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The Department of Education (DE) presents the Orientation webinar for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs awarded grants in the 2010-2011 school year. Penny Milburn and Judy Russell, early childhood consultants, are facilitating this webinar today. This webinar is intended for new districts awarded the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children in 2010-2011. In this webinar we will be discussing the reporting requirements to generate Preschool Grant Award funding for 2010-2011 and subsequent funding for 2011-2012.

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Timelines – Additional information on data and timelines will be addressed in a subsequent webinar that will be scheduled as we get closer to the reporting dates.

Reporting timelines are crucial. There are two child count reporting dates and mechanisms:

The Preschool Grant Award funding provides the on-time funding.

The Certified Enrollment Report through EASIER provides subsequent year funding.

- Eligible children must be four years old on or before **September 15** of the school year and a resident of Iowa.
- Children on a support only IEP may be included in the Statewide Voluntary Preschool child count.
- Children who are five years of age and kindergarten eligible are not counted on the Statewide Voluntary Preschool child count therefore will not generate .6 funding.

Five Year Olds – Children who are five on or before September 15

- They may generate 1.0 funding ONLY if they receive programming that is equal to the amount of time that is specified in the school board policy for kindergarten children.
- They must be in programming that is in a DISTRICT BUILDING to be counted.
- Children who are five years old on an instructional services IEP will follow the IEP team determination.

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Preschool Grant Award – by September 14

- 1) This count will occur through an EASIER test site. The Preschool Grant Award count generates the number of children that will be reflected in the agreement between the DE and districts for the first year of operation. Remember the Preschool Grant Award is categorical funding and should only to be used for preschool.
 - Children must be enrolled in preschool by September 14th in order to be counted for the Preschool Award Amount.
 - Districts cannot count children on an Instructional Services IEP for Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program funding; however, children on support services IEPs may be counted. A support services IEP is one that includes support services only such as occupational, speech or physical therapy.
 - Districts will be paid for eligible children enrolled:
 - Based on a minimum of 37% of certified kindergarten enrollment count from Oct 2009, or
 - Up to 10 children.

- For example: if a district had 100 kindergarten children on the certified enrollment in Oct 2009 they would receive funding for up to 37 children. If they had 37 eligible preschool children enrolled in preschool, the district would receive funding for 37 children at 60% of the full time enrollment or \$3,529.80 per child. If the same district had 35 preschool children enrolled in the preschool, they would receive funding for 35 children at .6 FTE.
- If a district had 15 children on their certified enrollment in Oct 2009, 37% of the enrollment is 5.55 children rounded up to 6. However, if the district was able to enroll up to 10 eligible preschool children, the district would receive funding for all 10 children. If the district enrolled less than 10 eligible children, the district would receive funding for only those eligible children enrolled.

2) Early Childhood Data System – This system ensures that the district is following requirements in Chapter 16. The district will provide data about each program session and site. Information submitted relates to teacher and licensure, curriculum and assessment, site information, session times and the number of children in the classroom by age.

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October 1 EASIER reporting

- Each district enters data separately so the count is reported by district.
- Based on numbers in the Certified Enrollment Report through EASIER, district funding for the following year is generated.
- Remember the Preschool Funding Formula is categorical funding and should only to be used for preschool.
- Districts cannot count children on an Instructional Services IEP for Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program funding, however, children on support services IEPs may be counted. A support services IEP is one that includes support services only such as occupational, speech or physical therapy.
- All the data elements that are collected for K-12 are collected for preschool. This includes Free and Reduced Lunch information, even if the children will not receive meals. All other data elements such as ethnicity and attendance are collected.

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Funding - Remember the reporting date requirements. They are crucial to generate child count in order to provide:

- Preschool Grant Award funding or the district on-time funding (September 14th).
- Certified Enrollment Report provides each subsequent year funding (October 1).

September 14th Reporting

- The number of children entered into the EASIER test site in September will generate the Preschool Grant Award that will be reflected in the agreement between the DE and districts.
- Checks will be disbursed to the District or fiscal agent, if a consortium, in two installments.
- Once counts are finalized (in October or early November) an Agreement is generated and sent to the district. This grant agreement must be signed and returned to the DE. The agreement must be signed by board president, business manager, and superintendent.
- Checks for first half of funds will be generated once the grant agreements are returned. The second half of the funds is sent in January.

October 1 Reporting

- Each district enters data separately so the count is reported by district. Even if the districts are part of a consortium, each district will enter their count separately.

- Based on numbers in the Certified Enrollment Report, the funding for following year is generated.
- Remember this is categorical funding only to be used for preschool.
- Districts cannot count children on an Instructional Services IEP but may count children on a Support Services only IEP.

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If you would like more information on the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children, please visit the website indicated on the slide.

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Thank you for participating in the Department of Education webinar for the Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program. If you have additional questions, please feel to contact Penny or Judy at the information listed on this slide.