



Wisconsin's Preschool Development Grant (PDG)

Our vision is by 2023, all Wisconsin families will have access to high-quality, affordable, local early childhood education opportunities.

What is the Preschool Development Grant (PDG)?

The PDG is a one-year federal grant that will allow Wisconsin to perform a comprehensive statewide assessment and develop a strategic plan aimed at improving our early care and education system. This grant will focus on the following:

- Attracting and retaining early care and education professionals,
- Empowering families to make the best choices for their children,
- Building regional networks of support,
- And, increasing overall quality of early care and education programs.

By working together – intentionally aligning and improving how we support and serve our youngest children and families – we will help every child succeed and help Wisconsin thrive

When will the grant funds be spent?

All \$10M must be spent over the 2020 calendar year on approved grant activities identified in Wisconsin's PDG application.

What activities will be completed this grant period?

Major grant activities include the development of a statewide needs assessment and strategic plan. Additionally, the grant will fund localized technical assistance and the development of rigorous evaluation infrastructure to inform continuous quality improvement for Wisconsin's early care and education system.

- 1. Needs Assessment:** The focus of this needs assessment is to uncover Wisconsin's B-5 quality, affordability, accessibility, and workforce measures, needs, and challenges in a comprehensive, equity-focused manner for our most vulnerable, underserved, and rural populations. Specific activities include:
 - a.** Convening the **Leadership Council on Early Years (LCEY)**, comprised of state agency leaders
 - b.** Convening the **Interagency PDG Workgroup (IPW)**, comprised of state agency experts who will connect the dots across agencies
 - c.** Analyzing current national, state, and local **needs assessments and reports**

- d. Holding **regional listening sessions** to solicit stakeholder input across the state
 - e. Collecting quantitative and qualitative data via **surveys and focus groups**
2. **Strategic Plan:** The final plan will address how to increase the number of children participating in high-quality early care and education programs and prepared to successfully transition to kindergarten, and metrics to measure progress. Specific activities include:
- a. Drafting a **strategic plan** and soliciting feedback through **regional feedback sessions**
 - b. Launching a **Stakeholder Engagement Campaign** to generate strategic plan feedback
 - c. Hosting a **Workforce Summit** to connect the dots across early care and education and workforce development
3. **Technical Assistance and Local Investment:** To achieve the additional grant areas (expanding parental knowledge and choice, sharing best practices, and approving overall quality), Wisconsin will complete the following activities:
- a. Coordinating with partners to develop a **shared vision of family engagement** and provide training and technical assistance to make that vision a reality
 - b. Piloting **Family Navigators** in culturally and linguistically diverse communities
 - c. Providing **streamlined and accessible resources to families**
 - d. Investing in **social emotional training and support**
 - e. Creating **social emotional kits for USO** to deployed families
 - f. Increasing **TEACH scholarships** to support the early care and education workforce
 - g. Establishing a **Tribal language revitalization pilot**
 - h. Creating a **lead remediation fund** for providers
 - i. Piloting a **shared services network**
 - j. Expanding **Reach out and Read**
 - k. Implementing strategies to **diversify workforce**
 - l. Exploring options for **Farm to ECE** implementation
 - m. Funding **regional innovation grants** to be responsive to unique local needs