



Funding Opportunity Announcement  
**Alabama Pre-K - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Integrated Approach to Early Learning  
Competitive Grant Process: Applications due December 3, 2018**



The Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education is accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year for grants that support the delivery of a coordinated and comprehensive high-quality early childhood continuum.

### Background

A high-quality early childhood education provides the foundation for student success in school. Having a seamless learning continuum from Pre-K to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade will align and integrate a comprehensive educational approach to student learning during the years when children have the greatest growth potential.

Educators will be able to apply their knowledge of child development, subject matter content and pedagogical approaches to align educational experiences along the Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade continuum. Further, educators will be able to ensure that children are entering classrooms that promote on-going educational progress by building on what was taught during the previous year. This alignment is particularly critical given the new knowledge teachers possess relating to the developmental sequences of early learning. Knowing this, educators can intentionally integrate the developmental domains into the teaching and learning subject matter for young children.

Research findings from multi-year early education interventions and the combined components of the Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> approach can make a positive contribution to young children's learning by providing the pathways through which more children will achieve success by the end of third grade.

The Alabama Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Integrated Approach to Early Learning will build upon student success and narrow the achievement gap by expanding access to Alabama's high-quality Pre-K model. The Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> approach will incorporate the most successful parts of K-3<sup>rd</sup> initiatives in order to establish a strong foundation of early learning experiences that promotes student achievement and success. The Alabama Department of Early Childhood Education (ALDECE) and the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) collaborative partnership will develop and implement a strong teaching and learning continuum unique to the needs and expectations of Alabama's children and families.

This document serves as an invitation to submit a grant proposal that encompasses three major components of the Pre-K - 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Integrated Approach to Early Learning: leadership, assessment and instructional practice in early childhood education. The Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> continuum surpasses the boundaries of preschool into the first few years of elementary school to produce a seamless learning experience for children from age four through grade three. The basic framework and three focus areas of the continuum are based on:

#### **1. Leadership**

- a. Leaders embrace the Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> early learning continuum
- b. Leaders ensure developmentally appropriate practices
- c. Leaders provide personalized, blended learning environments
- d. Leaders use measures to guide growth in student learning

- e. Leaders build professional capacity across the early learning community
- f. Leaders make schools a hub for Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> learning for families and communities

## 2. Instruction

- a. Align and coordinate standards, instructional practices, assessment, environments and professional development creating an incremental alignment plan for Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup>
- b. Use consistent, yet developmentally appropriate, instructional approaches across grades
- c. Require horizontal and vertical team meetings
- d. Use instructional coaches with early childhood learning experiences and credentials
- e. Communicate proactively and involve parents, families and the community

## 3. Assessment

- a. Ongoing, observation, standards based
- b. Include all domains of development and learning: social-emotional, language, physical, cognitive, literacy, mathematics, social studies, science and technology and the arts

Research has shown that the key elements of effective Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> programs include:

- High-quality, voluntary Pre-K for all children
- Full-day kindergarten
- Qualified teachers who have a bachelor's degree and specialized training in the methods in which young children learn
- Opportunities for teachers to share data, participate in joint planning session on a regular basis as well as collaborative professional development meeting across grade levels
- Strong leadership committed to providing children with seamless high quality educational experiences
- A high quality, developmentally-appropriate curriculum that aligns state standards from Pre-K through third grade and supports the development of the whole child

Follow this link for more detailed information:

<https://www.naesp.org/sites/default/files/leading-pre-k-3-learning-communities-executive-summary.pdf>

### Grant Application

This grant will provide \$15,000 for each awarded classroom. LEAs are encouraged to write for Pre-K to K, Pre-K to 1, Pre-K to 2, or Pre-K to 3, depending on the readiness of the school. The funding for this grant is only guaranteed for one year, with programs continuing the process during the next school year.

For those teachers who have not been trained in Teaching Strategies GOLD, the required 2 days of professional development is tentatively scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019. Leadership from each grantee will be required to attend this training as well.

The following application recommendations are appropriate in relation to this grant:

- It is highly recommended that programs apply who already have a First Class Pre-K classroom in place in order to provide a seamless transition from First Class Pre-K to kindergarten.
- It is highly recommended that those programs that already have First Class Pre-K and kindergarten classrooms using Teaching Strategies Gold Assessment, write for a Pre-K to 1<sup>st</sup> grade continuum.

- It is highly recommended that those programs that do not have a kindergarten classroom involved in using Teaching Strategies GOLD Assessment, write for a Pre-K to K continuum.

