



# **Now Announcing**

## **Invitation to Bid for**

### ***Great Start to Quality Resource Centers***

**\*Please forward/share with your networks!**

### **General Information**

RFP applications will be submitted to and evaluated by the Early Childhood Support Network (ECSN). For the full RFP by Early Childhood Support Network (ECSN) region please visit the following links:

- [Eastern Early Childhood Support Network Request for Proposal](#)
- [Northern Early Childhood Support Network Request for Proposal](#)
- [Southeastern Early Childhood Support Network Request for Proposal](#)
- [Western Early Childhood Support Network Request for Proposal](#)

### **Funding Source**

Child Care Development & Block Grant (CCDBG)

### **Request Proposal Release Date**

Monday – March 8, 2021

### **RFP Webinar**

Monday – March 22, 2021 (9:00am-11:00am). **Registration is required.** [Register by noon, Friday, March 19, 2021 on the CCRESA OIP website.](#)

### **Frequently Asked Questions Window**

Monday - March 8, 2021 – Wednesday, March 24, 2021 @ 4PM. All questions must be submitted to [support@miecsn.org](mailto:support@miecsn.org).

### **Letter of Intent Due Date**

Monday – March 29, 2021, by 4:00pm. Instructions for submission are included in regional RFP documents.

### **Frequently Asked Questions Release**

Wednesday - March 31, 2021. FAQs will be posted to [www.miecsn.org](http://www.miecsn.org).

### **Request for Proposal Application Due Date**

Thursday – April 15, 2021, by 4:00p.m. Instructions for submission are included in Regional RFPs.

### **Regional Early Childhood Support Network (ECSN) Board Approvals**

June 1 - June 30, 2021

### **Statewide Award Announcement**

Thursday - July 1, 2021

### **Estimated Project Start Date**

Friday - October 1, 2021

### **Contract Duration**

October 1, 2021, to September 30, 2026

### **Annual Funding Award**

Terms and conditions of the contract including funding award amounts are contingent upon the annual allocations from the Michigan Department of Education.

## **Purpose**

Research demonstrates that young children benefit most from participation in high quality early learning and development programs. Great Start to Quality is designed to support all children in all early learning and development programs, early childhood educators, licensed and license exempt subsidized providers with supports and services and provide consultation to those programs and providers serving children.

The purpose of the *Great Start to Quality* is to ensure all children including those with the greatest needs are in the highest quality settings by improving the quality of early learning and development programs, early childhood educators, and license exempt child care providers through a comprehensive system of supports and services. *Great Start to Quality* launched in the fall of 2011 and encompasses a network of *Great Start to Quality* Resource Centers, MiRegistry: a workforce development and improvement system, a 24/7 searchable database for families, a quality rating system, and Teacher Education And Compensation Helps (T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® MICHIGAN). *Great Start to Quality* is a continuum of quality improvement supports and services for license exempt providers and licensed early learning and development programs.

*Great Start to Quality* provides parents in Michigan with consumer education information concerning the full range of child care options. To the extent practicable, work directly with families who receive assistance to offer the families support and assistance to make an informed decision about which child care providers they will use to ensure that the families are enrolling their children in the most appropriate child care setting that suits their needs and one that is of high quality.

The Michigan Department of Education is the lead agency for the administration of the Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG), which includes both quality set aside and infant toddler set aside funding. The Department has an agreement with four regional Early Childhood Support Networks (ECSNs) and the Early Childhood Investment Corporation (ECIC) to implement specific aspects of the state's quality set aside activities.

## **Eligible Applicants**

Funds are available for established organizations with the fiscal, administrative, and programmatic capacity to apply to become a Great Start to Quality Resource Center and implement Great Start to Quality as well as a coordinated system of high quality supports for parents and providers within a specified service area within the state.

Eligible Applicants: Public & private businesses, organizations, and agencies are eligible. Eligible applicants include and are not limited to:

- Local Education Agencies (LEAs)
- Intermediate School Districts (ISDs)
- Institutes of Higher Education (including community colleges)
- Non-profit organizations
- Chambers of Commerce
- Community Action Agencies
- Tribal entities
- Consortium partnerships

## **Information About the ECSNs**

The Early Childhood Support Network (ECSN) is comprised of 4 regions throughout the state of Michigan; Eastern, Northern, Southeastern, and Western. The network regions are designed to provide development of, and facilitate access to, a coordinated, easy-to-navigate early childhood system for providers and families that addresses the needs of the whole child.

### **Eastern Early Childhood Support Network**

*Serving the following counties: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Ingham, Isabella, Lapeer, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Clair, and Tuscola*

### **Eastern ECSN Regional Resource Centers and Service Areas**

- **Central Resource Center:** Clare, Clinton, Eaton, Gladwin, Gratiot, Ingham, Isabella, Midland, Shiawassee

- **Eastern Resource Center:** Arenac, Bay, Genesee, Huron, Lapeer, Saginaw, Sanilac, St. Clair, Tuscola

### **Northern Early Childhood Support Network**

*Serving the following counties: Alcona, Alger, Alpena, Antrim, Baraga, Benzie, Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Chippewa, Crawford, Delta, Dickinson, Emmet, Gogebic, Grand Traverse, Houghton, Iosco, Iron, Kalkaska, Keweenaw, Leelanau, Luce, Mackinac, Manistee, Marquette, Menominee, Missaukee, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Ontonagon, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Schoolcraft, and Wexford*

### **Northern ECSN Regional Resource Centers and Service Areas**

- **Northeast Resource Center:** Alcona, Alpena, Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon
- **Northwest Resource Center:** Antrim, Benzie, Charlevoix, Emmet, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, Manistee, Missaukee, Wexford
- **Upper Peninsula Resource Center:** Alger, Baraga, Chippewa, Delta, Dickinson, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Luce, Mackinac, Marquette, Menominee, Ontonagon, Schoolcraft

### **Southeastern Early Childhood Support Network**

*Serving the following counties: Branch, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne*

### **Southeastern ECSN Regional Resource Centers and Service Areas**

- **Southeast Resource Center:** Branch, Hillsdale, Jackson, Lenawee, Livingston, Monroe, Washtenaw
- **Wayne-Oakland-Macomb Resource Center:** Macomb, Oakland, Wayne

### **Western Early Childhood Support Network**

*Serving the following counties: Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, Kent, Ionia, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, Ottawa, St. Joseph, and VanBuren*

### **Western ECSN Regional Resource Centers and Service Areas**

- **Kent Resource Center:** Kent County
- **Southwest Resource Center:** Allegan, Barry, Berrien, Calhoun, Cass, Kalamazoo, St. Joseph, and Van Buren Counties
- **Western Resource Center:** Ionia, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oceana, Osceola, and Ottawa Counties

With this RFP some Great Start to Quality Resource Center service areas are changing. Genesee will now be part of the Eastern Resource Center. Ionia will now be part of the Western Resource Center. Branch will now be part of the Southeast Resource Center.