



Summary Notice of Funding Availability

Reporting Form

DHHS Division/Office Issuing This Notice: Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE)

Date of This Notice: January 6, 2025

Program Name: Collaborative Model for FCCH Quality and Family Engagement

Purpose of the RFA: This RFA seeks to deliver a three-pronged approach to increase family and community engagement by providing resources and materials to Family Child Care Home providers; increase the quality rating assessments scores; and design an effective Community of Practice that will not only enhance providers' professional development and share best practices but improve program quality by creating a space where providers can connect, learn, and grow together. The final approach will provide education to parents and guardians on how to best advocate for their child(ren) at the local and state levels. As part of model of evidence-based-practices, this RFA prioritizes continuous evaluation and improvement, ensuring that strengths, weaknesses, and areas for improvement are identified to provide a catalyst for positive change in early childhood programs.

Description: A child's early years can have lifelong physical, cognitive, social, and emotional impacts. While positive experiences and environments can set a young child on a stronger developmental trajectory, traumatic experiences or environments during those formative years can have long-lasting, detrimental impacts. Research has shown that when children enroll in high quality early education programs early in life there is the potential to improve developmental outcomes and close learning and opportunity gaps that typically form by the time a child reaches three years of age. Examples of high-quality programs are those that follow comprehensive early learning standards and curricula, utilize appropriate child assessments, and employ a consistent well-prepared and diverse workforce.

Funding Availability: This RFA will be for a 2-year funding cycle with an optional 1-year renewal term. One award of up to \$1,600,000 will be made under this RFA to provide services set forth in the Scope of Work. Eligibility for the renewal is contingent upon contract compliance, project performance, and availability of funding. The initial contract period is expected to be April 1, 2025 – March 31, 2027.

DCDEE will determine the actual funding amount based on the proposed execution of the project and the utilization of funds as outlined in the successful applicant's proposal, pending funding availability.

Applicant Eligibility:

This RFA is open to state agencies and universities, public and private nonprofit organizations

with a current 501(c)(3) standing with knowledge of North's Carolina's early childhood education mixed delivery system and expertise in developmentally and culturally appropriate practices for young children birth – 12 years of age. Extensive knowledge and expertise in providing intensive coaching and consultation to the child care workforce and supporting families in seeking child care solutions.

How to Apply:

EMAIL an electronic PDF of your application to the NC Division of Child Development and Early Education via this email: DCDEE.Contracts.Unit.RFA@dhhs.nc.gov

The signature of an authorized official is required on the application face sheet. An electronic signature or an electronic scanned copy of the signed application face sheet will be accepted. **Only electronic application submissions via email will be accepted**, i.e., do not mail, fax, or deliver copies of the application to DCDEE's physical or mailing address.

Intent to Apply:

Eligible agencies and/or organizations interested in applying for this RFA are encouraged to notify DCDEE of their intent to apply via the following link, <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FXRZG9N> no later than **5:00 p.m., January 23, 2025**.

Agencies and/or organizations are **not** required to notify of their intent to respond to this RFA; this information is requested to assist DCDEE in planning. Responses to this notice of intent are not binding and will not impact the review and scoring of your RFA submission. Data from this survey is used by the State PREP Team for planning and research purposes only.

PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE: DCDEE plans on hosting a Pre-Application Conference for this RFA on **January 23, 2025 at 1:30 pm**. During this time, an overview of the RFA will be presented along with an opportunity for Q&A. Please click the link to join.

Join from the webinar link

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m5d57fa3c48883d5d1a86ca8a8c434e11>

Join by the webinar number

Webinar number (access code): 2424 466 6707

Webinar password: conf (2663 when dialing from a phone or video system)

Panelist password: fnoc (3662 when dialing from a phone or video system)

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

[+1-646-992-2010,,24244666707#2663#](tel:+1-646-992-2010,,24244666707#2663#) United States Toll (New York City)

[+1-202-860-2110,,24244666707#2663#](tel:+1-202-860-2110,,24244666707#2663#) United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

Some mobile devices may ask attendees to enter a numeric password.

Deadline for Submission:

Applications, subject to the following conditions, must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., **February 10, 2025**.

For more information please contact: Candice Bailey (candice.bailey@dhhs.nc.gov)