## 

Rhode Island Early Childhood Education:

High Quality Curriculum Adoption Grants

*Overview & Application*

## **Overview**

The Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) has received Preschool Development Grant funding to assist LEA’s in adopting a High-Quality Early Childhood Curriculum for the preschool programs. These funds are to be used to purchase a RI endorsed high-quality curriculum, supporting materials, and resources of the chosen curriculum **in combination with** companion professional development for the leader and teaching staff to implement the curriculum to fidelity. Professional Development may be received directly from the publisher, the Center for Early Learning Professionals, or other professional development providers with demonstrated expertise in training educators to implement the selected curriculum to fidelity. This is not a research grant for LEAs in the exploratory phase of high-quality curriculum adoption; rather, these funds are to be used to purchase a selected set of curricula from Rhode Island’s Approved List of Pre-Kindergarten Curricula and provide the associated professional development to staff. This funding is for a portion of the FY24 state fiscal year and must be expended by December 30, 2023.

*\*\*This project was made possible by grant number 90TP0058-03-00. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official view of the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families.*

## **Rhode Island’s Approved List of Pre-Kindergarten Curricula**

In March 2021, RIDE issued a Request for Information (RFI) process to identify high quality curricula aligned to the 2013 Rhode Island Early Learning and Development Standards, evidence-based and theoretical methodology, and other indicators of a high-quality curriculum. A Curriculum Review Committee comprised of RIDE staff and consultants, Pre-K and Kindergarten classroom educators, Pre-K education coordinators, and early learning training and technical assistant providers reviewed the curricula and published an approved list of pre-kindergarten curricula:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Approved Pre-K Curricula** | **Publisher** | **Edition** |
| [Focus on Pre-K](https://www.bpsearlylearning.org/focus-on-k0-k1) | Boston Public Schools | N/A |
| [HighScope](https://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Instruction-and-Assessment-World-Class-Standards/early%20childhood/EndorsedCurriculum/HighScope.pdf) | HighScope Educational Research Foundation | 4th Edition |
| [The Investigator Club Prekindergarten Learning System](https://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Instruction-and-Assessment-World-Class-Standards/early%20childhood/EndorsedCurriculum/RobertLesliePublishing.pdf) (2022) | Robert-Leslie Publishing, LLC | 3rd Edition |
| [Tools of the Mind](https://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Instruction-and-Assessment-World-Class-Standards/early%20childhood/EndorsedCurriculum/ToolsOfTheMind.pdf) (2020) | Tools of the Mind | 8.1 Edition |
| [The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool](https://www.ride.ri.gov/Portals/0/Uploads/Documents/Instruction-and-Assessment-World-Class-Standards/early%20childhood/EndorsedCurriculum/TeachingStrategies.pdf) | Teaching Strategies, LLC | Guided, 6th, and 5th editions |

The approved curriculum included in this list demonstrates alignment to the expectations for high-quality curriculum as determined by RIDE. To learn more information about each approved curriculum, please click on the names of each curriculum, which are hyperlinked within this list.

**Grant Award**

**Curriculum Adoption Grants may award programs up to $15,000.** Grant amounts will be based on the type of curriculum and professional learning selected, along with the size of the program and number of classrooms participating. Grant funds may only be used for the purchase of a Rhode Island endorsed, high-quality curriculum and related supporting materials and resources, and curriculum professional learning and ongoing support for teaching staff.

**Important Dates**

**May 22, 2023:** Application Released

**June 19, 2023**: Applications are due by 5:00 pm and should be submitted electronically to [RIPre-K@ride.ri.gov](mailto:RIPre-K@ride.ri.gov).

Proposals must have all appropriate signatures and required components to be considered complete.

