

The Preschool Development Grant

WISCONSIN'S OPPORTUNITY TO TRANSFORM EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION



Why invest in early care and education?

“What’s best for Wisconsin’s kids is what’s best for our state.” – Governor Tony Evers

Access to quality early care and education (ECE) is not just a Wisconsin problem – states across the nation are struggling with recruiting and retaining early childhood professionals, maintaining affordability for all families, and improving quality standards. Trusted, quality and affordable programs allow parents to fully participate in the workforce and are an investment in families, communities, and the economy.

Wisconsin values the first five years

The Preschool Development Grant – Birth to Five (PDG B-5) Renewal is a three-year federal grant that will allow WI to advance the priorities identified in the strategic plan. PDG is focused on addressing challenges around equity, workforce, access, affordability, and quality to ultimately improve the well-being and development of young children through an interconnected B-5 mixed delivery ECE system.

Our vision is that by 2023, all Wisconsin families will have access to high-quality, affordable, local early care and education opportunities.



Attract and retain professionals

Growing a diverse workforce that understands the needs of local families and communities



Increase access for families

Helping families identify, engage with, and participate without barriers in quality ECE programs that meet their needs



Address issues of affordability

Strengthen networks and supports to sustain providers and make early care and education affordable to families



Increase quality

Ensuring quality programs meet the expectations of the local communities they serve



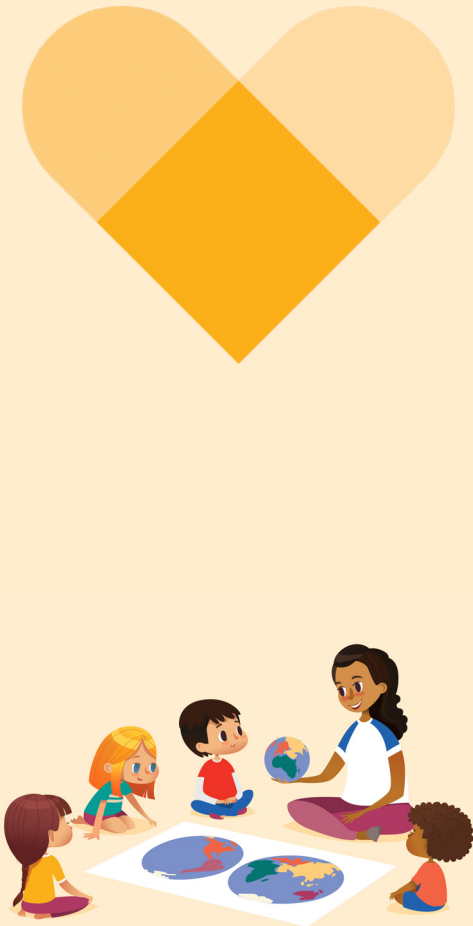
Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

Transforming Wisconsin's ECE landscape

Using the [2021-2023 Statewide Strategic Plan](#) as a comprehensive road map, PDG will engage in activities that connect and expand services and supports for WI's most underserved children and families.

The following are some of the many strategies PDG is utilizing to accomplish this work:

- Investing in efforts to expand parental knowledge about ECE options – including Early Intervention, Special Education, 4K, Head Start, child care, and other programs
- Creating a new Equity Advisory Council focused on strengthening family, provider, and policy maker feedback loops
- Expanding cross-sector professional development opportunities focused on supporting equity and inclusion and trauma-informed practices
- Expanding comprehensive health and mental health consultation and outreach
- Funding Tribal Language Revitalization efforts for young learners
- Funding Community Innovation Grants and new grant opportunities focused on workforce



Get involved

Learn more about PDG and subscribe to our newsletter by visiting dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/pdg.



Wisconsin Department of
Children and Families