

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.285

Quality Assurance Report & Preschool Development Grant

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Early Childhood Coordination

1a. What strategic priority does this program address?

Early Learning & Early Literacy

1b. What does this program do?

The Preschool Development Grant (PDG) was awarded in 2019 to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to align and coordinate policies, practices, and professional development across programs that serve children birth to kindergarten entry. The goal of the PDG is to increase efficiency and decrease fragmentation of services for young children (birth to age 5) and their families. This grant was a catalyst in creating the Office of Childhood within DESE that consolidates early childhood and afterschool programs into a single state agency.

As part of the grant activities for improving overall quality and service integration, the Quality Assurance Report (QAR) assists child care programs that are licensed, license-exempt, or exempt from licensure, as well as center-based or home-based programs serving children birth to kindergarten entry. The QAR considers common indicators of quality as a way to focus on overall program improvement on a voluntary basis.

2a. Provide an activity measure(s) for the program.

In 2021, the Office of Childhood provided training opportunities to a total of 1,720 early childhood professionals and parents, at no-cost to the citizens. There were also 131 T.E.A.C.H. scholarships awarded to early childhood professionals, which pay part of the cost of tuition and books, and support wage increases and bonuses upon completion of the program.

Training Topic	Number Trainings Offered	Number of Individuals Trained
<i>Missouri Milestones Matter</i>	22	670
ASQ	14	451
ASQ SE	16	426
<i>Protective Factor Training for Parents with Young Children</i>	5	126
<i>Conscious Discipline</i>	2	47
Total	57	1,720

Note: PDG activities are reported by calendar year.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

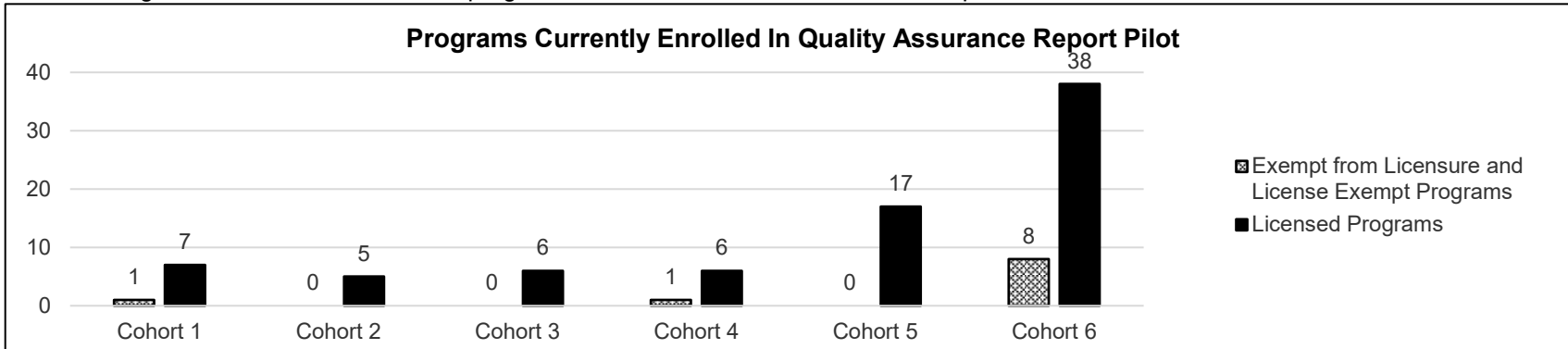
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.285

Quality Assurance Report & Preschool Development Grant

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Early Childhood Coordination

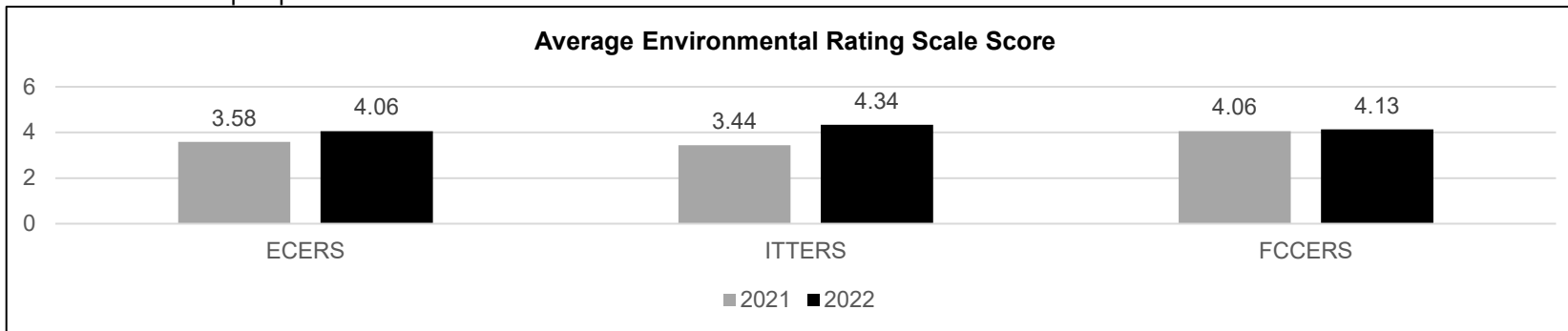
The following chart reflects the number of programs enrolled in each cohort of the QAR pilot.