**\*\*\***All grant information, guidance, FAQ, and pre-recorded webinars can be found on the Early Learning and Development page on the RIDE website or accessed here [Early Learning and Development Standards](https://www.ride.ri.gov/InstructionAssessment/EarlyChildhoodEducation/EarlyLearningandDevelopmentStandards.aspx)

**End of June 2023:** Application review and awarding decisions released.

**July 1, 2023 – December 20, 2023**: Grant Award Term.

High Quality Curriculum Adoption Grant Application

1 Application Information

**Application Grade/Age Span:** This application is for preschool/pre-k classrooms serving children ages 3-5.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **District Information:** | **District Name:** |  | |
| **Schools within district that serve children ages 3-5:**  *(List all that apply)* |  | | |
| **Grant Application Contact Information:** | | | |
| **Primary Contact** |  | **Title** |  |
| **Mailing Address** |  | **Phone #** |  |
| **Email Address** |  | **Fax #** |  |

**Classroom Information:** Complete one chart **for each school within your district** that serves children ages 3-5 years.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **School Name:** | | | | | |
| **3-Year-Old Only Classrooms** | | **4-Year-Old Only Classrooms** | | **Mixed-Age (3-5 years) Classrooms** | |
| Total # of Physical Classrooms: |  | Total # of Physical Classrooms: |  | Total # of Physical Classrooms: |  |
| # of half-day classrooms: |  | # of half-day classrooms: |  | # of half-day classrooms: |  |
| # of full-day classrooms: |  | # of full-day classrooms: |  | # of full-day classrooms: |  |
| Identify the type and quantity of the 3-year-old classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | | Identify the type and quantity of the 4-year-old classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | | Identify the type and quantity of the mixed-age classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | |

* *Note: The RIDE team is curious to learn about the space/capacity of your program. Please only list the number of physical classroom spaces. For example, if you have (2) classrooms that each have half-day sessions, you will fill in the chart with the number 2.*

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **School Name:** | | | | | |
| **3-Year-Old Only Classrooms** | | **4-Year-Old Only Classrooms** | | **Mixed-Age (3-5 years) Classrooms** | |
| Total # of Classrooms: |  | Total # of Classrooms: |  | Total # of Classrooms: |  |
| # of half-day classrooms: |  | # of half-day classrooms: |  | # of half-day classrooms: |  |
| # of full-day classrooms: |  | # of full-day classrooms: |  | # of full-day classrooms: |  |
| Identify the type and quantity of the 3-year-old classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | | Identify the type and quantity of the 4-year-old classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | | Identify the type and quantity of the mixed-age classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **School Name:** | | | | | |
| **3-Year-Old Only Classrooms** | | **4-Year-Old Only Classrooms** | | **Mixed-Age (3-5 years) Classrooms** | |
| Total # of Classrooms: |  | Total # of Classrooms: |  | Total # of Classrooms: |  |
| # of half-day classrooms: |  | # of half-day classrooms: |  | # of half-day classrooms: |  |
| # of full-day classrooms: |  | # of full-day classrooms: |  | # of full-day classrooms: |  |
| Identify the type and quantity of the 3-year-old classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | | Identify the type and quantity of the 4-year-old classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | | Identify the type and quantity of the mixed-age classrooms:   |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Type** | **#** | | Self-Contained |  | | Integrated |  | | General Ed. |  | | |

2 Curriculum Identification & Scope of Purchasing

**Curriculum Identification/Selection:** Select one of the RIDE Endorsed Preschool/Pre-K curricula that your program proposes to purchase, or already uses. [Click here](https://www.ride.ri.gov/InstructionAssessment/EarlyChildhoodEducation/EarlyLearningandDevelopmentStandards.aspx#curriculum) to find more information and resources on RIDE’s endorsed curricula to guide your district’s selection.

* Focus on Pre-K *(Boston Public Schools)*
* Creative Curriculum for Preschool, Guided Edition *(Teaching Strategies)*
* HighScope *(HighScope Educational Research Foundation)*
* The Investigator Club PreKindergarten Learning System *(Robert Leslie Publishing, LLC)*
* Tools of the Mind *(Tools of the Mind)*

**Scope of Purchasing:** Please select what your district intends to purchase with the grant award.

**Curriculum materials & professional learning**

If selecting this option, please describe how the purchase of curriculum will support all the classrooms in your program, keeping in mind the maximum grant award offered for this opportunity. If this grant award does not cover all classrooms in your program, describe how your district will support these remaining classrooms with accessing high-quality curriculum materials.

