



Nancy S. Grasmick
State Superintendent of Schools

200 West Baltimore Street, Baltimore, MD 21201 410-767-0100 410-333-6442 TTY/TDD

MEMORANDUM

TO: Qualified providers of prekindergarten services as defined by COMAR 13A.06.02

FROM: Rolf Grafwallner
Assistant State Superintendent
Division of Early Childhood Development

DATE: February 26, 2009

RE: Judith P. Hoyer Early Care and Education Enhancement Grant for Preschool Services

The Division of Early Childhood Development would like to alert you to this grant opportunity which provides funds for increasing services to four year old children under the recommendations of the Maryland Task Force on Universal Preschool Education.

This grant will provide funding for the provision of a prekindergarten program serving three and four-year-olds attending early childhood settings in non-public programs in collaboration with local school systems. A local school system may apply for funds to provide prekindergarten through a qualified vendor in accordance with COMAR 13A.06.02, or a qualified vendor may use the funds to provide prekindergarten services and enter into a collaborative arrangement with the LEA.

This grant will also establish prekindergarten programs which meet the ten (10) Quality Benchmarks for High Quality Preschool Education adopted by the Task Force on Universal Preschool Education. For more information on the Task Force recommendations and a copy of the report entitled *Preschool for All in Maryland* please go to http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/divisions/child_care.

A technical assistance meeting is planned for **Thursday, March 26, 2009 at the Maryland State Department of Education Building, 200 W. Baltimore Street, 8th floor, in conference room 1, 1:00 to 3:00 pm.**

For more information and questions please contact Valerie Kaufmann, the Coordinator of the Early Learning Branch for the Division of Early Childhood Development at 410-767-6549 or at valeriek@msde.state.md.us.