



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
State Superintendent of Education

September 26, 2025

MEMORANDUM

TO: City and County Superintendents of Education

FROM: Eric G. Mackey *EGM*
State Superintendent of Education

RE: Proposal for the Dependent Care Development Grant

Attached is a proposal packet for the Dependent Care Development Grant. Funding comes from the Alabama Department of Human Resources (DHR) through an interagency agreement to start, expand, or improve the quality of programs for school-age, extended-day/-year childcare services for communities needing this service. To include before/after school and summer childcare for programs that include students from kindergarten to age 13.

Contingent upon the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) receiving a signed agreement from DHR, approximately 16 grant awards in the amount of \$20,219.25 each will be awarded for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026, beginning October 1, 2025, and ending September 30, 2026. It is a one-year grant.

If a local education agency (LEA) is interested in applying for these funds, please complete and return the attached proposal packet in the format requested by Wednesday, October 15, 2025. We encourage you to duplicate this proposal for schools serving children from kindergarten to age 13. Systems may submit multiple proposals, but only one submission per school. The extended-day/-year program must operate in a school or school system building. Schools presently served by 21st Century Community Learning Center grants administered by the ALSDE are not eligible to apply. The proposal must be in the Federal Programs Section by October 15, 2025. Faxed submissions are not permissible.

If you need assistance, do not hesitate to contact Dr. Rebecca Pines, Education Specialist, by telephone at (334) 694-4516 or by email at rebecca.pines@alsde.edu.

EGM/YA/SR

Attachment

cc: City and County Community Education Coordinators
2025-2026 Dependent Care Grantees
Mrs. Nancy Smith

FY25-2033

Alabama
State Board
of Education

Governor Kay Ivey
President

Jackie Zeigler
District I

Tracie West
District II

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District III
President Pro Tem

Yvette M. Richardson, Ed.D.
District IV

Tonya S. Chestnut, Ed.D.
District V

Marie Manning
District VI
Vice President

Allen Long, M.D.
District VII

Wayne Reynolds, Ed.D.
District VIII

Eric G. Mackey, Ed.D.
Secretary and
Executive Officer

**Alabama State Department of Education
Dependent Care Development Grant Proposal
Fiscal Year: 2026**

**ALABAMA STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
FEDERAL PROGRAMS SECTION
FY 2026 APPLICATION COVER PAGE
DEPENDENT CARE DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

**SUBMITTED TO:
Dr. Rebecca Pines
Federal Programs Section
5348 Gordon Persons Building
Post Office Box 302101
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

LEA Name _____

LEA Address

Specific School(s) That This Grant Will Serve: (Note: no schools served by the 21st CCLC grants may be served with Dependent Care Grants):

LEA/School Contact _____

Address (if different from LEA)

LEA/School Contact Telephone _____

LEA/School Contact Fax _____

LEA/School Contact Email Address (Required) _____

LEA Superintendent _____

Signature _____

Superintendent of Education

Signature _____

Custodian of Funds or Chief Financial Officer

Site(s) of Proposed Extended-Day Program

No person shall be denied employment, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity on the basis of disability, gender, race, religion, national origin, color, age or genetics. Ref: Sec. 1983, Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C.; Title VI and VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964; Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Sec. 504; Age Discrimination in Employment Act; The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and The Americans with Disabilities Act Amendments Act of 2008; Equal Pay Act of 1963; Title IX of the Education Amendment of 1972; Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008: Title IX Coordinator, P.O. Box 302101, Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101 or call (334) 694-4516.

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Dependent Care Development Grant Proposal
Fiscal Year: 2026

**Dependent Care Development Grant (DCDG)
STATEMENT OF ASSURANCES**

The _____, as an applicant, hereby assures the Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE), Division of Instructional Services, Federal Programs Section, that it will:

1. Establish or develop more fully a five-day-a-week extended-day program and/or summer program.
2. Provide documentation of program operations through two reports to the ALSDE—a Mid-Year Report and an End-of-Year Report. These reports must be submitted in a timely manner, and ALSDE will provide information to participating applicants.
3. Ensure that extended-day staff attend at least one in-state training workshop approved by ALSDE. Include funding in the budget for at least one person per grant to attend a three-day statewide training. Publish a parent handbook for families participating in the extended-day program.
4. Publish a parent handbook for families participating in the extended-day program.
5. Establish school procedures or policies for the extended-day program.
6. Serve as a model school site for other school systems in Alabama to address the latchkey child problem by encouraging visitations and responding to inquiries.
7. Provide at least two parent seminars for the parents of children enrolled in the extended-day or extended-year program.
8. Utilize full school facilities as needed, including classrooms, computer labs, and libraries, to conduct a quality extended-day program.
9. Ensure that the extended-day or extended-year program operates in a school-owned or operated facility.
10. Expend funds only for allowable categories, which include salaries, benefits, in-area and in-state travel, materials, and supplies (non-consumable supplies must be under \$100), printing, advertising, and other approved categories. Equipment, indirect costs, and food items are not allowable expenditures, and no out-of-state travel is permissible.
11. Provide fiscal control and fund accounting procedures as necessary to ensure proper disbursement of funds.
12. Comply fully with the *Alabama Child Protection Act of 1999* (99-361) as applicable.
13. Comply fully with Alabama Act #2000-775 relative to criminal history and background checks, if applicable.

