



Preschool Development Grant, Birth to Five Renewal Grant, 2024

Grant Overview, Update and Discussion with ELC+

06-17-2024

Welcome!

Here are our virtual meeting protocols for today:

- **Mute self** when not speaking
- Use **the Chat feature** for questions or comments
- If you are experiencing an unstable connection - **switch to phone call or close other applications**
- **Materials will be posted** on the GOECD website, under events, on the calendar, under the date of the meeting.




**Meeting
Logistics**

Today's Agenda

1. Provide an overview of Preschool Development Grant B-5 Renewal opportunity, parameters, process, and timeline
2. Share Guiding Principles we will use to inform projects and activities in our application
3. Provide an overview of the proposals received
4. Small group discussion
5. Next Steps


Program Purpose



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Early Childhood Development (OECD)

Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Renewal Grant

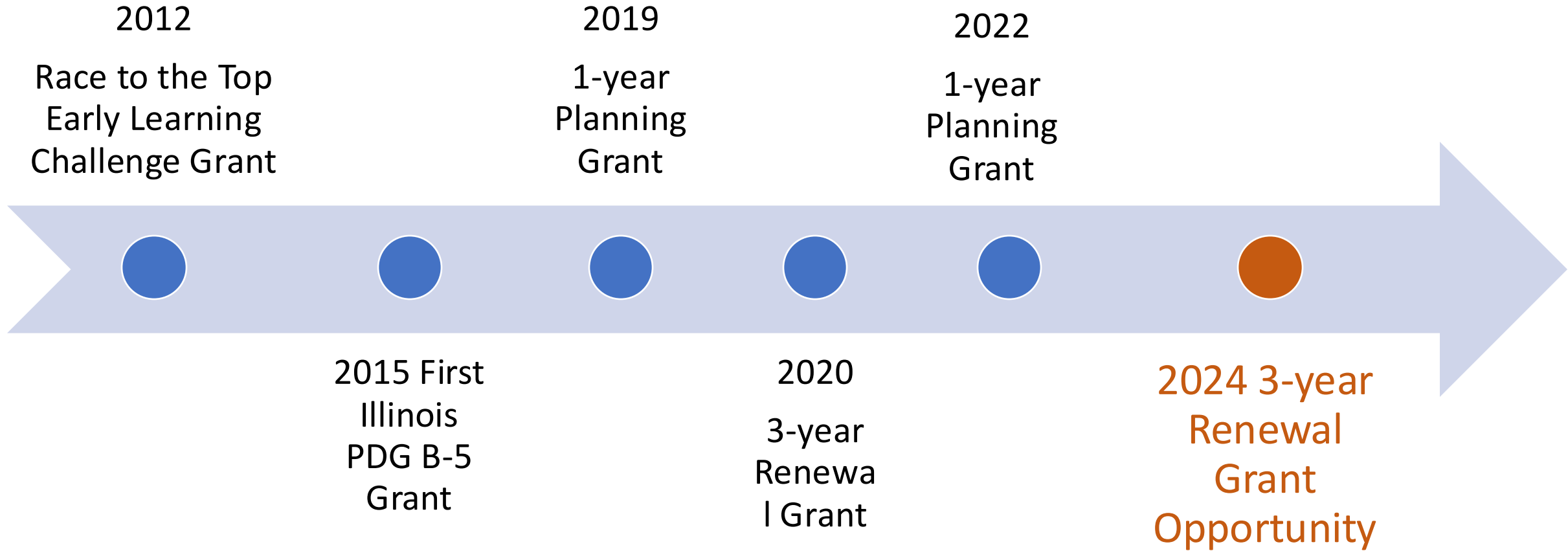
Opportunity number: HHS-2024-ACF-ECD-TP-0055



The PDG B-5 Grant:

- Aims to strengthen existing ECE programs in a mixed delivery system across the state and give children access to high-quality early childhood care and education from birth through kindergarten.
- Focuses on the programs and systems that prepare and support underserved children to enter kindergarten.
- Allows states to build to their Planning grant efforts by investing in the early childhood workforce and expanding access to high-quality ECE programs through a mixed delivery system to address ongoing needs in preparing children to enter kindergarten.
- Allows state to make sure that underserved children and their families—including those in high-poverty and rural communities—can access ECE services and support.

History of Federal EC Grants in Illinois



2024 PDG B-5: Three Year Renewal Grant

Illinois has a long history of work to support a strong workforce and mixed delivery system.