**Professional learning only** (already have purchased curriculum materials)

If selecting this option, please describe how your district has an adequate quantity of high-quality curriculum materials. Describe how the proposed professional learning experiences will support all teachers. If professional learning does not cover all classrooms and teachers in your program, how will your district support these remaining classrooms with accessing companion professional learning.

3 Needs Analysis Summary (suggested 2-3 pages)

Please write a summary of the current curricula being used in the preschool classrooms, the perceived implementation to fidelity of that curricula and how child outcomes are currently measured.

* **If your district is looking to adopt a new curriculum**, what steps has your district made towards the research and adoption of a HQ curriculum for preschool? Have there been any pilots of HQ curriculum that has occurred within your preschool classrooms? What barriers have your district experienced in attempts to adopt of a HQ curriculum for the preschool classroom(s), if applicable?
* **If your district has already purchased and piloted a new curriculum,** what steps have been made towards supporting curriculum implementation with integrity/fidelity? What types of support do teachers currently receive in curriculum implementation from Education coordinators/district leaders? What prior professional learning have teachers received and what are the greatest areas of teacher and district need and support?

### 4 Scope of Work & Work Plan (2-3 pages)

Referencing your completed Needs Analysis (section 3) directly, articulate the expectations that your district has for the implementation of funds to support the adoption of the selected HQ Curriculum.

**First, fill in the Work Plan table below**. **Then, write an accompanying Scope of Work narrative** that details the activities/deliverables listed in the work plan. Below are some of the types of activities/deliverables that you should list and discuss:

* Major milestones and goals
* Connection between the work and the Needs Analysis
* Purchasing process for attaining materials
* Number of and role of educators involved in the proposed work
* Organization to contract with for professional development, and type of professional development to be received by teaching staff.
* Plan for providing professional learning and ongoing support for leaders and teachers to ensure implementation to fidelity
* Plan for data collection and sharing data with RIDE including:
  + Frequency of professional development
  + Number of teachers that received professional development
* Explain, using concrete examples, how the work will be supported, and by whom, with the funding provided.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Work Plan** | | |
| **Activity/Deliverable** | **Date** | **Person/People**  **Responsible &**  **their Job Title** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
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6 Leadership and Stakeholder Commitment

We, the below signed, agree to participate in the High-Quality Curriculum Adoption project in our preschool programs. We acknowledge the time commitment through the life of the grant and are committed to the successful completion of this work within the timeframe allotted. We will work with RIDE and evaluators to monitor progress towards project goals.

LEA and principal commitment and signatures are required at the time of application. Educator signatures will be required prior to award.

**Required Signatures: (Add rows as necessary)**

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Superintendent/Head of School Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Project Lead Name Title Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Participating Principal Name Date

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Participating Principal Name Date

### 7 Budget and Budget Narrative

**Budget Narrative**: For each cost category within the proposed budget, provide an explanation of how grant funds and any other local or federal funds will be used; include a rationale for how the funds are reasonable and sufficient to achieve the grant outcomes. Please include a cost basis for each category that resembles a mathematical equation when possible.

The LEA/Community-Based Organization estimates that its budget for work to be performed under this Agreement is as follows:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Estimated Expenditures** |
|  | ***FY23***  ***7/1/2023 – 12/30/2023*** |
| 1. Salaries |  |
| 2. Fringe Benefits (52000) |  |
| 3. Professional and Technical Services (53000) |  |
| 4. Property Services (Facility Rental/Maintenance) (54000) |  |
| 5. Other Purchased Services (55000) |  |
| 6. Supplies and Materials (56000) |  |
| 7. Property and Equipment (57000) |  |
| 8.    Indirect Costs (60000) |  |
| **Subtotal** |  |
| **Indirect Cost \*** |  |
|  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  |

It is understood and agreed that the amounts indicated above for the several line items are estimates of expenditures to be incurred by the LEA on behalf of this Agreement and to be claimed by the LEA for reimbursement under this Agreement. It is further understood and agreed that actual expenditures may vary from the estimates set forth above and that such variations shall not in themselves be cause for disallowance of reimbursement by RIDE; provided, however, that the LEA shall notify the grant officer of the variance and obtain pre-approval, in writing; and provided further that unless permission of the contract officer shall have been obtained in advance, no expenditure shall be claimed by the LEA for reimbursement by RIDE under this Agreement if such expenditure shall have been incurred in a line item category not listed above. Transfer of funds between categories requires prior written approval by RIDE. In no event shall the total amount of reimbursement claimed by the vendor under this agreement exceed the total approved contract amount.