NOTE: Cohort 6 implemented quality initiatives in January 2022.

2b. Provide a measure(s) of the program's quality.

In FY 22, Cohorts 1-5 had 208 classroom environment assessments completed. Cohorts 1-5 received the Early Childhood Environmental Rating Scale (ECERS), Infant/Toddler Environmental Rating Scale (ITERS), and Family Child Care Environmental Rating Scale (FCCERS) assessments. The average scale score for each setting increased from 2021 to 2022. Participants received coaching, professional development, and materials to help improve their score.



Note: Rating is based on a seven point scale. Cohort 6 completed their initial CLASS assessment but the CLASS scores are not reported as a composite score.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.285

Quality Assurance Report & Preschool Development Grant

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Early Childhood Coordination

2c. Provide a measure(s) of the program's impact.

2021 Survey Results	2022 Survey Results	Stakeholder Survey Indicators
43%	48%	Respondents agree the State is making progress with supporting local connections between state and local system building efforts.
11%	37%	Respondents agree that quality improvement strategies for early childhood programs are aligned rather than parallel efforts.
41%	51%	Respondents agree that most programs and services are working together to support families with children, age birth to five, that have multiple risk factors.

2d. Provide a measure(s) of the program's efficiency.

Numerous communication strategies were streamlined in FY 2022 to improve stakeholder experiences and engagements, while eliminating duplicative outreach and communication efforts.

1. Sent Childhood Connection, the monthly Office of Childhood newsletter, to a cumulative count of 101,176 stakeholders.
2. Hosted monthly stakeholder webinars with, on average, more than 100 live participants.
3. Identified and moved 139 webpages to create one office website.
4. Reduced the number of generic email accounts from 26 to 17 accounts.
5. Answered 332 questions from stakeholders using the Let's Talk Application.
6. Eliminated duplicative emails using mass communication tool which places 16 distribution lists into one tool.
7. Sent 163 emails to stakeholders using the new mass communication tool.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

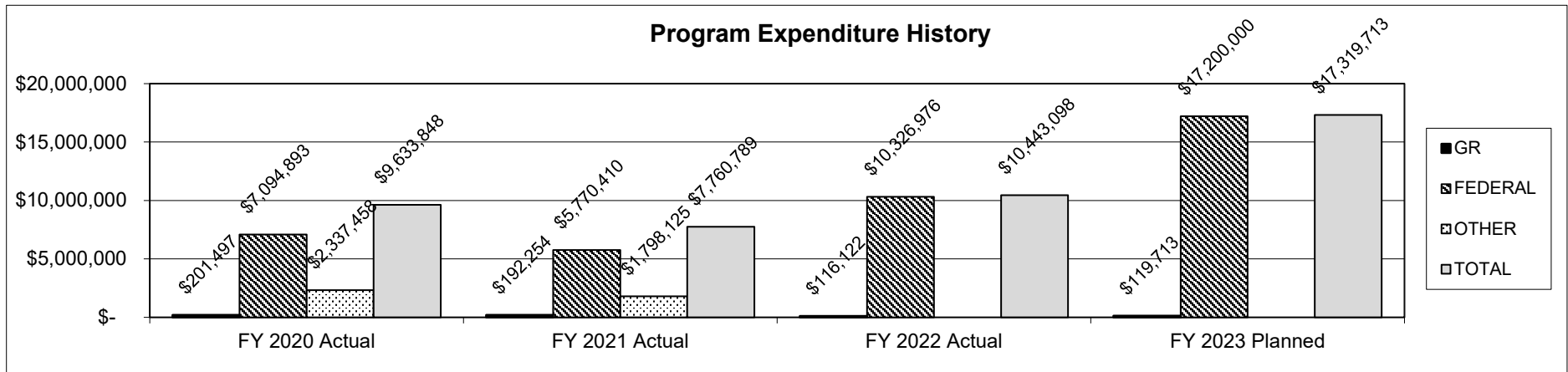
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

HB Section(s): 2.285

Quality Assurance Report & Preschool Development Grant

Program is found in the following core budget(s): Early Childhood Coordination

3. Provide actual expenditures for the prior three fiscal years and planned expenditures for the current fiscal year. (Note: Amounts do not include fringe benefit costs.)



NOTE: FY 2020-FY 2021 includes Missouri Preschool Program (MPP) funds.

4. What are the sources of the "Other" funds?

N/A

5. What is the authorization for this program, i.e. federal or state statute, etc.? (Include the federal program number, if applicable.)

Section 161.217, RSMo. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, in collaboration with the Missouri Head Start State Collaboration Office and the Departments of Health and Senior Services, Mental Health, and Social Services, shall develop, as a three-year pilot program, a voluntary early learning quality assurance report. The early learning quality assurance report shall be developed based on evidence-based practices. Preschool Development Federal Grant B-5.

6. Are there federal matching requirements? If yes, please explain.

Yes, 30% of federal award amount. Match funds come from foundation formula preschool average daily attendance (ADA).

7. Is this a federally mandated program? If yes, please explain.

No.