The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has released the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the fiscal year 2020 Early Childhood Block Grant, which includes funding for Prevention Initiative (birth to age 3), Preschool for All (ages 3 to 5), and Preschool for All Expansion (ages 3 to 5).

Grants will increase access to early health and learning services for children from birth to age 5, pending appropriations by the General Assembly. The grant will fund only the expansion or creation of Prevention Initiative, Preschool for All, and Preschool for All Expansion programs and will prioritize programs that propose to serve children in areas with fewer resources.

**FY 2020 Early Childhood Block Grant**

**Funding for Our Youngest Learners**

**Eligibility:** Currently funded and new Early Childhood Block Grant applicants from public or private not-for-profit or for-profit entities with experience in providing educational, health, social, and/or child development services to young children and their families.

**Use of Funds:** Existing grantees must use funds to supplement, not supplant, any ECBG program funding. New applicants should review program requirements.

**Priority:** Priority shall be given to awardable proposals from entities that propose to offer services to children who reside in Evidence-Based Funding Tier 1 or Tier 2 district boundaries and that can document a local gap in service provision in their area. After all Tiers 1 and 2 proposals have been funded, proposals from Tiers 3 and 4 will be considered based on the evidence of need and their score. Proposals that score under 80 points will not be funded. (View FY 2019 EBF Tiers at isbe.net/ebfdist.)

**Proposal Submission:** Submit via the ISBE attachment manager, by mail, or hand delivery to 100 N. First St., Springfield. Applications are due to ISBE no later than June 10, 2019.

**Streamlined Scoring Rubric:** Every item can receive a maximum of five points. Point scale criteria have clear definitions. Tier 1 and Tier 2 prioritization is embedded throughout.

**Questions?** Email earlychi@isbe.net or call (217) 524-4835.