

## Duluth Head Start 2021-2022 Base Grant Application, COLA grant, Transportation Waiver and Waiver of the 45% Service Duration submitted for approval on April 6, 2020

We propose to serve 224 three and four year -old children and their families within the school district boundaries of ISD 709. We are located in 7 of the 9 elementary schools. We combine 65 School Readiness funded students into 6 of our 12 classrooms.

The following budget reflects the Base Grant Funding:

Funding Type	Head Start
Program Operations	\$2,470,223
Training and Technical Assistance	\$28,958
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$2,499,181</b>

  

Program	Head Start
Federal Funded Enrollment	224

In addition, a supplemental Cost of Living Adjustment is available to cover the cost of increased salaries and fringe benefits.

Funding Type	Head Start
Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA)	\$30,137
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>\$30,137</b>

Grant goals for the next 5 years will all support efforts to respond to trauma experienced by communities as a result of Covid-19 and the systemic racism that has been revealed as a result of both the pandemic and the historic death of George Floyd.

Goals:

### 1. High Quality Inclusion: A Partnership with Early Childhood Special Education

- Combining program wide PLCs, we will identify program goals and work in partnership to achieve growth together. Many students suffering from trauma do not qualify for ECSE services, though strategies and supports used by ECSE teachers would assist Preschool staff in best serving all students.

### 2. Walking the Talk of Equity

- We will partner with American Indian Education Department to offer Oshki-Inwewin, a preschool class that incorporates some Ojibwe language and culture into it.

- We will create an Equity Team that will look at ways to increase diverse representation into all of our classrooms, and provide opportunities to expand our understanding of anti-racism.

### 3. Buffering the Effects of Trauma with Health and Wellness

- We have secured a partnership with the YMCA to provide opportunities for easier access to scholarships, a six-week class on Water Safety, Duluth Preschool Day at the Y, and the use of Camp Miller for staff and family Wellness Retreats.

We ask that you approve this base grant and COLA grant.

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Signature of School Board Chair

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Signature of Policy Council Chair

We will also need 2 waivers for our upcoming grant.

1. **Transportation Waiver:** We are asking to waive the Head Start performance standards of requiring a 5 point harness and a monitor on the bus allowing 4 year olds to ride the general education bus to and from our full day options. This has been safely executed for the last 5 years and has greatly increased access to our program.
2. **45% Service Duration Waiver:** There is a new Head Start requirement that 45% of all programming must be 1,020 hours per year. 6 of our classes meet this requirement. 10 of our classrooms offer half day options, as there are not enough classrooms or funding available to meet this standard and still reach full enrollment. Oshki-Inwewin will not meet this requirement, and will instead have students for 4 full days. Fridays would be left open for parent engagement and curricular development. We will re-evaluate this 4 day option annually. Currently 35% of our classes are at 1,020 hours, and 65% of our classes less than that. We are asking for a waiver of this requirement for the 2021-2022 school year.

We ask that you approve the above waivers.

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Signature of School Board Chair

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Signature of Policy Council Chair