

School Readiness Grant Program

\$6 million on-going funding request



History

School Readiness Grants:

- Created in 2014 to improve school readiness and academic performance of targeted low-income students
- Over the years it has been amended, with slight expansions
- In 2020, \$6 million additional on-going funds were appropriated to the program, but were supplanted with federal funds due to budget concerns associated with the pandemic

Current Funding:

- \$6 million on-going state funds
- \$6 million in federal CCDF funds



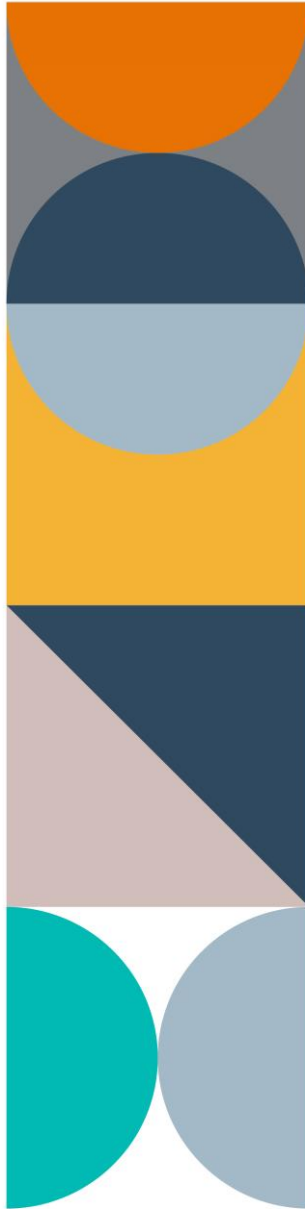
2023-24 School Year

High Quality School Readiness Grants:

- 23 programs funded supporting 2,000 eligible students
- 5% reduction in seats to all 23 programs due to a lack of funds
- One program was not funded due to a lack of funds

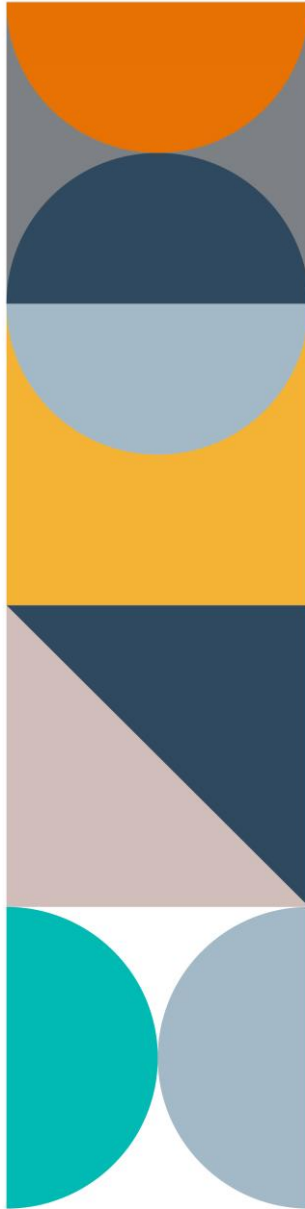
Becoming High-Quality Grants:

- 17 programs supporting 64 classrooms
- 15 new applications met all required thresholds, but only 2 were funded due to a lack of funds



Program Outcomes

Students who participate in preschool programs receiving school readiness grants **outperform** students in other preschool cohorts by:
11% in reading and 10% in math



Program Outcomes

76% of children in the high-quality school readiness program were proficient in literacy when they exited the program.

Statewide 61% of students entering kindergarten are proficient in literacy.

This is a 15% increase compared to the state average for incoming kindergarten students.

