

Summary Notice of Funding Availability

Reporting Form

DHHS Division/Office Issuing This Notice: Division of Child Development and Early Education (DCDEE)

Date of This Notice: September 12, 2025

Request for Applications (RFA) Issue Date: October 1, 2025

Purpose of this Notice: The purpose of this notice is to provide public notification of DCDEE's intent to release a Request for Applications.

Program Name: Specialized Birth-3 Technical Assistance Program

Purpose of the RFA: The purpose of this RFA is to establish statewide Birth to Age 3 coaching and mentoring services. The primary focus will be to increase the availability of high-quality infant and toddler care for families across North Carolina through the provision of individualized coaching, mentoring, and specialized consultation to providers in licensed family child care homes, child care centers, and religious sponsored child care programs, regardless of their star rating. The function of this system is to coordinate the work of technical assistance practitioners that specialize in infant and toddler development and culturally inclusive best practices for children birth to three years of age.

Description: The successful applicant must establish a statewide program plan providing services in all 100 counties of North Carolina differentiating service deliver to meet the unique needs of child care programs and their workforce.

Funding Availability: This RFA will for a 2-year funding cycle with an optional 1-year renewal term. One award of up to \$2,550,000 per year will be made under this RFA to provide services set forth in the Scope of Services. Eligibility for the renewal is contingent upon contract compliance, project performance, and availability of funding. The initial contract period is expected to be February 1, 2026 – January 31, 2028.

DCEE will determine the actual funding amount based on the proposed execution of the project and the utilization of funds as outlined in the successful applicant's proposal, pending funding availability.

Applicant Eligibility: This RFA is open to state agencies and universities, public and private nonprofit organizations with a current 501(c)(3) standing with knowledge of North's Carolina's early childhood education mixed delivery system and expertise in developmentally appropriate practices for young children birth – 12 years of age.

How to Apply:

EMAIL an electronic PDG of your application to the NC Division of Child Development and Early Education via this email: DCDEE.Contracts.Unit.RFA@dhhs.nc.gov

The signature of an authorized official is required on the application face sheet. An electronic signature or an electron scanned copy of the signed application face sheet will be accepted. **Only electronic application submissions via email will be accepted**, i.e, do not mail, fax, or deliver copies of the application to DCDEE's physical or mailing address.

Intent to Apply:

Eligible agencies and/or organizations interested in applying for RFA are encouraged to notify DCDEE of their intent to apply via the following link,

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/7XW6FFX> no later than **5:00 p.m., November 5, 2025.**

Agencies and/or organizations are **not** required to notify of their intent to respond to this RFA; this information is requested to assist DCDEE in planning. Responses to this notice of intent are not binding and will not impact the review and scoring of your RFA submission. Data from this survey is used for planning and research purposes only.

PRE-APPLICATION CONFERENCE: DCDEE plans on hosting a Pre-Application Conference for this RFA on **October 29, 2025 at 1:30 pm.** During this time, an overview of the RFA will be presented along with an opportunity for Q&A. Please click the link to join.

Join from the webinar link

<https://ncgov.webex.com/ncgov/j.php?MTID=m9e79fba6fd46d64bc8641d1d2ef32953>

Join by the webinar number

Webinar number (access code): 2438 883 1857

Webinar password: birth (24784 when dialing from a phone or video system)

Tap to join from a mobile device (attendees only)

+1-646-992-2010,,24388831857#24784# United States Toll (New York City)

+1-202-860-2110,,24388831857#24784# United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

Some mobile devices may ask attendees to enter a numeric password.

DIRECT ALL INQUIRIES concerning this RFA in writing to: Celeste Pleasant, Contracts Specialist Email address: DCDEE.Contracts.Unit.RFA@dhhs.nc.gov

Deadline for Submission:

Applications, subject to the following conditions, must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., **November 19, 2025.**