



**DE Early Childhood Services Bureau
Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs for Four-Year-Olds
February 2008
Education Appropriation Committee Presentation**

Grant Application Data for 2007-2008

- Number of districts that applied: 182
- Number of districts that received awards: 64
- Number of children enrolled: 4,482
- Number of districts with integrated programs: 57 (89%)
- Number of DHS licensed community partners: 88 (estimated)
- Percent implementing Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards: >65%
- Total appropriation: \$15,000,000
- Total funds obligated to districts: \$14,338,303.80
- Department of Education allocation: \$330,000
- Unspent funds: \$331,697
- Total allocation spent: \$14,668,303

Technical Assistance Provided by the DE for 2007-2008

Scheduled Visits

- Each of 64 district programs will be visited by DE early childhood consultants from December to May; not a verification visit
- Goals of the visits include:
 - To review implementation of basic program assurances;
 - To review collaboration efforts among district and community partners;
 - To share the district's preschool program profile information; and
 - To obtain feedback from program personnel regarding rewards and challenges in the implementation of the preschool program.

Program Standards Training for 2007-2008

- Four ICN sessions provided for implementation of the Quality Preschool Program Standards (Audience: Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs for Four-Year Olds; and others)
- Four ICN sessions provided for the National Association for the Education of Young Children Accreditation Standards (Audience: Shared Visions preschool programs; Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Olds)

Technical Assistance Provided by the DE for 2008-2009

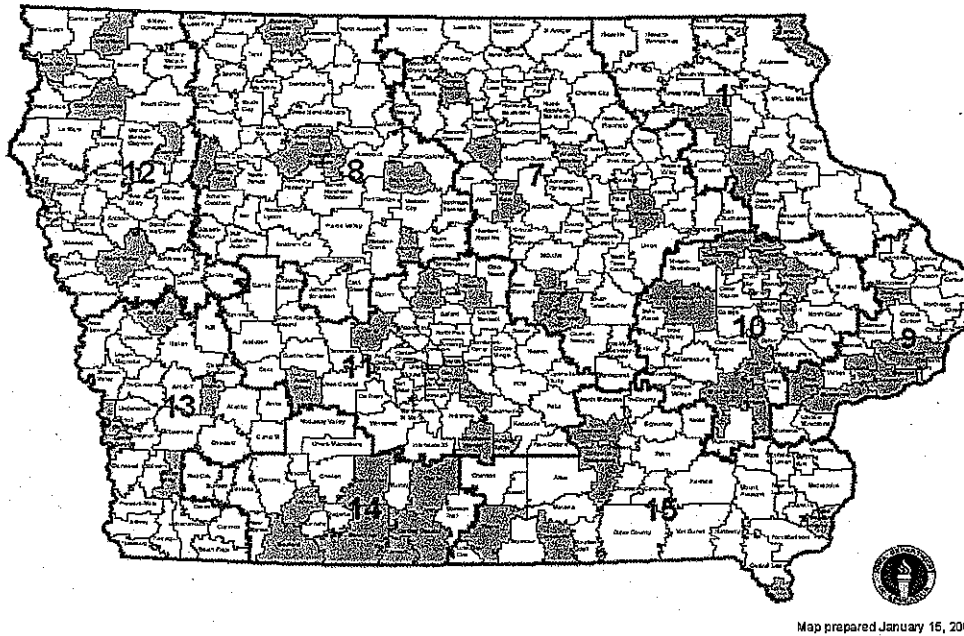
Application Technical Assistance for 2008-2009

- Four regional sessions held emphasized collaboration needs (December/January)
- Two ICN sessions provided to support
 - Assessing community needs (January)
 - Overview of rules and application writing (February)
- Two teleconferences scheduled (March); answer Quality Preschool Program Standards site visit verification questions

