

BooSt Together for Children ECI

Preschool Tuition Scholarship Guidelines for 2022-2023

The BooSt Together for Children ECI Area Board has allocated funds to be used for preschool tuition scholarships during the 2022-2023 school-year. Funds cannot be used to supplant other state and federal funds (e.g. Shared Vision, Head Start, Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year Old Children, state administered child care assistance for eligible families, etc.) These funds are not to be used towards wrap around child care, construction, renovation, or land acquisitions. Purchases of fixed assets such as computer equipment and automobiles would be prohibited, unless specifically approved by the Board during or after the contract negotiation period of this grant award process.

All Boone and Story County early care and education providers applying for Preschool Scholarships must submit written request using our Application form. The Early Childhood Services committee of the BooSt Board will review all applications. The committee will present funding recommendations to the BooST Board for consideration. The Board will make the final funding decision.

Timeline:

FY23 Preschool Request for Proposals released	May 10th, 2022
Preschool Application Due	June 17th, 2022
Family Application Due	July 1 st , 2022
Anticipated date for award decisions	August /September 2022

Child and Family Eligibility

- Boone or Story County resident
- Children 3 or 4 years of age on September 15th (not eligible for Kindergarten)
 - 4 year old eligibility for children NOT receiving any other state or federal aid
- Families with incomes at or below 200% of the poverty level (see family application for income guidelines)
- Not to exceed \$245 per child per month for up to 9 months of preschool.
- ECI will not pay more than the preschool tuition charged by the participating program.

Preschool Program Eligibility

Preschool providers must meet the following criteria:

1. Use a comprehensive, research-based or evidence-based curriculum **and** a systematic child assessment addressing all areas of child development using a reliable, published tool. Examples of curricula choices are The Creative Curriculum for Preschool and High Scope Curriculum. Examples of assessment tools include, but are not limited to, Creative Curriculum Gold and High Scope.
2. Preschool providers must meet at least **one** of the following standards criteria (applicants must provide appropriate documentation to verify):
 - Accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC)
 - Meets the Head Start Program Performance Standards;

- Verified, or paperwork submitted for self-verification status to the Iowa Department of Education, for Iowa’s Quality Preschool Program Standards (QPPS);
- Achieved or has applied for Level 2 or higher on Iowa’s Quality Rating System (QRS)

Sliding Fee Scale - Income Eligibility Guidelines:*

* Guidelines are based on the 2020 Poverty Guidelines that were updated in January 22, 2020.

Additional Person \$4,800

Family Size	100% Tuition Scholarship	90% Tuition Scholarship			80% Tuition Scholarship		
		\$34,841	-	\$38,640	\$38,641	-	\$41,640
2	\$34,840	\$34,841	-	\$38,640	\$38,641	-	\$41,640
3	\$43,920	\$44,080	-	\$52,260	\$52,300	-	\$56,640
4	\$53,000	\$57,808	-	\$60,880	\$61,000	-	\$65,880
5	\$62,080	\$63,000	-	\$71,650	\$74,300	-	\$79,050
6	\$71,160	\$72,080	-	\$84,260	\$88,120	-	\$93,120
7	\$80,240	\$81,000	-	\$97,000	\$98,800	-	\$106,740
8	\$89,320	\$91,250	-	\$98,260	\$100,800	-	\$120,360

Required Performance Measures

- ECI funds expended
 - Other funds invested to support preschool programming (listed by source)
 - Highest education level of lead teachers
 - Number of lead teachers with a valid practitioner’s license issued by the Board of Educational Examiners and a preschool or kindergarten endorsement
 - For children who receive scholarship funds, report the following:
 - # who receive scholarship funds
 - # by age
 - # by race/ethnicity
 - # and % whose families are at or below 200% poverty level
 - # and % of referred to AEA for possible special education determination
 - # and % demonstrating age appropriate skills (identify assessment tool(s) used)
1. Submit six-month and year-end progress reports to the BooSt Together for Children ECI Board using the form provided by the ECI Coordinator.
 2. Demonstrate a commitment and ability to comply with all relevant state and federal laws, including all rules and policies associated with this request for funding.
 3. Scholarship funds will be distributed on a first come first serve basis to eligible preschool providers.
 4. If a preschool receives notice of award of other federal, state or local funding support for preschool services after entering into a contract with BooSt Together for Children ECI Area Board, the provider must notify the ECI Coordinator immediately and the contract funding award will be renegotiated.
 5. Funded providers are to invoice for services monthly.

Prohibited Use of Funds

1. Funds cannot be used to supplant other state and federal funds (e.g., Shared Visions, Head Start, Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year Old Children, state administered child care assistance for eligible families, etc.)
2. Wrap around child care.
3. Construction, renovation or land acquisition.
4. Payment of real estate mortgages or taxes; dues to organizations or federations; costs for social activities not related to the purpose of this program; costs related to political activity; interest costs, fines, penalties, law suits or legal fees; contingencies such as pending litigation possible liabilities, etc.; and contributions and donations.
5. Purchase of fixed assets such as automobiles, computer equipment, or fixtures unless such purchases have been specifically approved by the Board during or after the contract negotiation period of this grant award process.

Preschool Procedure:

1. Applicants submit the Preschool Application. Forms must be filled out in their entirety (June 17th, 2022)
2. Family Applications must be submitted to BooSt Together for Children on the desired date. (July 1st, 2022)
3. Applications received by the specified due date will be reviewed by a committee. The committee will develop funding recommendations for consideration of final approval. Applicants will be notified by email or mail of the funding decisions. Funds will be provided to successful applications on a reimbursement basis after submission of an invoice and supporting documentation. All final Preschool Scholarship invoices must be submitted by June 30th 2023.

Contracting Period

It is anticipated the contracting period would be from September 1, 2022 to May 31, 2023.