



Grant Application – Fiscal Year 2026

Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Support Services Program

Maryland State Department of Education
200 West Baltimore Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Deadline
July 21, 2025
No later than 5:00 p.m. EDT

MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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Instructions

1. Complete this application electronically by typing directly into the fillable fields and charts.
2. Do not alter or remove sections.
3. When finished, save the application document as a PDF to your computer and obtain appropriate signatures.
4. The signed and completed application should be saved as a single PDF document and emailed as an attachment to decfss.msde@maryland.gov with the subject "IECMHSS Application Submission- Fiscal Year 2026".

Proposal Cover Page

Institution/Agency Name:

Federal Tax ID Number:

UEI Number:

County/Counties in which services will be provided:

County/Counties where services are currently being provided:

Name of Contact Person:

Institution/Agency Address:

Contact Person Phone:

Contact Person Email:

FY26 Requested Funding Amount (\$)

FY25 Funded Amount (if applicable):

The remaining balance at the end of fiscal year 2025 (if applicable) \$:

Signature of Contact Person

Date

Printed Name of Contact Person

Title

Signature of Head of Agency

Date

Printed Name Head of Agency

Title

Project Narrative

PROJECT ABSTRACT (100 WORDS)

In the Project Abstract, introduce the program to the reader. It should be factual, brief, and focused on the organization's efforts to implement the services outlined in the program requirements. It should include the core aspects of the proposed project, providing prior experience, describing how the grant funds will be used to serve children and families, to build the capacity of early educators to promote positive mental and behavioral health practices for young children, and building community partnerships and resources.

Type response here.

EXTENT OF NEED (15 POINTS)

Identify a clearly defined problem and discuss the impact of the proposed program. Describe the needs to be addressed through the Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Support Services Program. Document current or past efforts to address the problem. Discuss the applicant's history or expertise in dealing with the problem within the targeted county(s). Based on the county(s) chosen, describe the broad level of need for IECMH Consultation services.

Consider the following:

- The total number of child care centers, family child care programs, etc.
- The number of providers that accept the Maryland Child Care Scholarship.
- Rates of families living below the poverty level.
- Language(s) spoken by families in the county(s) served.
- Historically underserved populations (e.g., Latinx, Black, Migrant/seasonal, Tribal, military, etc.).

Type response here.

PROGRAM CAPACITY – (15 POINTS)

Describe your history in providing IECMH Consultation within the identified county(s) and in working with child care, family child care, Judy Centers, Part C early intervention teams, and other community settings and services.

Type response here.

Describe your history in providing IECMH Consultation and professional learning that employs developmentally appropriate practices.

Type response here.

Describe your experience working with historically underserved populations, including specific strategies or adaptations made to engage and support these populations.

Type response here.

GOALS AND OUTCOMES - (15 POINTS)

Applicants are required to set an overall goal for the project. Determining the program goal is an important part of evaluating your program. Applicants must complete the chart with SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-Bound) program goals that must be aligned with the Plan of Operation and the [Blueprint Pillar 4 Objective 5](#). Refer to the GIG for examples of goals and outcome.

Goal 1:**Outcome:****Goal 2:****Outcome:****Goal 3:****Outcome:****Goal 4:****Outcome:**

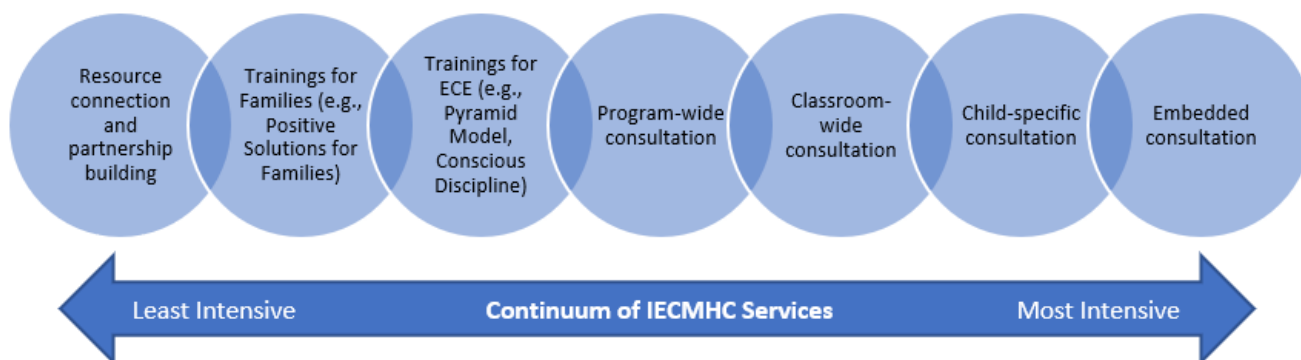
**MARYLAND’S ENOUGH COMMUNITIES AND CHILD POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY
(10 PRIORITY POINTS)**

To what extent does the proposal align its proposed services with Maryland’s ENOUGH Act of 2024 in targeting one or more of the 27 designated ENOUGH communities? Specifically, describe how the proposed initiative addresses concentrated child poverty through community-led solutions within ENOUGH jurisdictions in delivering IECHMS services?

Type response here

PLAN OF OPERATION, KEY PERSONNEL, AND TIMELINE - (25 PTS, 3-PAGE LIMIT)

Based on the needs of your community or communities and the continuum of IECMHC services below, describe the setting(s) (e.g., child care centers, family child care programs, Judy centers, early intervention, etc.) in which IECMH Consultants will provide consultation and/or related activities to adults providing care for children birth to kindergarten. Please include information on how you will align/incorporate Pyramid Model and Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) practices in your services.



Type response here.

Describe how referrals and services will be provided for children, families, teachers, and caregivers of the children served.

