



NOEEN Coordinated Funding Request Process September 27, 2016



A Unified Approach

BESE Bulletin 140 requires the Louisiana Department of Education (LDE) to work with each Lead Agency to unify funding requests from each provider in the network for “seats” in state-funded early childhood programs (LA4, NSECD, and Preschool Expansion Grant) into a single, annual “coordinated funding request.”

The goal of NOEEN’s 2016-17 Coordinated Funding Request is to ensure that the limited number of publicly-funded early childhood seats are allocated to those programs that:

- ◆ Meet families’ needs;
- ◆ Are high quality; and
- ◆ Are in high demand by parents.

Overview of Available Funding Streams

Funding Stream	Available To	Administered By	2016-17 Seats in Orleans Parish	~Number of Additional Seats Available for 2017-18
LA4	Public Schools	LDE	1640	0
Non Public School Early Childhood Development (NSECD)	Non-Public Schools & Centers	LDE	572	0
Preschool Expansion Grant (PEG)	Centers in Partnership with Public Schools	Agenda for Children	230	? (statewide)

* Additional seats are approximations.

Building on the 2015-16 CFR Process

In 2015-16, NOEEN conducted the first Coordinated Funding Request, implementing a common timeline, application, and transparent scoring and recommendations process for LA 4, NSECD, and Preschool Expansion Grant allocations.

Due to these efforts, providers were allocated funds to serve over 250 additional four-year-olds for the 2016-17 school year in these programs.

This year, NOEEN is seeking to make the process even better by:

Conducting the process earlier to align with new BESE regulations that require Lead Agencies to submit CFR recommendations to LDE by Dec. 1st

Shortening and streamlining the process and application materials

More fully incorporating parent demand data from the EnrollNOLA

Incorporating audit and other findings into the recommendations

Improved Demand Data

This year, because of the coordinated enrollment process, NOEEN has **objective quantitative parent demand data** on all LA 4, NSECD, and PEG programs.

This data allows NOEEN to better understand how many seats are needed citywide, and which programs are in higher demand. Examples include:

- # of eligible families applying for seats citywide this year
- # of families that ranked a program in Main Round or Round 2, and how high they ranked each program (#1-20)
- # of children on each program's waitlist at various points in the process
- # of children enrolled through Late Enrollment
- How quickly or slowly different programs were able to fully enroll classrooms
- Trends in parent demand by different programmatic aspects (setting, transportation, geographic area, etc.)