The PDG B-5 Renewal Grant provides Illinois an opportunity to:

- **Build on successful early childhood work in the State** (Funding Commission, PDG B-5 Planning Grant, Transition Work, Smart Start, Regional Infrastructure)
- **Innovate, pilot, and research** ideas that otherwise would be challenging

Funding:

- Federal (ACF), competitive, available to 25 states; anticipate 10 awards

Timeline:

- Three Years (9/30/24 -9/30/27)

Maximum Award:

- IL is eligible for up to **\$27m** over three years (\$9M/year)

Application Due Date: July 31, 2024

Federal Priorities

- 1. Maximize family participation and engagement in the state's mixed delivery system**
 - Ensure meaningful participation of parents and stakeholders
 - Increase access through application and enrollment systems
 - Increase access for infants/toddlers and reach “underserved” children
 - Including children living in rural areas, families with low incomes, in the child welfare system, experiencing homeless, multi-lingual, special needs, and more
- 2. Workforce (**compensation**, pathways, mental health & well being; diversity, support to use inclusive and culturally and linguistically responsive practices)**
- 3. Program quality and alignment**
 - Integrated B-5 ECE system
 - Suspensions, expulsions, and other exclusionary practices
 - Transitions (Infant/Toddler to Preschool to K)
 - **Mental health and well being**
 - ECE program sustainability

Those in **orange** are bonus activities.

Activities

Needs Assessment
• (At least every 5 years)

Strategic Plan
• (At least every 5 years)

Required

Maximize Family Participation

B-5 Workforce

Program Quality and Alignment

Optional, but can earn points

Optional:
Subaward to Enhance Quality
(test, pilot, improve)

Bonus Activities:
Workforce Compensation
Social Emotional and Mental Health (children's)

These activities **should not** overlap with other activities that you are proposing in response to activities 1-6.

