

Budget Unit Brief

FY2017



Child Development

Overview

The Child Development General Fund Standing Appropriation is targeted to 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.

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 FTE position at each AEA to provide technical assistance to early childhood programs within their region.

Child Development Coordinating Council

The standing appropriation allocation to the CDCC is \$8,536,740. The CDCC was established during the 1988 Legislative Session in Iowa Acts [chapter 1130](#) to promote child development services to at-risk children ages three and four. The CDCC advises and assists the DE regarding the administration and implementation of two programs: the Shared Visions Parent Support Program and the Shared Visions Preschool Program.

- **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. The Program received \$691,069 in FY 2013 from the CDCC to support nine Programs serving 1,036 children ages 0-5 and their families. 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. The Preschool Program received \$6,540,233 in FY 2013 from the CDCC to provide 101 preschool grants supporting 119 classrooms (25 fully funded classrooms and 94 partially funded classrooms). Preschool services through the Program were provided to 1,726 children in FY 2013.

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 a common statewide child assessment, the [Teaching Strategies GOLD Online Assessment System](#). 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](#).

More Information

Child Development Coordinating Council: https://www.educateiowa.gov/resources/boards-committees-councils-and-task-forces/child-development-coordinating-council-cdcc#CDCC_Policies

Shared Visions Parent Program: <https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/early-childhood/shared-visions-parent-program>

Shared Visions Preschool Program: <https://www.educateiowa.gov/pk-12/early-childhood/shared-visions-preschool-program>

Shared Visions Annual Report: <https://www.educateiowa.gov/sites/files/ed/documents/CDCC%202012-13%20Annual%20Report-Final%20Draft.pdf>

Iowa General Assembly: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov>

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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 \$3,510,992, 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 \$75,000 be allocated to school districts with a student population less than 10,000 that have more than 5.0% of the students non-English speaking.

For the 2013-1014 school year, 125 school buildings met the requirements to receive additional funding for innovative programs for at-risk students. A total of 75 school buildings applied and were awarded grants under the program.

Administrative Costs

The standing appropriation allocates \$282,600 to the DE for administrative costs relating to implementation of the programs for at-risk children.

Funding

Beginning in FY 2008, Child Development (programs for at-risk children) received a General Fund standing appropriation of \$12,606,196. From FY 2008 to FY 2015, the standing appropriation was not always funded at the required statutory level and averaged \$11,835,157 per year. In FY2016 and FY2017 Child Development received the full General Fund standing appropriation.

Related Statutes and Administrative Rules

Iowa Code section [279.51](#)

Iowa Code chapter [256A](#)

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

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