

Delaware Preschool Development Grant (B-5) December 2019 Update

Delaware continues its work on the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) through the collaboration of the Department of Education, the Department of Health and Social Services, and the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families.

No Cost Extension

We have received a no-cost extension for the PDG B-5 grant which will allow more time to thoroughly complete all of the existing workstreams:

- Activity 3 – Parent Knowledge and Choice,
- Activity 4 – Sharing Best Practices,
- Activity 5 – Improving Quality, and
- Developing a Program Performance Evaluation Plan.

The no-cost extension allows the State until **June 30, 2020** to complete all workstreams. This allows the State more time to invest purposefully in improvements and innovations to the early childhood mixed delivery system as recommended by the strategic planning process that will conclude in February 2020.

PDG B-5 Needs Assessment

The PDG B-5 **Needs Assessment has been submitted** to the State's federal program officer for review. We are very proud of the work and *thank you for all of your contributions*.

We believe this sets a new bar for Delaware in our approach to authentically engage families and marry their valued input with quantitative data. Through this approach, all levels of professionals can better understand the needs of all children and families across Delaware.

From a technical perspective, there is now a “living” census of every state system reaching children B-5 and their families—never before have we understood this complex infrastructure in such a detailed way. The needs assessments as a whole are crucial for how we set out to achieve our strategic goals; we will continue to add information as our landscape shifts in the future.

Also, for further detail on the summary of findings and executive summary(s) for our Needs Assessments, check out [our new page](#).

Timeline Update

The completion of the **PDG B-5 Strategic Plan portion of the grant remains on track** and will be finished in early 2020. The Delaware Early Childhood Council anticipates adopting recommended strategic approaches from this draft document in March 2020.