

Parents as Teachers Program – Frequently Asked Questions

Department of Health and Social Services
Department of Education and Early Development
December 11, 2019

1. When did management of the Parents as Teachers program move from the Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) to the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS)?

In FY2018 and FY2019, DEED contracted with the DHSS Section of Women’s, Children’s and Family Health to manage the Parents as Teachers grants, and also provide staffing support to conduct evaluation and continuous quality improvement activities. This was also done to better align the administration of home visiting services in our state.

In FY2020, the contract between DEED and DHSS also included the grant money to be administered through the DHSS grants management system. In previous years, the grants came out of DEED.

The current plan for FY2021 is for all of the funding, programming, and grants to come directly from DHSS.

2. Why did the program move between agencies?

The purpose of Parents as Teachers is to offer children and their parents and caregivers home-based services during the early years of child development. The target population is any family with children ages 0–5 years old.

DEED primarily focuses on serving early learners’ ages 3-5 years old. DHSS currently serves families with children ages 0-5 years old through a variety of home-based services. Moving the program to DHSS better aligns the services of both agencies; specifically, the administration of home visiting services for families in our state with children of this age range.

3. When do we expect the new Request for Proposals (RFP) to be issued?

The [FY2020 RFP for Parents as Teachers](#) is actively seeking proposals, and applications are due to DHSS by December 13, 2019. A Frequently Asked Questions document also is posted at this site. See “FY20-22 PAT Preproposal Q and A” under the Solicitation Documents.

4. Why does a new RFP need to be issued when one was just issued for FY2019? Aren’t the organizations that perform the program funded for multiple years?

The FY2019 grant was for only one year in anticipation of the grants transitioning from DEED to DHSS in FY2020. The FY2020 project period runs through FY2022.

5. The appropriation bill was signed on August 19, 2019. Why is there a significant delay in issuing FY2020 funds to program providers?

As noted above, the FY2020 contract between DEED and DHSS included the grant money to be administered through the DHSS grants management system. This necessitated a transition period for the funds to move between agencies. Due to the delay in the finalization of the FY2020 budget, DEED was unable to transfer the funds to DHSS until August 28, 2019. Development and distribution of the Parents as Teachers RFP was further delayed due to heavy workloads at DHSS.

6. Will there be any changes to expectations or requirements for organizations implementing the Parents as Teachers program?

Please refer to the Request for Proposals currently posted on the [State’s Online Public Notice site](#).