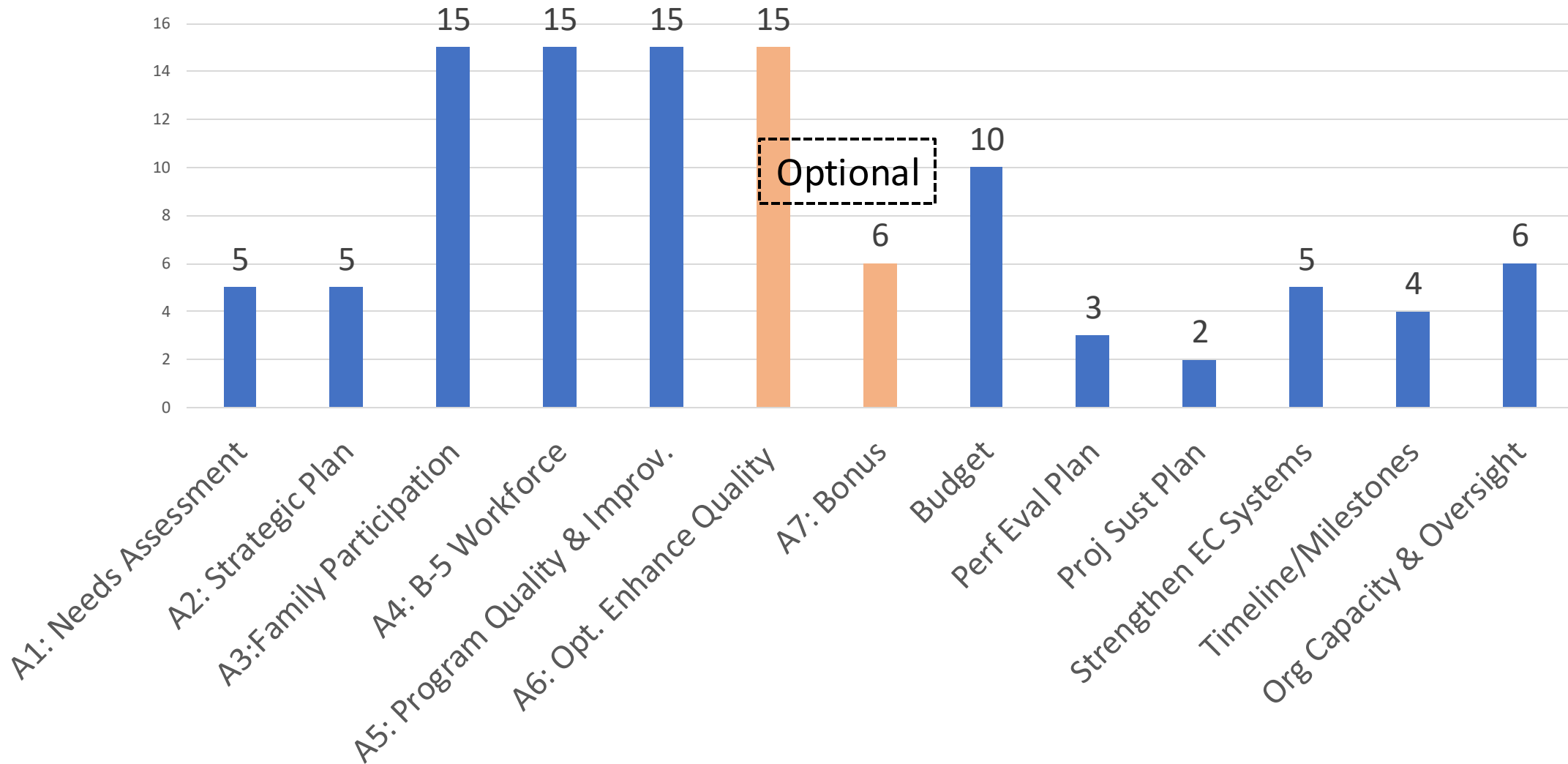
Grant Structure

Must also make efforts to:

- **Prior Work:** Consider and/or build on lessons learned
- **Funding:** Leverage additional funding to increase impact
- **Data:** Link data across early learning and health systems
- **Performance:** Include a plan for evaluating performance
- **Systems:** Include information about how Illinois will use the grant to strengthen the early childhood system

Scoring: Possible Points

106 Possible Points, Including Optional and Bonus



Federal Resources

The Administration for Children and Families has/is providing resources to support states' applications

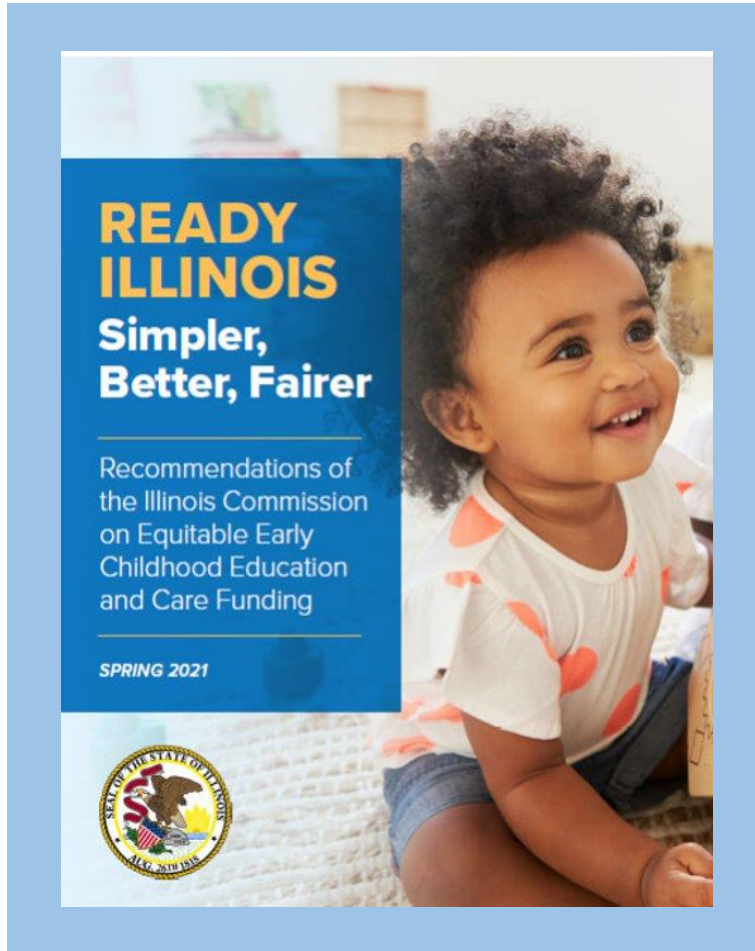
- [Webinar](#), FAQ – will be posted on the same site soon!
- Informational Memorandums (IMs)
 - [Early Childhood Workforce](#): While this was sent to current grantees, the examples from other states may be helpful)
 - [Mental Health and Well-Being of Children, Families, and the Early Care and Education Workforce](#)
- [Series of Articles /Reports](#) on pertinent topics
- [Notice of Funding Opportunity](#)
 - Opportunity number: HHS-2024-ACF-ECD-TP-0055

Questions?



