

TO: Achievement and Integration Eligible Districts and Directors of Voluntary Pre-kindergarten Funded Programs

FROM: Office of Achievement and Integration

DATE: Issued September 23, 2016 (updated November 15th, 2024)

This memorandum is to outline the use of Achievement and Integration (A&I) revenue for the voluntary pre-kindergarten program effective July 1, 2016.

MDE's School Finance uses PK-12 enrollment data to determine an eligible A&I district's annual revenue. A&I legislation allows use of the funds for pre-K programs that include "enrollment choices" (Minn. Stat. 124D.861 Subd. 1 (c)).

Given this, A&I revenue may be used for allowable costs at a pre-K program that offers school enrollment choices. Allowable costs include those related to policies, curricula, or new positions (trained instructors, administrators, counselors, and others) which support magnet programming, research-based instruction, differentiated instruction, or targeted interventions to improve achievement (Minn. Stat. 124D.861 Subd. 1 (c)).

Districts approved to receive the new voluntary pre-K program funding are encouraged to braid and blend funding. The district must be eligible to participate in the A&I program and meet the voluntary pre-K requirements. Given this, A&I revenue may be used for allowable costs at the new voluntary pre-K programs as described above.

To use A&I revenue both voluntary pre-K and conventional pre-K programs must also meet the following criteria:

1. the program must be included as an activity in the district's A&I plan, and
2. provide school enrollment choices intended to reduce racial and economic enrollment disparities between a racially identifiable school and other sites in the district serving the same grade levels, or
3. provide school enrollment choices intended to reduce racial and economic enrollment disparities between racially isolated and adjoining A&I districts