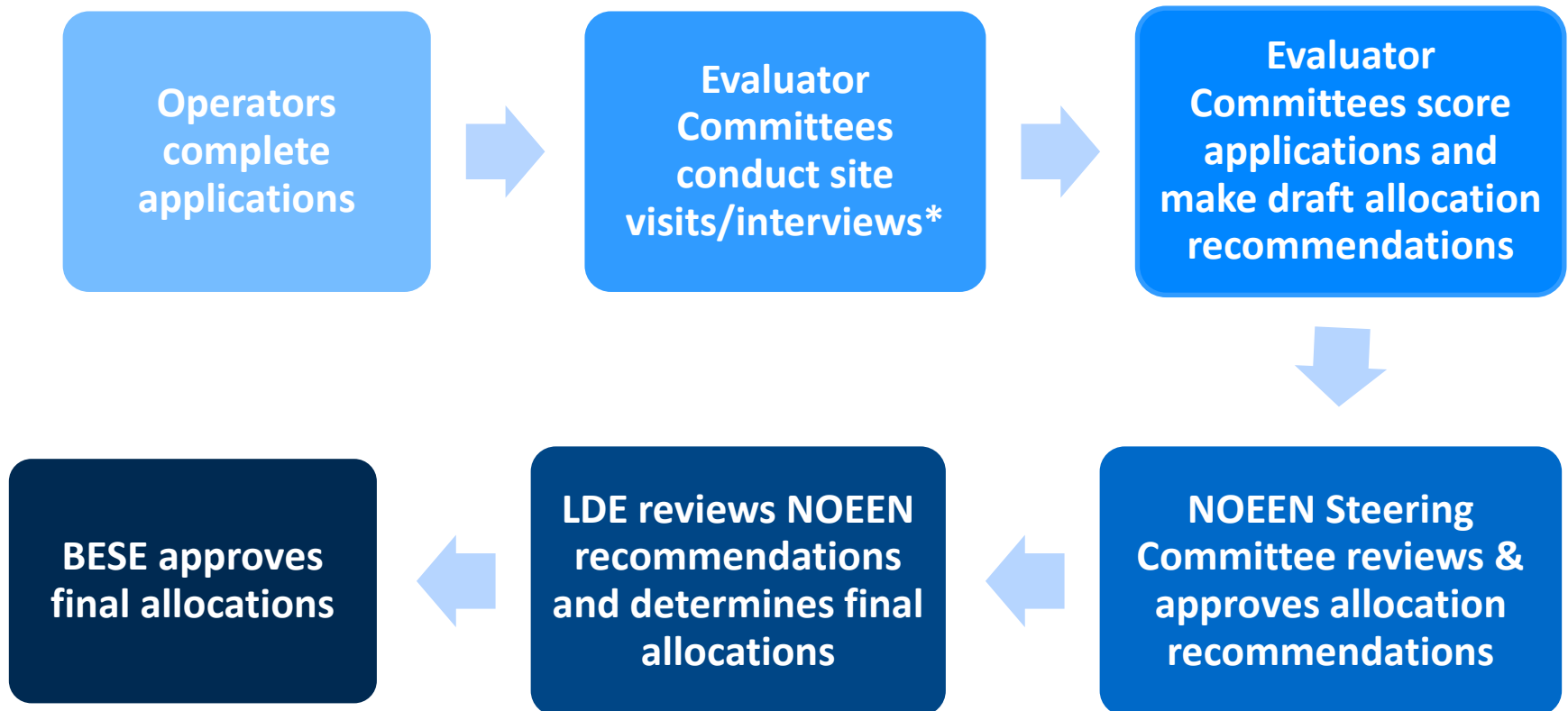
Improved Demand Data

Thanks to this data, NOEEN will be able to **fully incorporate accurate parent demand data into the CFR process** to help determine how many seats should be allocated citywide, and to individual programs.

All programs requesting LA 4, NSECD, or PEG seats for 2017-18 will have to submit a CFR application and will be evaluated using parent demand data. Last year, only those programs wishing to increase seats were required to fill out a full application.

Centers or schools that do not have EnrollNOLA data because they have never participated in coordinated enrollment will receive a site visit and will earn points based on observable quality measures in place of parent demand data.

CFR Process Overview



*Site visits are subject to time and availability of Evaluator Committees, and will not be performed for all applicants. At a minimum, centers who do not currently have EnrollNOLA data for LA 4, NSECD, or PEG seats will receive a site visit.

Timeline

Date	Action
Sept. 27	NOEEN Steering Committee considers approval of CFR process
Sept. 29	Agenda releases CFR application
Oct. 4	Agenda conducts CFR process webinar for all operators
Oct. 28	CFR applications due
Nov. 1-11	Evaluators score CFR applications and conduct site visits/interviews
Nov. 14-16	Evaluator Committees deliberate to make draft CFR allocation recommendations
Nov. 17	Agenda publicly posts draft CFR allocation recommendations
Nov. 29	NOEEN Steering Committee considers approval of Evaluator Committees preliminary CFR allocation recommendations
Dec. 1	Agenda submits NOEEN-approved CFR allocation recommendations to LDE
Jan. 17	BESE considers approval of final LDE CFR allocations

Scoring & Evaluation Committees

Each application will be scored based on rubrics included in the application materials. How scores will be weighted depends on the type of program being applied for.

LA4 & NSECD			Preschool Expansion Grant (PEG)			
Quality 50%	Parent Demand* 50%	Meeting Families' Needs Bonus Points	Quality 40%	Parent Demand 40%	Collaboration Plan 20%	Meeting Families' Needs Bonus Points

*Based on EnrollNOLA data. For applicants that do not have EnrollNOLA data, a score based on a site visit will be given in place of demand data.

Scoring & site visits will be conducted by Evaluator Committees comprised of staff with expertise in each of the three early childhood settings participating in the CFR process.

Evaluator Committees		
Public School Applications	Nonpublic School Applications	Center Applications
1 RSD staff, 1 OPSB staff	2 La. Dept. of Ed. Staff	2 Agenda staff

Preschool Expansion Grant (PEG)

Unlike LA 4 and NSECD, where the Louisiana Department of Education (DOE) contracts directly with centers and schools, the Preschool Expansion Grant is a contract between the DOE and Agenda for Children (Agenda). Agenda then subcontracts with individual school and center partnerships.

Due to this unique structure, the application and scoring information for existing and potential new PEG programs will only be one component of the information and criteria Agenda will consider in making recommendations to LDE for 2017-2018 PEG seats.

Examples of the other information Agenda may consider include:

- Compliance with PEG-specific deadlines and program requirements
- Strength of partnership between school and center as observed by Agenda staff over 2016-17 school year
- Quality and strength of program (e.g. amount and quality of space available)
- PEG funding as a percentage of the program's overall budget (*helps ensure financial stability & sustainability)

Agenda's recommendations for PEG seats for the 2017-18 school year will be posted publicly with all LA 4 and NSECD recommendations on Nov. 17th, and will still undergo the NOEEN Steering Committee review and approval process.

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