The applicant further assures the SDE that the following compliances will be met:

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act - PL 108-446

Civil Rights - PL 88-352

Protection of Human Subjects - HEW policy

Freedom of Information - PL 93-502

Sex Discrimination, Title IX, Education Act, 1972

Privacy Act of 1974 - PL 93-579

Signature of LEA Superintendent

Typed Name

Date

NOTE: THE DEPENDENT CARE DEVELOPMENT GRANT IS INTENDED TO BE USED FOR CHILDREN FROM KINDERGARTEN TO AGE 13.

Alabama State Department of Education
Dependent Care Development Grant Proposal
Fiscal Year: 2026

****PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:** ** The Alabama State Department of Education (ALSDE) offers funding to plan, develop, expand, or improve extended-day and extended-year childcare services. Approximately sixteen grants, each worth \$20,219.25, will be awarded to Local Education Agencies (LEAs) on a competitive proposal basis for Fiscal Year 2026. Proposals must adhere to the established format and be no more than eight (8) double-spaced, typewritten pages in length. Otherwise, they will not be read or scored. Please note that funds from the Dependent Care Development Grant do not allow purchasing equipment, indirect costs, out-of-state travel, or food items. Proposals should include one original and three copies and be submitted to the Federal Programs Section **by October 15, 2025, with no exceptions**. Faxed applications will not be accepted.

ASSURANCES: The LEA superintendent must sign the Statement of Assurances. Each proposal must have the signed assurances with the cover sheet.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Please submit a narrative that addresses the following established categories in the order listed. The proposals will be read and scored by impartial readers.

CATEGORIES:	NARRATIVE DESCRIPTION	POSSIBLE POINTS
A. Objectives of the Program	Include objectives for all aspects of the program that will lead to the highest quality extended-day program possible.	10
B. Program Operations	Please provide the program's hours of operation, including the days of the week and number of days per year. Detail the specific days the program will be open to support working families. Receive up to 5 points if the program operates a significant number of days when school is not in session, including school holidays.	5
C. Personnel/Training	List all personnel who will work with children, naming them by position. Include the anticipated staff-to-student ratio, as the ALSDE requires a 1:15 student-teacher/teacher-aide ratio. LEAs should aim to include a significant number of high school and college students as teacher aides. Specify the expected number of high school and college students working in the program during the school year and/or summer. Additionally, outline all staff training and the involvement of high school and college students throughout the year.	10
D. Space	Describe the program's location and how the applicant will utilize the space. The extended-day or extended-year program should operate within a school or a school-owned/operated facility. Explain how all school facilities will be made accessible to the extended-day or extended-year program as necessary.	5
E. Activities/Scheduling	List the scheduled activities that will take place during the program. Include details about after-school, morning, summer, and school break programs if applicable. Also, mention any non-public school agencies or organizations that will provide services, the nature of those services, and their frequency.	20

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F. Staff-Child-Parent-Interaction	Describe how parents will be involved with the staff and children in the program. Include details about activities and events that aim to enhance family responsibility for education. For example, discuss required parent seminars, set family goals, and communicate daily with parents. Please provide details regarding a communication plan between extended-day staff and a regular school-day teacher, parents, extended-day/-year program coordinator, and children on how attending the activities and events will enhance families' responsibility for education. Discuss the required parent seminars and daily communication with parents.	15
G. Budget	Provide a complete and detailed line-item budget for program components, including staff salaries, travel for in-area and in-state training, materials, supplies, printing, advertising, etc. Include other funds that will support the program and tuition income. Indicate what will be paid by Dependent Care grant funds, and be sure to budget for at least one statewide training. Please remember that non-consumable supplies must be at most \$100. Equipment, indirect costs, and food items are not allowable expenditures.	15
H. Safety and Health	Describe precautions and procedures to ensure the safety of children. All sites must be in the school safety plan submitted to the ALSDE, Prevention and Support Services Section. Describe how the after-school program will contribute to student health, specifically student obesity. If applicable, describe the Child Nutrition Program (CNP) use.	10
I. Evaluation	Describe how the program's effectiveness will be determined, particularly in improved student academic achievement, motivation, and family involvement. Include details of specific instruments or tools employed to assess program effectiveness. Please consider the National Association of Elementary School Principals' Checklist for Quality Indicators when developing an evaluation plan.	10
TOTAL POINTS		100

All proposals must include one original copy and three additional copies. Please complete and return the attached proposal packet in the requested format to the ALSDE Federal Programs Section by October 15, 2025.

Each proposal should include a cover sheet and a signed Statement of Assurances. Proposals must be unique and cannot be identical or nearly identical to those submitted by others.

If multiple proposals are identical or nearly identical, all such proposals will be disqualified. If an LEA submits various proposals, each must include a signed Statement of Assurances and a cover sheet. Please note that schools receiving funding from 21st Century Community Learning Center grants administered by the ALSDE are not eligible to apply.

**Alabama State Department of Education
Dependent Care Development Grant Proposal
Fiscal Year: 2026**

Complaint regarding Dependent Care Development Grant should be addressed to:

**Federal Programs
Dr. Molly Killingsworth, Director of Federal Programs
Alabama Department of Education
50 North Ripley Street
Montgomery, Alabama 36130
Telephone: 334-694-4516**

Please submit one original proposal and three copies, each stapled in the upper left, to:

**Dr. Rebecca Pines
Federal Programs Section
5348 Gordon Persons Building
Post Office Box 302101
Montgomery, Alabama 36130-2101**