Type response here.

Explain how you will build awareness of IECMH consultation in your area(s) and regularly provide outreach to families and providers supporting children birth to kindergarten.

Type response here.

As stated in the IECMHC standards and guidelines, all Maryland programs will participate in reflective supervision, demonstrate the consultative stance, and participate in workforce development and technical assistance. What support will be provided to state-funded IECMH Consultants to facilitate their professional growth and development in the role?

Type response here.

Describe how you will build relationships, collaborate with other early childhood entities, and leverage resources in your community to meet the needs of families, children, and early childhood providers.

Type response here.

Community partnerships are an important part of providing mental health services to young children. Complete the chart below with a description of how a partnership with each of the following community resources is a part of the service delivery and/or outreach model.

Partner	Description of Partnership (e.g., referral source, family engagement, dissemination of resources, etc.)
Child Care Resource Centers (CCRC)	
Maryland Infants and Toddlers Program	
Local Early Childhood Advisory Council (LECAC)	
Judy Centers	
Patty Centers	
Family/adult referral supports	
*Other community stakeholders that serve children facing developmental, social, emotional, or behavioral health issues.	

**Name the other community partnership or stakeholder.*

Key Personnel

Complete the chart below with a list of the staff or personnel responsible for the successful implementation and monitoring of the grant requirements, as well as provide a one-page resume for each key personnel as an appendix.

Name and Title	Responsibilities related to the project	Time Devoted (%FTE)

**Add more rows if necessary*

What mechanisms are in place to ensure all IECMH Consultation staff are fully trained and demonstrate capacity consistent with the [Maryland Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Support Services Program: Practice Standards and Recommendations guide](#) (e.g., using standardized assessments such as Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool (TPOT), Teaching Pyramid Infant-Toddler Observation Scale (TPITOS), Climate of Healthy Interactions for Learning & Development (CHILD), Ages and Stages Questionnaires – Social – Emotional (ASQ-SE), and Devereux Early Childhood Assessment (DECA), engaging in cycles of practice-based coaching, utilizing reflective practice, etc.)?

Type response here.

What plans are in place to ensure the project will continue if there are problems with staff turnover (including both frontline IECMH Consultation staff and supervisor/managers)?

Type response here.

Project Timeline

Applicants must provide a timeline for all proposed activities using the chart below:

Name of Person Responsible	Proposed Activities	Date of Implementation

**Add more rows if necessary*

EVALUATION AND DISSEMINATION PLAN – (10 POINTS)

How will the applicant evaluate and determine the success of the program?

Type response here.

Describe how the evaluation results will be communicated to major stakeholders.

Type response here.

SUSTAINABILITY PLAN (1-PAGE LIMIT) – (10 POINTS)

Describe the plans for sustaining the infrastructure and reach of the project beyond the funding cycle, and how partnerships will be maintained.

Type response here.

EQUITY ASSURANCE (1-PAGE LIMIT)

Describe how the proposed project will support MSDE's and the Division of Early Childhood's commitment to implementing system development based on the four focus areas within Maryland's [Guide to Educational Equity framework](#) (e.g., academic achievement & growth; leadership & human capital; school climate & culture; educator & staff capacity).

Type response here.

BUDGET AND BUDGET NARRATIVE – (10 POINTS)

The project's budget (10 points) should be submitted on MSDE's C-1-25 form. The budget narrative should detail all related project expenses in a separate itemized budget. It should demonstrate the extent to which the budget is reasonable, cost-effective, and integrates other sources of funding. All costs described in the project narrative should appear in the budget narrative and must have a corresponding entry in the itemized budget for that year.

1. Salaries & wages (list separately for each position)

Line item	Calculation	Requested	In-Kind	Total
Total salaries & wages:				

Personnel funded through this grant should be paid a competitive salary. Based on a Maryland IECMHC salary study, it was determined that at a minimum, Infant & Early Childhood Mental Health Support Services staff should receive an annual salary of at least \$45,760 (equivalent to \$22 per hour). If unable to meet the minimum threshold for FY24, please detail plans to work towards this standard and reach the minimum by FY26.

Type response here.

Using the space below, explain how the costs for salaries & wages above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

Type response here.

2. Contracted Services

Line item	Calculation	Requested	In-Kind	Total
Total for contracted services:				

Using the space below, explain how the costs for contracted services above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

Type response here.

3. Supplies and Materials

Line item	Calculation	Requested	In-Kind	Total
Total for supplies and materials:				

Using the space below, explain how the costs for supplies & materials above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

Type response here.

4. Other Charges

Line item	Calculation	Requested	In-Kind	Total
Total for Other Charges:				

Using the space below, explain how the costs for other charges above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

Type response here.

5. Equipment

Line item	Calculation	Requested	In-Kind	Total
Total for Equipment:				

Using the space below, explain how the costs for equipment above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

Type response here.

6. Transfers

Line item	Calculation	Requested	In-Kind	Total
Total for Transfers:				

**Add more rows to categories 1-6 if necessary.*

Using the space below, explain how the costs for transfers (indirect costs) above are necessary, reasonable, and cost-effective.

Type response here.

Total amount requested: \$

Appendices

The following appendices must be submitted along with the application for funding.

Appendix A: Resumes & Job Descriptions of key personnel. A one-page resume for each person who plays a significant role in the project.

Appendix B: Job Descriptions of any new positions that are created for this project (if applicable).

Appendix C: Project Impact: One page statement describing the impact of previously provided IECMH Support Services (previously funded service providers) or One page statement describing the community/jurisdiction needs assessment (new service providers)

Appendix D: [A signed \(C-125 MSDE budget form](#)

Appendix E: [A signed recipient assurances page](#)

Appendix F: Letters of commitment from partner organizations