Can programs submit an application under the Kindergarten transition category for a two-year program? Meaning, can we have a 2 year Pre-K program to help transition kids aged 3-5 into Kindergarten and does it still qualify under this program?

There are a couple of layers to this question. Based on the information you provided, a Kindergarten Transitions program serving 3-5 year olds fits. Your organization can propose the model that works best with your organization and the community served.

That said, as a reminder: (1) your organization must meet the Eligibility Criteria and (2) Early Childhood Equity Fund program funds awarded for the 2020-21 program year may be extended for up to two additional biennia (or four years), depending on availability of funds as well as program performance.