

ECE Funding: Frequently Asked Questions

Updated September 2020

1. How is the full-day prekindergarten for eligible four-year-olds funded?

Districts will receive FSP funding for the first half of the day, as was the case before HB 3. As was also the case before HB 3, districts can devote other sources of funding (for example: compensatory education, Title I, or funding from tier II). With HB 3, districts will also receive the early education allotment, which may also be used to fund the second half of the day. Other increased funding from HB 3 may also be relevant.

2. If a district receives an exemption from providing full-day prekindergarten, will they still receive the early education allotment?

Yes, a district will receive the early education allotment for any purpose that supports improvements in prekindergarten through 3rd grade reading and mathematics proficiency, even if they receive an exemption from full-day prekindergarten.

3. Are districts required to use the early education allotment towards full-day prekindergarten? If a district has been funding full-day prekindergarten through local and federal funds, may they continue to do so?

If a district is supporting their full-day program with local or State Compensatory Education funds, they may continue to do so as long as the early allotment funds are being used to improve programs and services in language and mathematics for prekindergarten through third grade.

4. Can a district continue to use their Title I, Part A funds towards a full-day prekindergarten program, or is that supplanting?

Title I, Part A has a different definition of supplement/not supplant. As long as the LEA has an appropriate supplement/not supplant methodology implemented, then it would not be supplanting to use Title I, Part A funds to fund full-day prekindergarten.

5. May a district use the early education allotment to enroll non-eligible 3 and 4-year olds?

Yes, if a district is providing full-day high quality prekindergarten to all eligible four-year-olds, they may use any remaining funds to improve programs and services in prekindergarten through third grade.

6. Can I use pre-k funding and/or early education allotment funds to purchase classroom supplies, desks, chairs, books, etc. for pre-k classes?

Yes, you can use both funding sources to purchase items for the pre-k classroom.

7. Can I use state compensatory education funds to purchase classroom supplies, desks, chairs, books, etc. for pre-k classrooms?

Yes, you may use compensatory education funds to purchase items for pre-k classrooms as long as the students meet the eligibility for use of compensatory education funds, i.e. meet one of the 14 criteria in [TEC 29.081\(d\)](#) or are economically disadvantaged. In addition, if a pre-k classroom has both eligible and ineligible students then allocating the cost of these items is allowable. For example, if 50% of the students are eligible for free and reduced lunch, then compensatory education funds can pay for 50% of the pre-k classroom items.