

FY26 Early Childhood Education Infrastructure Expansion Grant Technical Assistance Webinar

Nevada Department of Education
November 21, 2025




Agenda

 Grant Purpose & Goals

 Funding & Eligibility

 Program Requirements

 Application Components

 Scoring & Rubric

 A Rubric Example & Non-Example

 Post-award monitoring

 Key Dates & Timeline

 Questions and Answers

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Purpose of the Grant

This grant was established by [Senate Bill 460 \(Sec 73\)](#) to fund the **expansion of facilities** for early childhood education.

Focus Areas:

- Areas with limited access to high-quality ECE
- Underserved communities
- Programs providing free or low-cost education

Primary Goal: To expand access to high-quality, Nevada Ready! Pre-K (NR!PK) aligned preschool programs.



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Funding at a Glance

\$4 Million

Total Available (State General Fund)

- **Grant Period:** November 17, 2025 - June 30, 2026
- **Award Cap:** Up to \$150,000 for each 800 sq. ft. of expansion
- **Type:** Competitive Grant

Who Can Apply?

Eligible Applicants

- School Districts
- Sponsors of Charter Schools
- Institutions within the Nevada System of Higher Education (NSHE)
- Non-profit Organizations

Must Serve 4-Year-Olds Who Are:

- Household income \leq 250% of poverty level, **OR**
- Have an Individualized Education Program (IEP), **OR**
- Home language is not English, **OR**
- Members of vulnerable/underserved populations.

Grant Goals & Priorities



Expand Nevada Ready Pre-K Seats

- Directly support the creation and sustainability of new NR!PK-aligned preschool seats.
- Describe how the proposed environment would support high quality Pre-k implementation



Ensure High Quality

- Align with NR!PK and Silver State Stars Quality Rating Improvement System standards and child care licensing guidelines (e.g., 35 sq ft indoor, 75 sq ft outdoor per child).
- Americans with Disabilities Act Requirements
- Achieve or maintain QRIS high rating



Long-Term Sustainability

Demonstrate clear plans for:

- An anticipated timeline
- Licensing
- Recruiting high quality staff
- Operational readiness
- Sustainable enrollment.

Key Program Requirements (Post-Project)



Teacher: BA in ECE (or Level 5.2+ on NV Registry for community-based), compensated similarly to district teachers.



Instruction: Minimum 25 hours per week for the full school year.



Class Size: Maximum 20 pupils, with a 10:1 student-to-adult ratio.

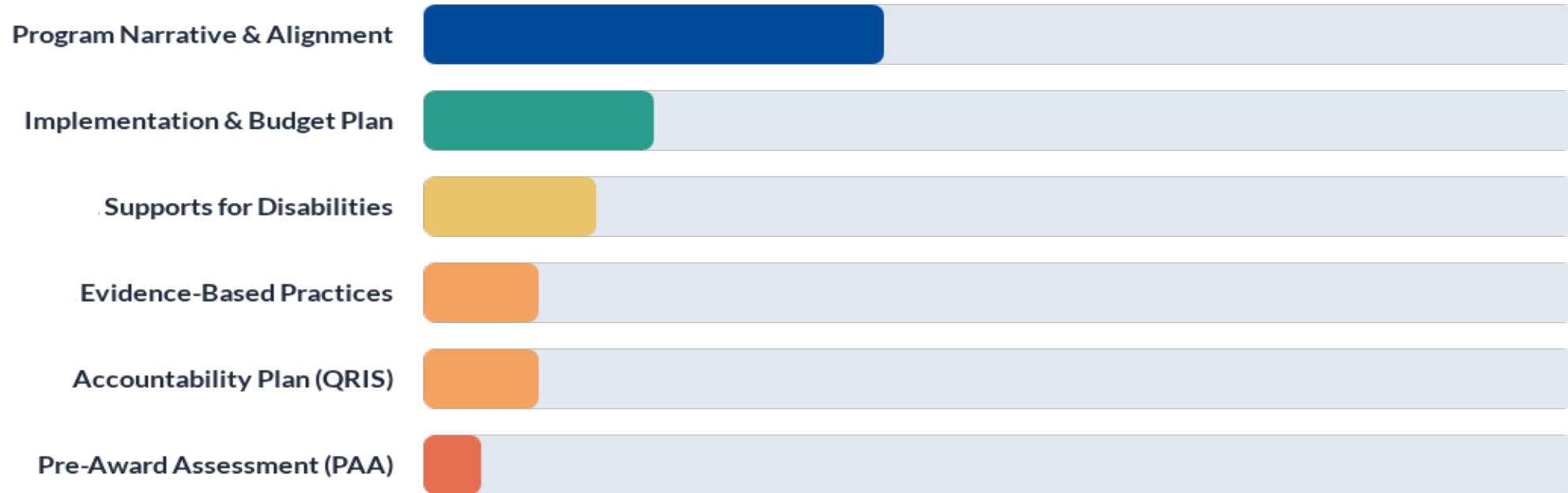


Inclusion: Serve pupils with disabilities and provide individualized accommodations.