*\* Attach a copy of the approved indirect cost documentation*

BUDGET DETAIL SHEET \*

FISCAL YEAR 2024

**EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (51000 and 52000)**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **NAME** | **POSITION** | **FTE** | **EMPLOYEE COMPENSATION (51000)** | **EMPLOYEE BENEFITS (52000)** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  |  |  |  |

**PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SERVICES (53000)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY** | **ITEM DESCRIPTION** | **TOTAL $** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  | **$** |

**PROPERTY SERVICES (54000)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **EXPENSE CATEGORY** | **DESCRIPTION** | **TOTAL** |
| Building Rent/Lease/Mortgage |  |  |
| Building Maintenance |  |  |
| Telephone/Internet Services |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  |  |

**OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES (55000)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY** | **ITEM DESCRIPTION** | **TOTAL $** |
| Travel |  |  |
| Property Insurance |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  | **$** |

**SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS (56000)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY** | **ITEM DESCRIPTION** | **TOTAL $** |
| Educational Materials |  |  |
| Program Supplies |  |  |
| Subscriptions and Dues |  |  |
| Utilities (Gas, Oil, Electricity) |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  | **$** |

**PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT (57000)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY** | **ITEM DESCRIPTION** | **TOTAL $** |
| Furniture and Fixtures |  |  |
| Equipment |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  | **$** |

**INDIRECT COSTS (60000)**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY** | **ITEM DESCRIPTION** | **TOTAL $** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| **TOTAL** |  | **$** |

Total $

\* Please include a detail budget sheet for this reduced state fiscal year (July 1st – December 30th)

\*\* Please round hourly rates to the nearest whole dollar and ensure there are no rounding differences with the extended totals.

\*\*\* Reimbursement for travel within the continental United States is limited to the per diem rates established by the General Services Administration (GSA).  Per Diem rates are posted at [www.gsa.gov/perdiem](http://www.gsa.gov/perdiem).

Appendix A: Approximate pricing of curriculum & professional development, by publisher (as of 2022)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Curriculum** | **Set Price** | **Start-Up Implementation PD Price** |
| Focus on Pre-K (Boston Public Schools) | **$2,350/set**   * Approximate cost of consumables, books, and any other non-open-source materials | **$1,500/day**   * Bootcamp/workshop with BPS Facilitators * Includes multiple classrooms/teachers |
| Creative Curriculum for Preschool, Guided Edition | **$2,500/classroom (English-only)**  **$3,050/classroom (Bilingual)**   * Pricing for 1 year print/digital subscription * 4 box set of print curriculum & Cloud subscription * TSG = $12.95/student | **$3,190/day**   * 6-hour, in-person or virtual training * Up to 20 teachers   **$249/teacher**   * Access to the online training modules |
| HighScope | **$1,320/set** | **$750/teacher**   * Introduction to Preschool Curriculum *(5 day in person and virtual training – 15 person minimum*) |
| Investigator Club | **$3,299 (Print Set – English)**  **$4,348 (Print Set – Dual Language)**   * Includes 6-year access to the full digital platform | **$995**   * 3-hour live virtual PD   **$2,500/training**   * 6-hour in-person training * $1,500 for the second consecutive day of training (optional) * Up to 30 teachers |
| Tools of the Mind | **$4,500/classroom**   * Classroom Materials ($3,750) * Recommended Lakeshore ($750) | * Set price includes 30 hours of PD spread throughout the Year (in person, virtual, or eLearning modules) for 1 Lead Teacher and 1 TA from each classroom |