

supports, with a commitment to evidence-based, data-driven practices. Applicants should include within their proposal a community-informed, community-driven collaborative approach with partners from the private sector. Applicants should prioritize services for the most at-risk children and families. At minimum, 50% of children served in PreK or 0-3 classrooms should meet one or more of the below criteria for students at risk of entering kindergarten socially, emotionally, or academically unprepared for success:

Priority Criteria	Clarification
1. Poverty	Qualifies for free or reduced-price meals under the National School Lunch Program on September 20, 2023 (family income is less than 185% of the Federal Poverty Level).
2. Single parent families	Custodial parent is unmarried on the first day services are provided
3.Children in foster care, custodial grandparents/kinship care, or out-of-home placement, or children who have been referred by the Department for Children and Families.	Child is in foster care, custodial grandparents/kinship care, or out-of-home placement at the time of enrollment. For children referred by DCF, the reason for referral must describe the need for the child to attend the Pre-K program or receive the early childhood service and be documented and signed by the DCF agent.
4. Teen parents	At least one parent was a teenager (19 years or younger) when the child was born.
5. Either parent is lacking a high school diploma or GED	At least one parent is lacking a high school diploma or GED on the first day services are provided
6. Limited English Proficiency	Child/caregiver speaks a language other than English at home
7. Lower than expected developmental progress in at least one of the following areas: cognitive development; physical development; communication/literacy; social-emotional/behavior; adaptive behavior/self-help skills	ASQ results fall in the monitoring range or below cutoff (ASQ-3) or above cutoff (ASQ:SE-2) in at least one domain, or the child has an established IEP or IFSP.
8. Child qualifying for migrant status	Caregiver is a migrant worker
9. Children who experience chronic or episodic homelessness	Child/caregiver has temporary housing or is homeless (including living in a shelter)
10. Children lacking health insurance	At time of enrollment, child has no health insurance coverage