Implementation for 2008-2009

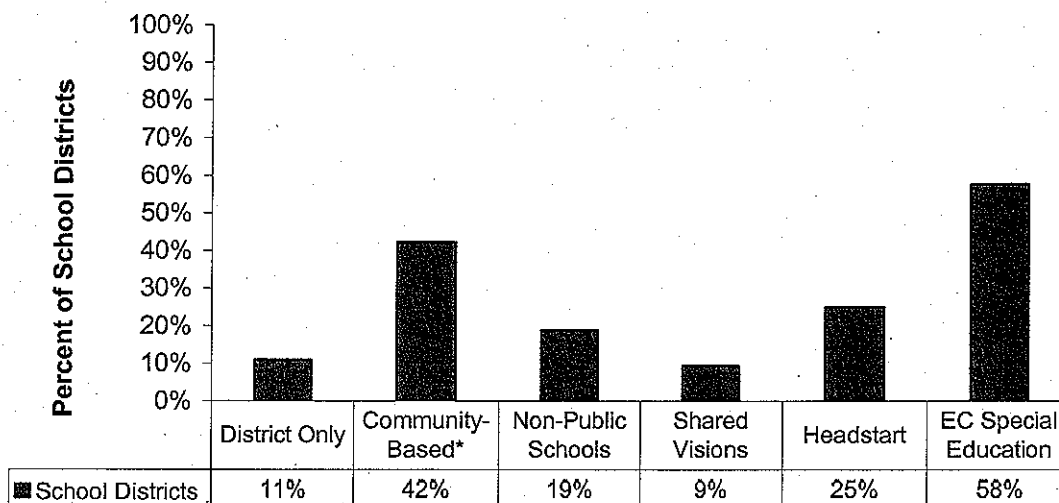
- The Department's 2007-2008 allocation of \$330,000 has been rolled into our general revenue request.
- The amount districts will be awarded for each preschool child will increase from \$3,199 to \$3,328.
- The number of new preschool students funded will be 4,606, an increase of 124 students from 2007-2008. Since many of the larger school districts were funded in 2007-2008, it is anticipated that more districts will receive funding.
- Proposed bill language to allow the Department to carryover unallocated funds for the 2008-2009 school year would add \$331,697. The total amount to potentially be awarded to districts could be \$15,331,697.

Figure 1. School Districts or District Partnerships Awarded Funding for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs for Four-Year-Olds.



Source. Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program Report, 2007.

Figure 3. Percent of Collaborative Partners Included in District Application.



Source. Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program Report, 2007.

Note. *Category of Community Based Preschool Programs included those with Community Empowerment funding support.

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10 QUALITY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM STANDARDS

Focus Area: Children

PROGRAM STANDARD 1: RELATIONSHIPS

The program promotes positive relationships among all children and adults to encourage each child's sense of individual worth and belonging as part of a community, and to foster each child's ability to contribute as a responsible community member.

PROGRAM STANDARD 2: CURRICULUM

The program implements a curriculum that is consistent with its goals for children and promotes learning and development in each of the following domains: social, emotional, physical, language and cognitive.

PROGRAM STANDARD 3: TEACHING

The program uses developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching approaches that enhance each child's learning and development in the context of the program's curriculum goals.

PROGRAM STANDARD 4: ASSESSMENT

The program is informed by ongoing systematic, formal, and informal assessment approaches to provide information on children's learning and development. These assessments occur within the context of reciprocal communications with families and with sensitivity to the cultural contexts in which children develop. Assessment results are used to benefit children by informing sound decisions about children, teaching, and program improvement.

PROGRAM STANDARD 5: HEALTH

The program promotes the nutrition and health of all children and staff and protects them from preventable illness and injury.

Focus Area: Teaching Staff

PROGRAM STANDARD 6: TEACHERS

The program employs and supports a teaching staff that has the educational qualifications, knowledge, and professional commitment necessary to promote children's learning and development and to support families' diverse needs and interests.

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10 QUALITY PRESCHOOL PROGRAM STANDARDS

Focus Area: Family and Community Partnerships

PROGRAM STANDARD 7: FAMILIES

The program establishes and maintains collaborative relationships with each child's family to foster children's development in all settings. These relationships are sensitive to family composition, language, and culture.

PROGRAM STANDARD 8: COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The program establishes relationships with and uses the resources of the children's communities to support the achievement of program goals.

Focus Area: Leadership and Administration

PROGRAM STANDARD 9: PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

The program provides appropriate and well-maintained indoor and outdoor physical environments, including facilities, equipment, and materials, to facilitate child and staff learning and development. To this end, a program structures a safe and healthful environment.

PROGRAM STANDARD 10: LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

The program effectively implements policies, procedures, and systems in support of stable staff and strong personnel, fiscal, and program management so that all children, families and staff have high-quality experiences.