The applicant must answer the following questions in the Grant software Foundant (please see instructions attached):

- 1) PROJECT Name (Name of School System)
  - 2) SCHOOL SYSTEM Vendor Code
  - 3) APPLICANT Name(s) & Position(s)
  - 4) APPLICANT Email
  - 5) SCHOOL Name(s)
  - 6) SCHOOL, Street for each in system
  - 7) SCHOOL, City for each school in system
  - 8) SCHOOL, Zip for each school in system
  - 9) SCHOOL, Principal Name(s)
  - 10) SCHOOL, Principal Email(s)
  - 11) NUMBER OF CLASSROOMS per School by Grade
  - 12) Total Number of Classrooms Per School
- A. What is your mission and vision for a Pre-K to K, Pre-K to 1, 2 or 3 continuum? Discuss challenges that are likely to be encountered in designing and implementing the plan.
- B. Creating a Pre-K-3<sup>rd</sup> continuum requires a strong commitment by principals and all educators to work together to ensure that all the needs of children are met. What are your long-term goals for this continuum and how does it fit within your system's goals? Provide a work plan timeline that extends across the school year.
- C. How will your plan include all three of the focus areas: leadership, instruction and assessment?
- D. Provide a budget and a budget narrative that specifically describe how each item will support the achievement of the work plan (Sample budget is attached). How will you sustain this project when funding is no longer available?



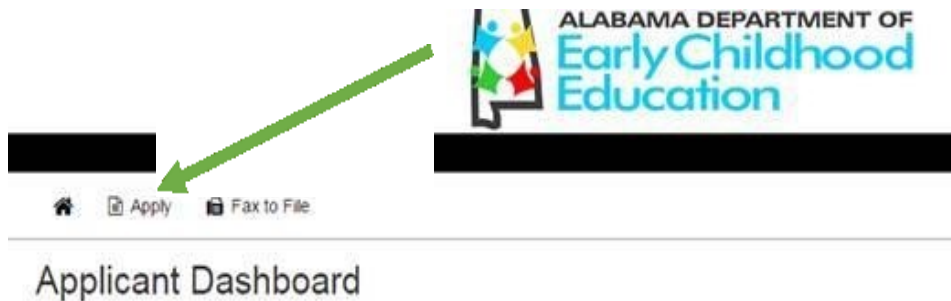
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The link to the Foundant account is:

<https://www.grantinterface.com/dcaalabama/Common/LogOn.aspx>

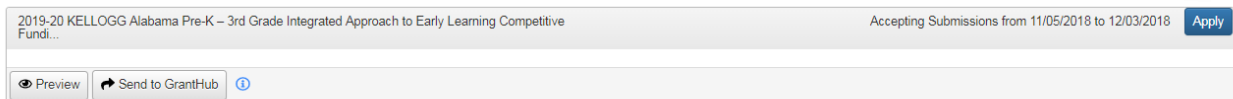
1. Once signed on, you will see the Applicant Dashboard. Hit the APPLY button in the top left hand corner as shown below:



2. On the APPLY page, enter the Access Code P319 in the top right-hand box:



3. After entering the Access Code at the bottom of the page, look for the apply button:



# Sample Budget Proposal for Whole Child Instruction 2019-2020

## Professional Development Per Teacher Early Childhood Conference

☐ Registration	\$300.00
☐ Subs for 3 days at \$85.00 per day	\$255.00
☐ Hotel Expense X 3 nights at \$150.00	\$450.00
☐ Travel - Mobile - miles x .545 (State rate)	\$250.00
• Meals – 9 meals x \$20	\$180.00

## TS GOLD Training and ongoing PD

• Trainings & PD	
○ must pass IRR after training & participate in ongoing PD	\$200.00

## Assessment Entry

☐ 4 - 1/2 day subs for data entry/collaboration at \$85.00 ○ can be two whole days or 4 1/2 days	\$170.00
☐ iPad mini & case	\$450.00
☐ Travel - Montgomery - miles x .535 (State rate)	\$250.00
☐ Hotel Expense X 2 Nights at \$150	<u>\$300.00</u>

**Total PD Expense per Teacher** **\$2,880.00**

**Classroom Resources** **\$5,600.00**

(Classroom setup for age appropriate furniture, shelves, storage materials, easel, rug, etc.)

**Materials and supplies** **\$ 6,595.00**

(Materials and supplies to include, but not limited to consumable supplies, literature, blocks (variety), art supplies, free choice materials, texture materials, additional supplies to foster a blended learning environment, etc.)

