



## KC Pre-K Cooperative Host Site Request for Proposals (RFP)

**Due: November 22, 2019**

Please email response to [anne@edstrategiesconsulting.com](mailto:anne@edstrategiesconsulting.com).

### ***Mission Statement***

The mission of the Kansas City Pre-K Cooperative is to **leverage the resources** of participating schools and early education programs to increase access to high-quality pre-K and **improve kindergarten readiness** for Kansas City, Missouri students and families.

For the **2019-2020 pilot year**, the Kansas City Pre-K Cooperative is serving 120 **students** through the partnerships of **six schools** and **three early education host sites**. In 2014, the passage of HB 1689 paved the way for the Cooperative. Per that legislation, every public school district in Missouri is eligible to receive funding as part of the state school funding formula for a number of pre-K students equal to four percent of their total enrollment of students eligible for free- and reduced-price lunch.

The following schools are partners in the Pre-K Cooperative for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Citizens of the World Charter School
- Crossroads Charter Schools
- Genesis School
- Hogan Preparatory School
- KIPP: Kansas City
- University Academy

The following host sites are partners in Pre-K Cooperative for the 2019-2020 school year:

- Emmanuel Child and Family Development Center
- Operation Breakthrough
- United Inner City Services

Philanthropic support is directed to The Kansas City Pre-K Cooperative Fund, which is housed at the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation. The Fund provides financial support for partner organizations and works to ensure the following:

- Technical support to ensure integrity and compliance
- Differentiation of funding needs
- Sustainability and expansion
- Progress monitoring and tracking

The KC Pre-K Cooperative has received broad community support, receiving philanthropic support from The Stanley H. Durwood Foundation, The Francis Family Foundation, The Hall Family Foundation, The H&R Block Foundation, The Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, The R and C Charitable Foundation, and The Sherman Family Foundation.

### **Partnership Commitments**

With the confluence of new state pre-K funding and an evolved local early education system, Kansas City is poised to offer innovative programs for young children and families. The KC Pre-K Cooperative presents an opportunity for schools, early education providers, and community organizations to collaborate to best serve the needs of local students and families. The Kansas City Pre-K Cooperative seeks to:

- Collectively deploy existing funding that school districts can access through state aid reimbursement for pre-K.
- Maximize access to quality pre-K slots for children and families, positioning all students for success throughout their educational journeys.
- Identify approaches that promote systemic efficiency and coherence, focusing on partnerships across sectors.
- Develop and provide a best-in-class pre-K program with demonstrable kindergarten readiness results aligned with the Early Learning Program Profile (ELPP), a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) created by local early education experts.
- Improve the vertical alignment between early education and elementary schooling.
- Coordinate recruitment and enrollment efforts between school and early education partners.
- Collaborate with a broad array of community organization and service providers currently operating in Kansas City to provide comprehensive services for students and families.
- Share administrative and facilities costs to ensure cost savings and economies of scale.
- Collaborate on fundraising efforts.

### Collaborating partners commit to:

- Working towards solutions that benefit the **greater good** of the entire cooperative.
- **Collective problem** solving in navigating the academic, operational, and financial components of program design.
- **Organizational flexibility** to make decisions around academic, operational, and financial program design elements in a deliberate but timely manner.
- **Collecting data and using evidence** to ground decision-making.
- The Executive Director or another administrator with decision-making ability attending **regular meetings at a minimum of once per month.**

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The KC Pre-K Cooperative aims to expand to serve more students and include additional partners for the 2020-2021 school year. This RFP is intended to identify partners to engage in dialogue and planning to join the Cooperative for the 2020-2021 school year. This RFP invites the leaders of schools, early education providers, and other community organizations within the KCPS attendance boundary to more formally express their interest in ***serving as a host site*** for the KC Pre-K Cooperative.

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### Proposal Components

This RFP invites schools, early education providers, and other community organizations within the KCPS attendance boundary to more formally express their interest in *serving as a host site* of the Kansas City Pre-K Cooperative. Responses to this request for proposals (RFP) should include the following elements:

#### *1. Statement of Interest in Partnership (700 word limit)*

The statement of interest should provide an overview of the interest in and capacity to serve as a host site to pilot the Kansas City Pre-K Cooperative for the 2020-2021 school year. It may include how membership in the cooperative will support the organization's mission, any factors that may limit the organization's participation, and the level of support from the organization's governing board and other leaders or plans to engage them on the matter. Please also include motivations for pursuing this opportunity and expectations your organization will have for school partners.

### *2. Organization Information (700 word limit)*

Respondents should include key information about the school/organization, including:

- Legal name
- Address of each building site operated
- Name and title of the primary point of contact for this RFP
- Neighborhoods or ZIP codes your students call home
- Overview of student demographics
- Mission, vision, educational philosophy
- Grade levels/ages currently served
- Hours of operation
- Extended day services offered and payment scale
- Number of students enrolled in the 2019-2020 school year
- Number of students anticipated in the 2020-2021 school year
- Percentage of students eligible for free or reduced lunch
- Brief overview of enrollment process
- Meal service information
- Organization staffing chart
- Assurance of fingerprinting/background check for staff members
- Attendance tracking systems

### *3. Financial Information*

Respondents are asked to submit:

- Non-profit status
- Current annual budget
- Most recent audit
- Insurance program and policies
- Information on payroll processes
- Information on family billing processes
- Annual development goals and outcomes
- Commitment to operating Pre-K Cooperative classrooms with PK state aid reimbursement
- Commitment to joint fundraising efforts with school partners

### *4. Current Pre-K Capacity or Expertise (700 word limit)*

Respondents should describe the organization's current pre-K capacity including:

- Number of students served
- Number of classrooms

- Qualifications of current pre-K teachers (certification), assistant teachers, and administrators
- Curriculum and assessments
- Kindergarten readiness assessment and results
- Behavior management philosophy/systems
- Special education
- Professional development opportunities utilized or offered by the school
- Family engagement philosophy (please attach Family Handbook)
- Missouri child care licensure status
- Accreditation status (Missouri and/or NAEYC)
- Existing partnerships with other education organizations or service providers
- Health services provided

### *5. Facilities (700 word limit)*

Proposals should describe the facilities available for use as pre-K classrooms as part of the cooperative. This section should include:

- Information on debt service on building
- Estimate of square footage available for 2020-2021 school year and in subsequent years
- Number of classrooms available for 2020-2021 school year and in subsequent years
- Max group size
- Any modifications that would need to be made to the space for use as pre-K classrooms
- Plans to acquire or build additional classroom space
- Maintenance/custodial arrangements

### **Timeline and Questions**

**Responses to this RFP must be submitted by November 22, 2019.** Please submit responses and direct any questions to Anne Miller via email at [anne@edstrategiesconsulting.com](mailto:anne@edstrategiesconsulting.com).

Visit [kcprekcooperative.org](http://kcprekcooperative.org) for more information.