Preparing Illinois' Proposal

Goals of the Renewal Grant



Goal for Illinois is to leverage grant funds to move towards a more equitable and coherent system

Simpler, Better, Fairer

- Aligns to the vision of the new Department of Early Childhood
- Supports families' choice and strengthens the IL's ECEC mixed delivery system for children birth to five across the state
- Ensure a strong B-5 workforce
- Ensure services for IL's hardest to reach populations, including families with young children with special needs and families with multi-lingual learners
- Supports the mental health and well-being of children, families, and the workforce

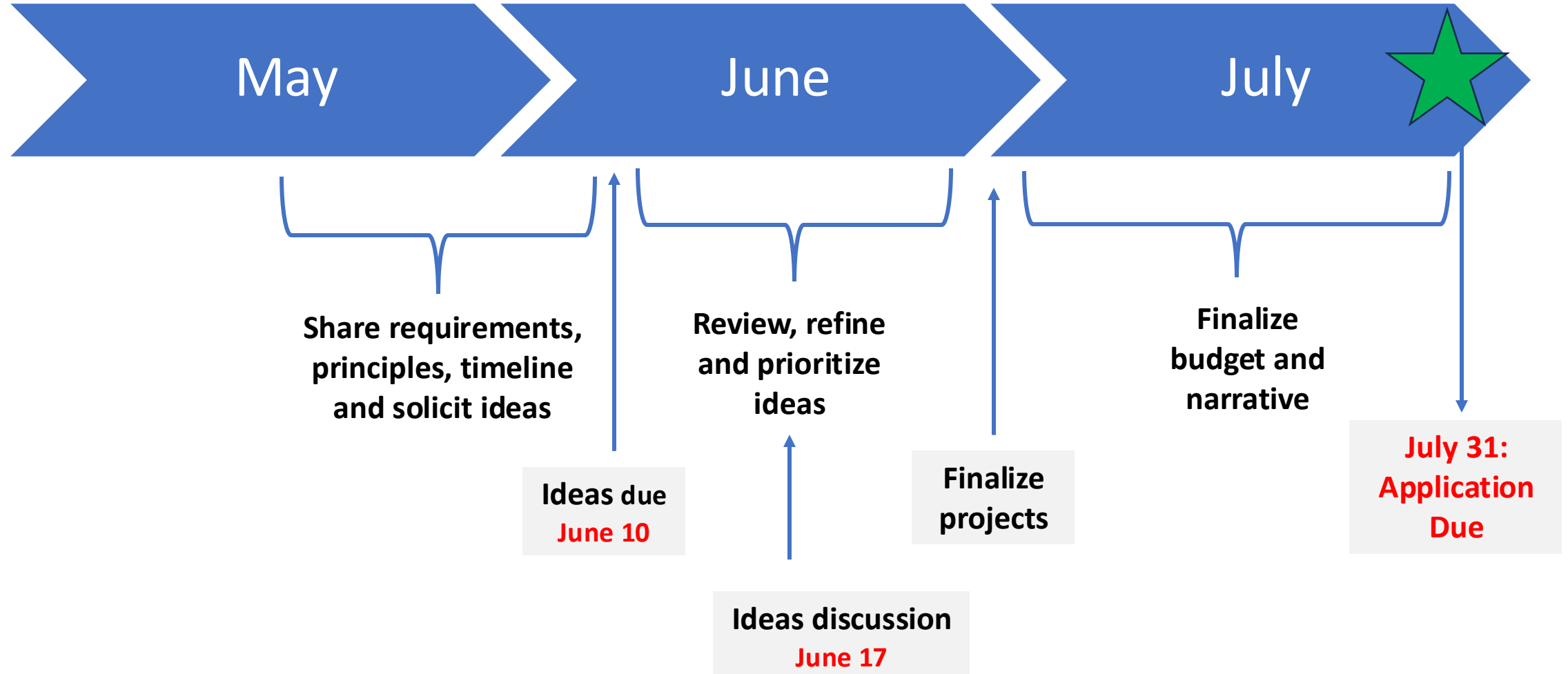
Guiding Principles for Selecting Projects

All proposals are welcome!!!

This proposed project....

