DECE -Funding for Special Projects

**About the Born Ready University**

Born Ready University is a free infant development research-based program that offers parenting courses for expecting parents, parents, and other caregivers for unborn children and children ages birth to 3. The four-session program will provide parents with information and support necessary to bring up happy and healthy children who enter school ready to learn.

**Eligibility to Apply**

The Department of Early Childhood Education accepts grant applications by invitation only from local elementary schools, Head Start, Childcare Centers, and Pre-K programs to administer the Born Ready University program.

**Funding**

The Department of Early Childhood Education through PDG-B5 Year 3 Exceptional funds will award a one-time $10,000 grant for Born Ready University programs to pay for the following:

* To hire workers to staff the program such as part-time teachers to provide childcare (background check must be on file)
* Stipend for speakers
* Janitorial needs
* Technology needs
* Purchase meals- breakfast, lunch, snacks, for each Saturday session
* Purchase meal cards for when onsite meals are unavailable due to COVID.
* Purchase certificates/incentives
* Purchase activities for childcare
* Purchase end of program awards and gifts (baby gifts, gift cards, and 10 reading books)
* Transportation support for parents such as gas cards, bus, or cab fees.

**Starting the Online Application Process**

To apply online, applicants will need to set up an account in the Foundant Grant Lifecycle Manager system. If you have already applied through Foundant in a previous year, your information will still be in the system.