



Exceed

Rhode Island's Early Childhood Commitment

Exceed represents the commitment of Rhode Island's early learning community to help ensure that all of our young children have the opportunity to soar.

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Photo courtesy of Mariposa Center, Providence



Save The Date

Dec 9: Registration for The Center for Early Learning Professionals [winter 2015 PD](#) schedule opens

Dec 16: [Early Learning Council Meeting](#), 11:30 am - 2:00 pm, RI Foundation, 1 Union St, Providence

Jan 5: Next application wave for [Program Quality Improvement Grants](#) opens.

RI receives grant to expand Preschool Programs!

In response to President Obama's call to expand access to high-quality preschool to every child in America, Congress appropriated \$250 million for the Preschool Development/ Expansion Grant Program in fiscal year 2014. There were a total of 34 state applications submitted. Today, President Obama will announce that RI was one of 18 states chosen to receive funding!!!

Rhode Island's achievable and ambitious plan is designed to expand access to the Rhode Island Pre-K Program from the existing 17 classrooms (306 children) in school year 2014-2015 to 60 classrooms (1,080 children) in school year 2019-2020 in the seven high-need communities that have more than 50% of children enrolled in Free and Reduced Price Lunch: Providence, Pawtucket, Woonsocket, West Warwick, Newport, Central Falls and East Providence. The **\$19M** award will also allow RI to improve upon the state processes and supports that ensure the quality implementation of the program, including monitoring, technical assistance and the implementation of a rigorous program evaluation. Over four years, the federal expansion grant plan will enable 1,548 more four-year-olds to be enrolled in new State Pre-K slots than would have been possible without the federal grant.

Your voice matters!

Join the statewide conversation about the future of public education in Rhode Island by [taking this five minute survey](#)! Add your opinion to the almost 7,000 Rhode Islanders who have already responded and help reach the goal of 10,000 voices by December 31, 2014. Help spread the word to families with young children by [sharing this poster](#). The survey is available in seven languages! Check out this [website](#) for live results, updates, and ways to get involved!

RIDE releases request for proposals

The RI Department of Education (RIDE) is requesting proposals from qualified vendors to support early learning programs to use technology to enhance assessment practices. To access the RFP information, please visit www.purchasing.ri.gov. Click on Bidding Opportunities, then State Agency Bids. Type in the bid number 7549171, then search. Click on the number under the bid number column. Questions concerning this solicitation must be received by the Division of Purchases at gail.walsh@purchasing.ri.gov no later than 5:00 pm on Thursday, December 11, 2014. The submission deadline for bids is 2:00 pm on Monday, December 29, 2014.

The RI Department of Education (RIDE) is requesting proposals from qualified vendors to create a digital delivery system and supporting materials for existing professional development content focused on early childhood assessment. To access the RFP information, please visit www.purchasing.ri.gov. Click on Bidding Opportunities, then State Agency Bids. Type in the bid number 7549173, then search. Click on the number under the bid number column. Questions concerning this solicitation must be received by the Division of Purchases at gail.walsh@purchasing.ri.gov no later than 5:00 pm on Thursday, December 11, 2014. The submission deadline for bids is 2:30 pm on Monday, December 29, 2014.

Healthy Eating Research request for proposal

The [Healthy Eating Research](#) Special Solicitation call for proposals (CFP) is now open. This CFP focuses on childhood obesity prevention efforts in two settings: Healthy Food Retail and Early Care and Education. Healthy Eating Research: Building Evidence to Prevent Childhood Obesity is an Robert Wood Johnson Foundation national program. The program supports research on environmental and policy strategies with strong potential to promote healthy eating among children to prevent childhood obesity, especially among groups at highest risk for obesity. There are [two stages in the application process](#), including an initial concept paper and a subsequent full proposal (if invited). Applicants must follow the instructions and use the templates provided in the RWJF online system.

The deadline for receipt of concept papers is January 7, 2015 (3 p.m. ET).

