

FY2022 Early Childhood Grants - Scoring Criteria

ACTUAL EVALUATION TO TAKE PLACE IN GRANT SOFTWARE AT WWW.BUNCOMBECOUNTY.ORG/APPLY

The purpose of the Early Childhood Education and Development Fund is to ensure that every child in Buncombe County has an equal opportunity to thrive during their first 2,000 days, including access to quality early childhood education. The Fund was established in response to a well-documented local shortage of quality early childhood education programs, barriers that families face in accessing existing programs, including affordability, and a well-documented shortage of qualified teachers and staff in classrooms and centers.

Funding is earmarked to support early care and education for children birth through kindergarten. This includes the following categories:

- infants/toddlers – ages six (6) weeks to three (3) years old
- preschoolers – ages three (3) to five (5) years old
- pre-kindergarteners (pre-k) – 4 year old rising kindergarteners (4 years old by August 31st)

Emphasis in the fund is given to preschool and pre-kindergarten. This is not associated with “NC Pre-K,” which is a program of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education.



