

# **Temporary Assistance for Needy Families TANF**

**Grantee Training**

**Amy Reyes MBA**

**Early Learning Specialist**

# What is the TANF grant?

- The TANF (Temporary Assistance to Needy Families) Preschool Grant is a grant offered to Wyoming preschools to assist them in providing a high quality, developmentally appropriate preschool
- Program to economically disadvantaged children, who may not otherwise have access to attend such a program. These preschools are designed to increase a child's readiness to

# Who administers the grant?

- The Wyoming Department of Education (WDE), in conjunction with the Wyoming Department of Family Services (DFS), administers the TANF Preschool Grant. The WDE carefully selects high quality preschools that meet the criteria for the TANF Preschool Program. The WDE is also responsible for collecting information from the preschools that determine the student's eligibility as well as educational data from the preschool.

# What are the requirements to qualify for TANF?

To qualify for TANF a student must be at least 3 years of age, a US citizen or eligible non-citizen, possess a Social Security number, be a resident of the state they are applying and meet current federal income guidelines.

# WHAT INFORMATION DO I NEED TO PROVIDE TO THE PRESCHOOL ABOUT MY HOUSEHOLD AND INCOME?

- Parent(s) or Guardian's name; mailing address; and telephone number.
- Child's/student's name; birth date; place of birth; and social security number.
- Income information and supporting documentation for every adult in the household.
- This requires, but is not limited to, wage stubs, child support, retirement, Social Security, unemployment, and/or all other sources of income the household receives.
- The information provided is confidential and will only be used to verify the child's/student's eligibility to participate in the TANF Preschool program.

# **WHY DO I HAVE TO PROVIDE THE PRESCHOOL WITH INFORMATION ABOUT MY HOUSEHOLD AND INCOME?**

The preschool is required to submit household and income information to WDE as verification of the child's eligibility as per the Inter-agency Agency Agreement between DFS and WDE. In addition, the information is required to establish student eligibility based on the Federal Income Guidelines.

# **WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF I DON'T PROVIDE THE ABOVE INFORMATION FROM THE PREVIOUS SLIDE?**

WDE will be unable to determine eligibility and the student will not be able to attend as a TANF eligible student. The student may still attend the preschool but will be subject to the normal costs and fees associated with the preschool program they wish to attend.

# Grantee responsibilities

- Provide high quality preschool services to eligible children and their families in a manner consistent with the needs of the local community, including partnerships with other early childhood providers, to enhance program services and avoid duplication.
- Grantee is required to demonstrate how its services are based on the needs of qualifying children in the local community. Grantee may develop its own needs assessments or use needs assessments completed by other local agencies or local entities.



# Grantee responsibilities cont.

Children must also meet the following criteria for TANF eligibility:

“Economically disadvantaged student” means a student who has qualified or will qualify for free or reduced priced lunches under the National School Lunch Program established by 43 U.S.C. 1751 or children and families eligible for the Child and Adult Care Food Program. Validation of eligibility will be required. Household income must be at or below one hundred eighty-five percent (185%) of the Federal Poverty Line (FPL).

# Contact information

Amy Reyes MBA

Wyoming Department of Education

Early Learning Specialist

TANF, ECCG, and ECCPG Preschool Grants Administrator

307-777-7708

307-640-6419

[amy.reyes@wyo.gov](mailto:amy.reyes@wyo.gov)