

Rural Early Learning Facility Improvement Project

Selection Criteria for applicants

Introduction:

Thank you for your interest in the Rural Early Learning Facility Improvement Project. The Research Institute and The Ford Family Foundation wish you the best as you participate in the grant. After you submit your application, it will be reviewed and scored using the criteria listed in this document.

Ineligible programs:

Early Head Start, Head Start, and school districts that receive their funding from state or federal sources are not eligible.

Criteria:

The criteria we use to score your application will consist of the following essential questions and the scoring rubric.

Essential questions:

You need to respond in the affirmative to these questions on your application; if you are unable to, you are not eligible to participate in this grant.

1. Does your program provide full-day, full-year child care services?
 - a. No, not willing to provide full-day, full-year care – not eligible.
 - b. Yes, currently provide or committed to providing full-day, full-year care – eligible.
2. Be located within an eligible county.
 - a. No, program not in an eligible county – not eligible.
 - b. Yes: Coos, Curry, Douglas, Klamath, and Lake – eligible.
3. Be licensed or committed to becoming licensed.
 - a. No, not willing to become licensed – not eligible.
 - b. Yes, licensed or committed to becoming licensed - Licensed programs must have fewer than 3 serious valid findings in the last 2 years. Must be licensed by the time your project is completed – eligible.
4. Be willing to accept children on subsidy (Employment-Related Day Care, ERDC) and children with special needs.
 - a. No – not eligible.
 - b. Yes – eligible.
5. Do you have a construction, major renovation, or minor renovation project?
 - a. No – not eligible.
 - b. Yes – eligible.

Scoring Rubric:

The Research Institute will use this rubric to score your response to the question “Please describe your project and what you would like to do.” You are not required to have a materials list or provide the contact information of a contractor, at this time. Grammar and punctuation will not be used to score your response.

	3 – exemplary	2 – adequate	1 – needs improvement	0 – missing
What is your project? (1-3 paragraphs)	The applicant lays out a detailed plan describing what she wants to do for her project.	The plan for the project is explained.	The plan is difficult to understand.	No description found.
How will you accomplish your project? (1-3 paragraphs)	The applicant writes a detailed plan that is easy to understand and follow. The plan is well thought out and includes a timeline for completion.	The applicant writes a general plan that is clear and can be followed with limited effort. There is a general plan that has a date when the plan will be completed.	The applicant writes a plan that is unclear and or difficult to understand. There is a date for completion but little else.	No description found.
How will your project help you either become licensed and serve more children or increase licensed capacity and serve more children or provide a safer, more appropriate, indoor and/or outdoor environment for children? (1-3 paragraphs)	The applicant provides a comprehensive plan for how they will meet these requirements.	The applicant provides a basic outline for how they will meet these requirements.	The applicant’s plan is lacking a basic description for how they will meet these three requirements.	No description found.
Bonus criteria	1 additional point possible			
Creativity of the project concept (1-3 paragraphs)	The applicant’s project represents a creative idea that would increase the quality of child care in their community.			No description found or not a creative idea.

Scoring ranges and cutoffs:

A score of 10-7 means you will be considered to receive an invitation to participate in the grant. A score of 6-4 means you will be considered to receive an invitation to participate in the grant if grant funds are still available. A score of 3-0 means you will not receive an invitation to participate in the grant.

Other prioritizations considered:

We will also take into consideration if the program is serving families and children whose native language is not English, which county they are from, and when they submitted their application.