(See suggested supply list as a priority list)

**TOTAL Classroom Resources** **\$12,120.00**

**Total Per Classroom/Teacher Grant Award** **\$15,000.00**

*Sustainability funds of \$1,500 support teachers attending Early Childhood Conference, PD training and refurbishing consumable items.*

# Classroom Resources for Whole Child Instruction

These are examples and suggestions of the type of items that support Whole Child Instruction in Early Childhood.

## Classroom Setup Resources:

- 2 – Classic Birch Store Anything Large Classroom Shelves
- 1 – Classic Birch Store Anything Lower Classroom Shelf
- 2 – Classic Birch Store Anything Medium Classroom Shelves
- 1 – Builder Block Storage Set
- 1 – Space-saver Dress-Up Storage Center
- 1 – Pretend & Play Combo Kitchen
- 1 – Pretend & Play Table and Chair Set
- 1 – Hardwood Doll Crib
- 1 – Mobile Listening & Storage Center
- 1 – Classic Birch Space-maker Storage Unit for Art Supplies
- 1 – Classic Birch Mobile Book Organizer
- 2 – Navy Blue Rectangular Carpet - 6' x 9'
- Big Beanbag Seat - Red
- Big Beanbag Seat – Blue
- 1 – Space-saver Writing Center for Two
- 1 – Heavy-Duty Adjustable Mobile Computer Station for Two
- 2 – Classic Birch 8 Cubby Storage Units
- 100 Clear-View Storage Boxes
- 1 – Heavy-Duty Hardwood Easel
- 1 – Economy Sand & Water Table with Lid
- 1 – Giant Clear View Sand & Water Table with Lid
- 1 – Classic Birch 12 Cubby Storage Unit
- 1 – 36" x 72" Small Group Table
- 8 – 13 1/2" Classic Chair - Red
- 22 – 13 1/2" Classic Chair - Blue
- 6 – 13 1/2" Classic Chair - Yellow
- 17 1/2" Classic Teacher's Chair - Red
- 1 – Low 42" Small Round Table
- 1 – Large Classroom Carpet for 20 students
- 4 – 24" x 48" Rectangular Table
- 2 – Classic Birch Coats, Cubbies & Communication Center
- 1 – Comfy Pillows – Set of 5

## **Classroom Materials and Manipulatives:**

Starter Set of Hardwood Unit Blocks  
Hardwood Community Vehicles - Set of 10  
Block Play Traffic Signs  
Community People for Block Play  
People with Differing Abilities for Block Play  
Starter Set Bamboo Building Blocks  
Blocks & Blueprints Learning Center  
Soft & Squeezy Wild Animals  
Classic Dinosaur Collection  
Dishwasher-Safe Plastic Basket - Large  
Dishwasher-Safe Plastic Basket - Small  
Doll Bedding Set  
Feels Real Hispanic Baby Doll  
Feels Real White Baby Doll  
Feels Real Black Baby Doll  
Multi-Ethnic Doll – Asian Girl  
Multi-Ethnic Doll – Black Girl  
Multi-Ethnic Doll – Black Boy  
Guide Dog, Harness and Cane  
Walker and Accessory Bag  
Mexican Falda and Blusa – Dress-Up Costume  
Chinese Manchurian Robe – Dress-Up Costume  
Ghanaian Dashiki and Kuka – Dress-Up Costume  
Doctor Dress-Up Costume  
Fireman Dress-Up Costume  
Chef Dress-Up Costume  
Push-Button Play Phone  
Indestructible Play Dishes - Service for 4  
Indestructible Pots and Pans Playset  
Let's Go Shopping Vegetable Basket  
Best-Buy Multicultural Play Food Assortment  
Egg Shakers - Set of 12  
Rhythm Stick Activity Kit  
Activity Scarves  
Multicultural Rhythm Stick Fun CD  
Musical Scarves Activity CD  
Circle Time Activities CD by Georgiana Stewart  
Portable CD Player for Music Center and Whole Group Area  
Slide & Build Nature Blocks  
Buckle, Lace & Tie Dressing Frames  
Feed-The-Dog Fine Motor Game  
Giant Alphabet Beads  
Snap-Together Letter Blocks

