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## BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2024

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2023



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Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

## Child Development

### Overview

The Child Development General Fund standing appropriation is intended for programs for at-risk children. The appropriation is allocated to four areas: Area Education Agencies (AEAs), the Child Development Coordinating Council (CDCC), innovative programs for at-risk early elementary students, and Department of Education (DE) administrative costs. If the standing appropriation is limited for a given fiscal year, the amounts allocated to these purposes are prorated.

### Area Education Agencies

The standing appropriation allocation to the AEAs is \$275,864 to assist school districts in developing program plans for at-risk children. This is also referred to as the Early Childhood Network, and the funds partially support 0.5 full-time equivalent (FTE) position at each AEA to provide technical assistance to early childhood programs within the AEA's region.

### Child Development Coordinating Council

The standing allocation to the CDCC is \$8.5 million. The CDCC was established in 1988 Iowa Acts, chapter [1130](#), to promote child development services to at-risk children ages three and four. The CDCC advises and assists the DE in the administration and implementation of the following two programs:

- **Shared Visions Parent Support Program.** Parent Support Programs serve families with income below 125.0% of the federal poverty level. The programs consist of individual home visitation and/or group-based parent support services focusing on parenting skills, child growth and development, building of self-concept, nutrition, positive guidance techniques, family resource management, parent literacy, and accessing available supportive services from different agencies that are available to families with young children who are at risk. Approximately 10.0% of the standing appropriation to the CDCC is designated for the Shared Visions Parent Support Program.
- **Shared Visions Preschool Program.** The preschool programs are for at-risk children ages three to five with family income below 130.0% of the federal poverty level.

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### More Information

Child Development Coordinating Council: [www.educateiowa.gov/resources/boards-committees-councils-and-task-forces/child-development-coordinating-council-cdcc](http://www.educateiowa.gov/resources/boards-committees-councils-and-task-forces/child-development-coordinating-council-cdcc)

Shared Visions Preschool Program: [www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/early-childhood/shared-visions-preschool-program](http://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/early-childhood/shared-visions-preschool-program)

Shared Visions Parent Support Program: [www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/early-childhood/shared-visions-parent-program](http://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/early-childhood/shared-visions-parent-program)

Shared Visions Annual Report: [www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/DF/971813.pdf](http://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/DF/971813.pdf)

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All Shared Visions Preschool Programs are required to achieve and maintain accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), the national standard of high-quality early childhood programs. All programs are required to use the Teaching Strategies GOLD Online Assessment System, a common statewide child assessment. The GOLD Assessment System focuses on research-based objectives for development and learning that are predictors of school success and aligned with the Iowa Early Learning Standards.

### **Innovative Programs for At-Risk Early Elementary Students**

The standing appropriation allocation for innovative programs for early elementary (kindergarten through third grade) at-risk students is \$3.5 million, and is allocated based on a competitive grant award process to school districts that demonstrate the greatest need for programs for at-risk students. School districts receiving grants must provide activities and materials designed to encourage self-esteem, provide role modeling and mentoring techniques in social competence and social skills, and discourage inappropriate drug use. The allocation requires that \$75,000 be allocated to school districts with a student population of less than 10,000 that have more than 5.0% English language learner speaking students.

For the 2018-2019 school year, 35 school buildings were awarded grants. Beginning in FY 2018, funds are awarded on a three-year cycle, with annual renewal contingent on the school receiving funds meeting the requirements set in Iowa administrative code.

### **Funding**

Child Development is funded annually through a General Fund standing limited appropriation. In some years, the amount of the appropriation has been less than the statutory amount. The standing appropriation includes an allocation of \$282,600 to the Department of Education for administrative costs relating to implementation of the programs for at-risk children.

### **Related Statutes and Administrative Rules**

Iowa Code chapter [256A](#)

Iowa Code section [279.51](#)

Iowa Administrative Code [281—64](#), [281—65](#), and [281—67](#)

### **Budget Unit Number**

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