

Steve Sisolak
Governor

Jhone M. Ebert
*Superintendent of
Public Instruction*



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Notice of Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Regulation

The **Nevada Department of Education** is proposing regulation language pertaining to the Nevada Administrative Code (NAC). The Workshop has been scheduled for **Thursday, September 30, 2021** via **Lifesize** and at the following locations: **Nevada Department of Education Offices, 700 East Fifth Street, Board Room, Carson City and 2080 East Flamingo Road, Room 114, Las Vegas, Nevada.** The purpose of the Workshop is to solicit comments from interested persons on the following general topics to be addressed in a proposed regulation:

9:25 A.M. Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Amendments to NAC Chapter 388.XXX, which pertain to grants for pre-Kindergarten programs including Nevada Ready! State Pre-K, as required by Senate Bill 84 (2019).

A copy of all materials relating to the proposal may be obtained at the workshop, on the Nevada Department of Education Regulation Workshops and Public Hearings [Meeting Materials](#) page, by contacting Amelia Thibault, Interim Board Secretary, Nevada Department of Education via email at NVBoardEd@doe.nv.gov, by telephone at 775-687-9217 or in person at the Nevada Department of Education, 700 E. 5th St, Carson City, Nevada. Persons wishing to comment upon the proposed action of the Department may provide in-person testimony, submit written comment to the Department via email at NVBoardEd@doe.nv.gov, or submit their comments, data, views, or arguments in written form to the Nevada Department of Education, 700 E. 5th St, Carson City, Nevada. Comments may be submitted via email leading up to and for the duration of the workshop, and those submitted via mail must be received by the Department on or before September 29, 2021.

This notice has been sent to all persons on the agencies mailing list for administrative regulations and posted on the Nevada Department of Education's website at <https://doe.nv.gov>, Nevada's Public Notice site at <https://notice.nv.gov>, the Nevada State Legislature's webpage at <https://leg.state.nv.us>, and physically at the Nevada Department of Education Offices and with Nevada State Library and Archives. Copies of this notice will also be emailed and/or mailed to members of the public upon request.

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SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO NRS 233B.0608

DATE: September 30, 2021

RE: Workshop to Solicit Comments on Proposed Amendments to NAC Chapter 388.XXX, which pertain to grants for pre-Kindergarten programs including Nevada Ready! State Pre-K, as required by Senate Bill 84 (2019).

I, Jhone M. Ebert, being the duly appointed Superintendent of Public Instruction of the Nevada Department of Education, do hereby certify, to the best of my knowledge or belief:

1. The proposed regulation regarding Grants for Pre-K programs is not likely to (a) impose a direct or significant economic burden upon a small business, or (b) directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a small business.
2. A concerted effort was made to determine any economic burden.
3. All relevant materials were reviewed, and the Department considered its history with implementing similar regulations; the proposed changes are within the scope of the Department's activities and present no significant cost of enforcement.
4. Comment has not been solicited from small businesses, and no summary of their response is provided, because small businesses are not impacted by this regulation and thus no burden or adverse economic impact can be assessed.

I hereby further certify that, to the best of my knowledge or belief, a concerted effort was made to determine the impact of the regulation on small businesses and that the information contained in this statement was prepared properly and is accurate.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jhone M. Ebert".

Jhone M. Ebert
Superintendent of Public Instruction

REQUESTED AMENDMENT TO NAC

(REGULATION R____-20)

EXPLANATION – Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [omitted material] is material to be omitted.

Sec. 5. 1. The State Board shall adopt regulations prescribing:

(a) Comprehensive Services that a program supported by a grant made pursuant to section 3 of this act must provide.

Comprehensive services expand access to information and services that support families' needs and help their young children achieve their potential. To make the best choices, families need access to information about what their child is learning and doing, how to optimally support early childhood development and child health, and what resources or programs are available in their community. High-quality programs link families with supports in a comprehensive, collaborative, culturally and linguistically responsive manner that best meets the needs and preferences of families. Comprehensive service needs and availability will vary depending on the uniqueness of the community.

Prekindergarten programs supported by a grant will collaborate with community service providers to meet families' needs. The components of comprehensive services, at a minimum, must include health screenings (i.e. well-check, immunizations, vision, hearing, and dental) and resource and referral services to address needs as identified.

There are specific health conditions that impact learning, which can be identified and treated early. If they are not addressed, children with these conditions may fall behind. Evidence of each child's health must be presented to the school or facility, within 30 days of the child's enrollment. The evidence must include a written statement from a licensed physician or registered nurse attesting to the status of the child's health and stating that all known special conditions are under treatment and the child is capable of adjusting to the programs of the facility. Documentation should be retained by the prekindergarten program.

Education institutions, child welfare and family resource and support organizations can work together to improve outcomes for families by referring to family resource programs and providing linkages between programs with the goal of forming a continuum of supports and services for families. Evidence of each program's ability to connect families with appropriate local- or state-level social services and supports should be maintained and made available in case of audit.

(b) Any evaluations in which a program supported by a grant made pursuant to section 3 of this act must participate.

Systematic, ongoing child assessment provides information on children's development and learning. Assessment informs curriculum planning, instruction, and individualizing supports across all domains. Screening (one component of a comprehensive assessment system) gives a snapshot of a child's development at a point in time. Early identification of children's needs ensures that young children receive the services and supports necessary to maximize their opportunities for healthy development and learning. An equally important role is to track developmental indicators and identify areas of success and need. This information can also be used to help educators understand and address potential developmental issues, link families to support resources, and make informed decisions about interventions, placement and ongoing supports.

Prekindergarten programs supported by a grant must administer a developmental screen to each child with a tool selected by the Nevada Department of Education and submit results twice annually. In addition, prekindergarten

programs must adopt and implement a comprehensive and balanced assessment system, aligned to the standards, to regularly monitor children's progress toward the standards.

(c) Requirements concerning the engagement of parents and guardians of pupils who participate in a program supported by a grant made pursuant to section 3 of the act.

Family engagement is a critical component of Nevada's Prekindergarten program. Family engagement is a shared responsibility between schools, families, and communities where all receive equitable access to tools and supports needed to successfully work together toward the learning and development of children. Meaningful family engagement can result in improved student outcomes including grades and test scores, school attendance, graduation rates and social-emotional skills. Beginning family engagement efforts early establishes habits that can last for a child's entire school career.

Prekindergarten programs supported by a grant must administer annually a family engagement survey selected by the Nevada Department of Education to gauge family experience and perceptions of their child's pre-K program. In addition, programs will develop and submit a family engagement plan based on data collected from the respective survey results and adjust as necessary.

(d) Indicators of performance for measuring the effectiveness of prekindergarten programs that receive grants pursuant to section 3 of this act and minimum quality standards of performance that each program supported by a grant must meet. The State Board shall review these regulations annually to determine whether it is necessary to update the indicators of performance or quality standards.

The purpose of program evaluation is to determine whether preschool programs are a) efficient in terms of using resources wisely to perform the needed work, b) effective as demonstrated by quality measures and c) implemented as required.

Prekindergarten programs supported by a grant must participate in program evaluation and demonstrate effectiveness as determined by the Nevada Department of Education. Categories of quality standards include, but are not limited to: childcare licensing compliance (if applicable), teacher to child ratios, health and safety, teacher/child interactions, curriculum, physical environment, teacher/director qualifications and professional development, family engagement, program administration and management, diversity, inclusion, early learning standards, child assessment, and accreditation.

Detailed information related to each quality standard can be accessed on the NDE website or through the Prekindergarten Procedures Document.