Learning Lacers  
Bristle Builders - Starter Set  
Log Builders - Starter Set  
Sequencing Numbers 1-30 Puzzles - Set of 3  
Show & Learn Rekenrek Activities  
Hands-On Ten-Frames - Set of 4  
Hands-On Number Grid  
Counting Keys Classroom Set  
Sequencing Trains 1-100  
Count & Compare Numbers  
Size & Color Teddy Counters  
Hands-On Sorting Tray  
Attribute Blocks  
3-D Geometric Shapes Tub  
How Much Does It Weigh? Measurement Center  
How Long Is It? Measurement Center  
Learn to Measure Center  
Pop & Add to 12 Game  
Math Magic Addition Machine  
Earth & Environment Theme Book Library  
Community & Careers Theme Book Library  
Cultures of the World Theme Book Library  
Farms Theme Book Library  
Food & Nutrition Theme Book Library  
Seasons & Weather Theme Book Library  
Growing Things Theme Book Library  
Families Theme Book Library  
Story Wands  
No, David! Storytelling Kit  
No, David! by David Shannon  
The Rainbow Fish Storytelling Kit  
Listening Center Headphones - Each  
8-Station Junction Box with Volume Controls  
Portable CD Player for Listening Center  
Tacky the Penguin Read-Along  
Corduroy Read-Along  
I Went Walking Read-Along  
Phonemic Awareness Folder Game Library – Pre-K-K  
Phonological Awareness School Readiness Teaching Kit  
Launch & Learn Beginning Sounds Game  
Look What I Can Do! Rhyming Center  
Alphabet Learning Locks  
Alphabet Smart Pencil Interactive Learning Cards  
Smart Pencil  
Build-A-Word Tiles



Magnetic Tub of Letters  
Magnetic Word Family Fridge  
Vowel Sounds Sorting Garden  
Word Family Dice  
Vocabulary Builder Books  
Classroom Magnetic Letters Kit  
Write & Wipe Alphabet Practice Cards  
First 100 Sight-Words Talking Boards  
Red Baseline Jumbo Picture Story Newsprint  
Draw & Write Journal - Set of 10 (2)  
Write & Wipe Lapboard Erasers - Set of 10  
Magnetic Letters - Uppercase  
Magnetic Letters - Lowercase  
Double-Sided Magnetic Write & Wipe Board - Each  
Jumbo Pencils  
Flip, Feel & Write Alphabet Boards  
Newsprint Easel Paper - 18" x 24"  
Nylon-Bristle Paintbrushes - 10-Color Set  
Fully Washable Liquid Tempera Paint - 10-Color Set - Pints  
Heavy-Duty Adjustable Vinyl Paint Apron - Red  
Superbright Liquid Tempera Paint - 10-Color Set - Pints  
Jumbo Colored Pencils  
People Colors Jumbo Pencils  
Student Pencil Sharpener - Each  
Scissors Center  
Construction Paper - 9" x 12" - Assorted Colors  
Construction Paper - 12" x 18" - Assorted Colors  
Best-Buy Standard Crayons - 8-Color Box  
Numbers & Counting Rubbing Plates  
Classroom Carry-All  
Large Tub of Playdough - Yellow  
Large Tub of Playdough - Blue  
Large Tub of Playdough - Red  
Super-Safe Craft Tape Center - 1/2"  
Uppercase Alphabet & Number Dough Stampers  
Help-Yourself Glue Tubes  
Pom-Poms  
Colored Feathers  
Colored Craft Sticks  
Pipe Stems - 100 Pieces  
Hair-Colors Crinkle Strips  
Make-A-Face Sheets  
Water Play Kit  
Sift & Find Alphabet Shells  
See It Grow Plant Lab

Early Science File Folder Games - Complete Set  
Science Specimens Sorting Center  
STEM Science Station - Magnets  
Can Do! Color & Light Discovery Kit – Pre-K-Gr. 1  
Can Do! Motion Discovery Kit – Pre-K-Gr. 1  
Magnifier Center  
Watch-It-Grow Window Greenhouse - Set of 20  
Five Senses Instant Learning Center  
Insects Specimen Center  
Sea Life Specimen Center  
Let's Get Moving! Activity Mats  
Let's Get Moving! Numbers & Counting Kit  
Letters Beanbag Set  
All-Purpose Teacher's Apron  
Moods & Emotions Poster Pack  
Families Poster Pack  
A View from Around the World - Set 1  
Children of the World Book Set Magic  
Water Marbles  
3 – 1 ½" Ruled Chart Tablets  
3 – Unruled Chart Tablets  
Daily Attendance and Classroom Helpers Chart