



Kim Reynolds
GOVERNOR

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Adam Gregg
LT. GOVERNOR

October 17, 2019

Richard Gonzales
Senior Advisor for Early Childhood Development and Education
Office of Child Care
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Administration for Children and Families
330 C Street SW, Ste. 4010A
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Mr. Gonzales,

It is my pleasure to write in support of the State of Iowa's application for the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) Renewal Grant. This grant would allow our state to improve the quality of our early childhood care and education programs to better prepare low-income, disadvantaged and other vulnerable young children to successfully enter kindergarten. This grant aligns well with our Future Ready Iowa initiative to build a stronger talent pipeline for today's and tomorrow's workforce, which starts with ensuring children from the earliest ages have the support they need to flourish.

If Iowa is selected, I will designate the Iowa Department of Management, Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) Office, and more specifically the ECI Office Administrator, Shanell Wagler, to lead the work of execution and administration of the Preschool Development Renewal Grant. The ECI Office provides leadership for facilitation, communication, and coordination for mixed delivery system of early care, health and education programs and services in Iowa's early childhood system. This grant application is a joint venture between the Departments of Education, Human Services, Public Health, Human Rights and Management and Iowa State University with support from the Departments of Workforce Development and Economic Development Authority. The ECI Office has a history of successfully leading collaborative efforts to support young children and their families.

Thank you very much for considering Iowa's worthwhile proposal for the Renewal Grant.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kim Reynolds".

Kim Reynolds
Governor of Iowa

Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) Organizational Chart

