

Race To The Top: Early Learning Challenge Grant-Briefing

Sherry M. Cleary, Robert Frawley & Janice Molnar
September 26, 2013

Leadership Team

- ❑ Beth Berlin, State Education Department
- ❑ Nicolas Storelli-Castro, State Education Department
- ❑ Renee Rider, Office of Children and Family Services
- ❑ De'Shawn Wright, Governor's Office
- ❑ Lonnie Threet, Governor's Office
- ❑ Brian Cechnicki, Governor's Office
- ❑ Gabe Freedman, Governor's Office
- ❑ Janice Molnar, Office of Children and Family Services
- ❑ Debbie Benson, Council on Children and Families
- ❑ Bob Frawley, Council on Children and Families
- ❑ Rachel de Long, Department of Health
- ❑ Amanda Darling, Division of the Budget
- ❑ Anne Bink, Division of the Budget
- ❑ Sherry Cleary, NYS Early Childhood Advisory Council

Lead Agency: Office of Children and Families Services

Application Due Date: October 16, 2013



Grant Writer

Abby Thorman, Ph.D. - Grant Writer

- ❑ Experience:
 - ❑ Florida's Office of Early Learning
 - ❑ Florida QRIS Initiative
 - ❑ Other early childhood initiatives in Florida
 - ❑ Senior Strategic Advisor on Children, Youth and Families at the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation
 - ❑ Has worked with over 20 states to help develop research driven, outcome-based early childhood initiatives
 - ❑ Has raised over \$50 million in grants from public and private sources
 - ❑ Abby holds two Masters Degrees -in Early Childhood Education and Human Relations and a Ph.D. in Family Life Education and Consultation; her dissertation research was funded by the federal Head Start Bureau as one of ten national research scholarships.
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Timeline (Adjusted Daily)



Notification: December, 2013
Implementation: January, 2014
Grant Period: 2014-2017



ELCG Structure: Section A

(A) Successful State Systems

1. Demonstrating past commitment to early learning and development
2. Articulating the State's rationale for its early learning and development reform agenda and goals
3. Aligning and coordinating early learning and development across the state
4. Developing a budget to implement and sustain the work of this grant



ELCG Structure: Section B

(B) High-Quality, Accountable Program

1. Developing and adopting a common, statewide Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System
 2. Promoting participation in the State's Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement Systems
 3. Rating and monitoring Early Learning and Development Programs
 4. Promoting access to high-quality Early Learning and Development Programs for Children with High Needs
 5. Validating the effectiveness of State Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement Systems
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ELCG Structure: Section C

- (C) Promoting Early Learning and Development Outcomes for Children
 - 1. Developing and using statewide, high-quality Early Learning and Development Standards
 - 2. Supporting effective uses of Comprehensive Assessment Systems
 - 3. Identifying and addressing the health, behavioral, and developmental needs of Children with High Needs to improve school readiness
 - 4. Engaging and supporting families



ELCG Structure: Section D

- (D) A Great Early Childhood Education Workforce
 - 1. Developing a Workforce Knowledge and Competency Framework and a progression of credentials
 - 2. Supporting Early Childhood Educators in improving their knowledge, skills and abilities



ELCG Structure: Section E

(E) Measuring Outcome and Progress

1. Understanding the status of children's learning and development at kindergarten entry
2. Building or enhancing an early learning data system to improve instruction, practices, services and policies



ELCG Structure: Priorities

- ❑ Priority 1: Absolute Priority- Promoting School Readiness for Children with High Needs.
 - ❑ Priority 2: Competitive Preferences Priority- Including All Early Learning and Development Programs in the Tiered Quality Rating and Improvement Systems
 - ❑ Priority 3: Competitive Preference Priority- Understanding the Status of Children's Learning and Development at Kindergarten Entry
 - ❑ Priority 4: Competitive Preference Priority- Creating Preschool through Third Grade Approaches to Sustain Improved Early Learning Outcomes through the Early Elementary Grades
 - ❑ Priority 5: Competitive Preference Priority- Addressing the Needs of Children in Rural Areas
 - ❑ Priority 6: Invitational Priority- Encouraging Private-Sector Support
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ELCG Links to ECAC Strategic Plan



ELCG Writing Team by Section



Section A

- Bob Frawley*
- Sherry Cleary*
- Nicolas Storelli-Castro*
- Janice Molnar*
- Rachel de Long*
- Amanda Darling

Section B

- Dana Friedman*
- Lynnette Pannucci
- Janice Molnar*
- Bob Frawley*
- David Voegel*
- Ola Friday
- Patty Persell*
- Sandy Rybaltowski *

Section C

- Rachel de Long*
- Mary McHugh*
- Dina Lieser*
- Evelyn Blanck*
- Susan Perkins
- Liz Belsito
- Patty Persell*
- Liz Isakson

Section D

- Sherry Cleary*
- Kristen Kerr*
- Jessica Howe
- Patty Persell*
- Meg McNiff*

Section E

- Bob Frawley*
- Nicolas Storelli-Castro*
- Meg McNiff*
- Renee Rider

Readers: Denise Dowell*, Susan Perkins, Melanie Pores*, Sophia Pappas*

*ECAC Member