

NYSED's Statewide Universal Full-Day Prekindergarten Program



Overview: Statewide Full-Day Universal Prekindergarten

- ❖ 2014-15 Enacted Budget: \$340M through a Competitive Process:
 - ❖ \$300M for New York City
 - ❖ \$40M for Rest of State
- ❖ Eligible programs must have at least five hours of instruction time a day for the full school year (180 days)

Eligible Entities



- ❖ School districts were able to submit consolidated applications which included programs offered by schools, non-profit organizations, community-based organizations, charter schools, libraries and/or museums
- ❖ Non-profit organizations, community-based organizations, charter schools, libraries and/or museums could apply individually if denied inclusion in the school district's consolidated application

Program Standards



- ❖ All programs must comply with the same rules and requirements as UPK programs
- ❖ Facilities in this program must meet all applicable fire, safety and building codes and any applicable facility requirements of a state or local licensing or registering agency

Program Standards



- ❖ All teachers in the new program must meet the same teacher certification standards applicable to public schools
- ❖ Prekindergarten teachers employed by the other eligible entities must have a bachelor's degree in early childhood education or a related field and must have a written plan to obtain certification valid for service in the early childhood grades within three years

Funding: Per Pupil Amount

- ❖ \$10,000 per pupil in programs where the teacher of record holds a teaching certificate
- ❖ \$7,000 per pupil in programs where the teacher of record does not hold a teaching certificate

Program Quality Indicators



- ❖ Curriculum
- ❖ Learning Environment, Materials and Supplies
- ❖ Family Engagement and Support
- ❖ Staffing Patterns
- ❖ Teacher Education and Experience
- ❖ Facility Quality
- ❖ Physical Well-Being, Health and Nutrition
- ❖ Partnerships with Non-Profit, Community and Educational Institutions

The Awardees....

- ❖ 53 districts and 26 agencies were recipients of grant awards
- ❖ 18 agencies are located in New York City
- ❖ 8 agencies are located throughout the rest of the State
- ❖ 9 districts that were awarded funds have never had State funded prekindergarten before

Remaining Pertinent Provisions



- ❖ NYSED must create a statewide inspection and quality assurance protocol
- ❖ Each site must be monitored twice per school year

CHALLENGES

- ❖ Complicated bill to implement
- ❖ Short timeframe between award announcement and start of the school year
- ❖ Separate funding streams and reporting requirements for each of the state funded prekindergarten programs – difficult for districts
- ❖ No funding available until spring of 2015
- ❖ NYSED's current data system is not ready to capture data for this program

GOOD NEWS



Many more four-year-olds are receiving full-day prekindergarten!