Family Engagement: Actively engage parents/guardians and participate in state evaluation (e.g., annual Family Engagement survey).

How Applications Are Scored (100 points)



A comprehensive Program Narrative and a sound Implementation Plan make up 60% of the total score.

Rubric Focus: Program Narrative & Alignment

✗ Weak Non-Example (Low Score)

Criterion: Demonstrate how the proposed facility expansion directly addresses identified gaps in high-quality ECE access for underserved four-year-olds.

"Our school district needs more classrooms because the community is growing rapidly. We will build a new wing to enroll more students in our Pre-K program starting next year, which is a big goal for us. We'll use this space for four-year-olds."

****Why this fails:**** Lacks data (service need gap or poverty level details). Fails to link facility expansion specifically to ****high-quality**** metrics (NR!PK/QRIS). Too vague.

✓ Strong Example (High Score)

Criterion: Demonstrate how the proposed facility expansion directly addresses identified gaps in high-quality ECE access for underserved four-year-olds.

"Our needs assessment shows a 78% service gap in for children under 250% FPL. The 1,600 sq. ft. expansion will create two new classrooms, directly serving 40 additional at-risk four-year-olds. We commit to aligning all new facility standards with **NR!PK**** and pursuing a high QRIS rating within 18 months of opening, specifically addressing the documented lack of high-quality seats in this underserved area."**

****Why this succeeds:**** Quantifiable data, specific target population, clearly articulates the expansion size and new seats, and uses required program language (NR!PK, QRIS).

Post-award Monitoring: Reporting and Accountability

Programs **must** track and report outcomes of their infrastructure project to measure effectiveness, guide continuous improvement, and report to legislators.



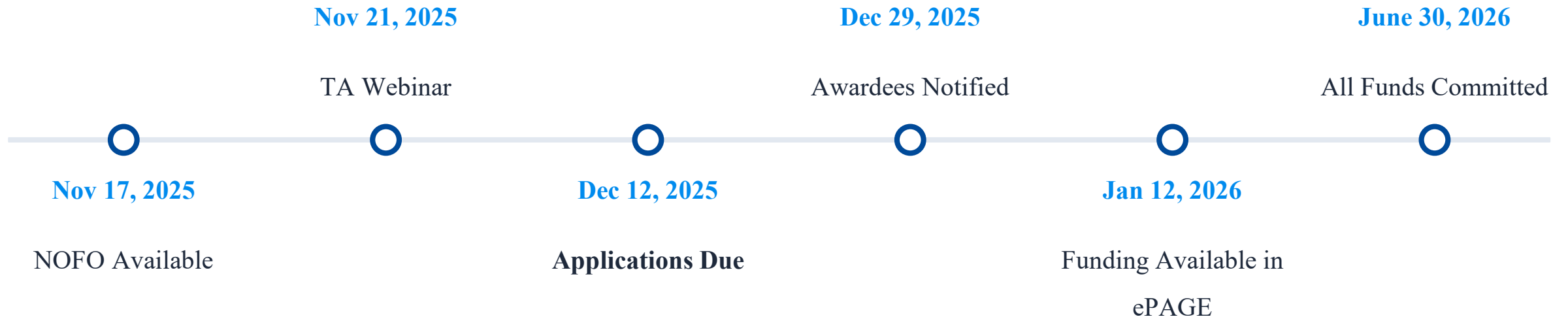
Application Checklist

- **Attachment A:** Applicant Info & Program Form
 - Program Narrative (**12-page limit with 1.5 to 2 spacing**)
- **Attachment B:** FY26 Budget Summary & Narrative
- **Attachment D:** Pre-Award Assessment (PAA)
- **Attachment E:** Certification Form
- **Attachment F:** General State Grant Assurances

Submission: All materials must be submitted via Smartsheet by **5:00 PM on Friday, December 12, 2025.**



Key Dates & Timeline



Questions?

Are funds obligated to spent by June 30, 2026, or is there a liquidation period that would allow unfinished construction projects to be completed? Does all construction have to be complete by June 30?

SB460: Section 73.3: Committee by June 30 and spent by September 18.

Can we apply to improve flooring, paint, plumbing, etc. Or is it strictly for new construction?

Those would be eligible requests, so long as they are also clearly outlined to supporting the expansion of existing Nevada Ready Pre-k Programs. The repairs would be directly tied to increasing serving capacity. **An increase of 20 students served to 60 students served.**

Is this grant only open to rural districts?

No, this grant opportunity is open to all interested districts that would commit to expanding or starting NR!PK programs within their counties.

Key Contacts

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