- 1. Centers equity for families with young children and advances equity, and diversity in providing services**
- 2. Aligns with transition to goal for the Department of Early Childhood: A simpler, better, fairer system for families with young children**
- 3. Builds upon current continuous improvement/innovative work when possible**
- 4. Includes a focus on underserved populations (income, home language, rural, etc.) and/or Illinois Priority Populations and/or populations identified in the draft TAC equity framework**
- 5. Are individual projects reasonable to complete, considering time it takes to execute contracts, hire staff or contractors, etc.**
- 6. Fewer larger projects**

Illinois Application Development Timeline



Stakeholder Proposals: Overview

47
ideas/projects
received



Stakeholder Proposals: Overview

Self-coded Activities Submitters often coded multiple categories	Need Assessment	9
	Strategic Plan	4
	Max. Family Participation	18
	B-5 Workforce	26
	Program Qual and Align	22
	Subaward Quality	2
	B1: Workforce Compensation	6
	B2: SE Well-Being & Mental Health	17
	Data	5

Stakeholder Proposals: By Topic

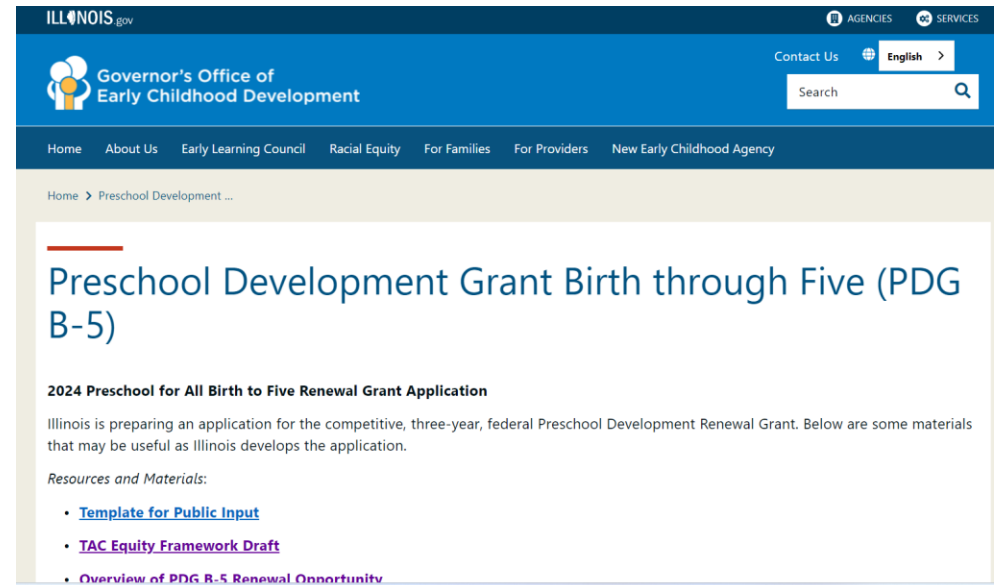
Brief summaries are available on the GOECD website

Topic Area	Number of Proposals
Workforce	18
Mental Health (MH)	7
Supporting Children with Special Needs (not MH or not solely MH)	5
Data	6
Home Visiting	3
Research	2
Multilingual Services and/or Support	5-6
Compensation	2
Family Engagement	4-5

Others included provider business supports, cost-modeling, continuing existing programs or support.

State Resources

- Current PDG B-5 Planning Application, Quarterly Reports and Supplementary Projects– [here](#)
- 2024 Application Prep Materials, including Guiding Principles and Questions - [here](#)
- Governor’s Early Childhood Funding Commission [Recommendations](#)



Questions?



Small Group Discussion



Discussion Logistics

- Summary of proposals are posted on GOECD website
- Break out into small groups by application “activity” to discuss proposals
 1. Needs Assessment
 2. Strategic Plan
 3. Maximize Family Participation
 4. Workforce
 5. Program Quality/Alignment
 6. SE Dev & Children’s Mental Health
- Each small group has a Jamboard to collect feedback and thoughts

Discussion Questions

Looking across the proposed ideas and target populations in an activity:

- What resonates with you?
- What gaps do you see?
- Are there strengths or assets in IL we should be leveraging more?

Next Steps

- Review feedback from today and continue to iterate on proposals
- Finalize projects by the end of the month
- Finalize application and budget in July
- Submit July 31!
- Send good vibes

Illinois Application Development Timeline

