



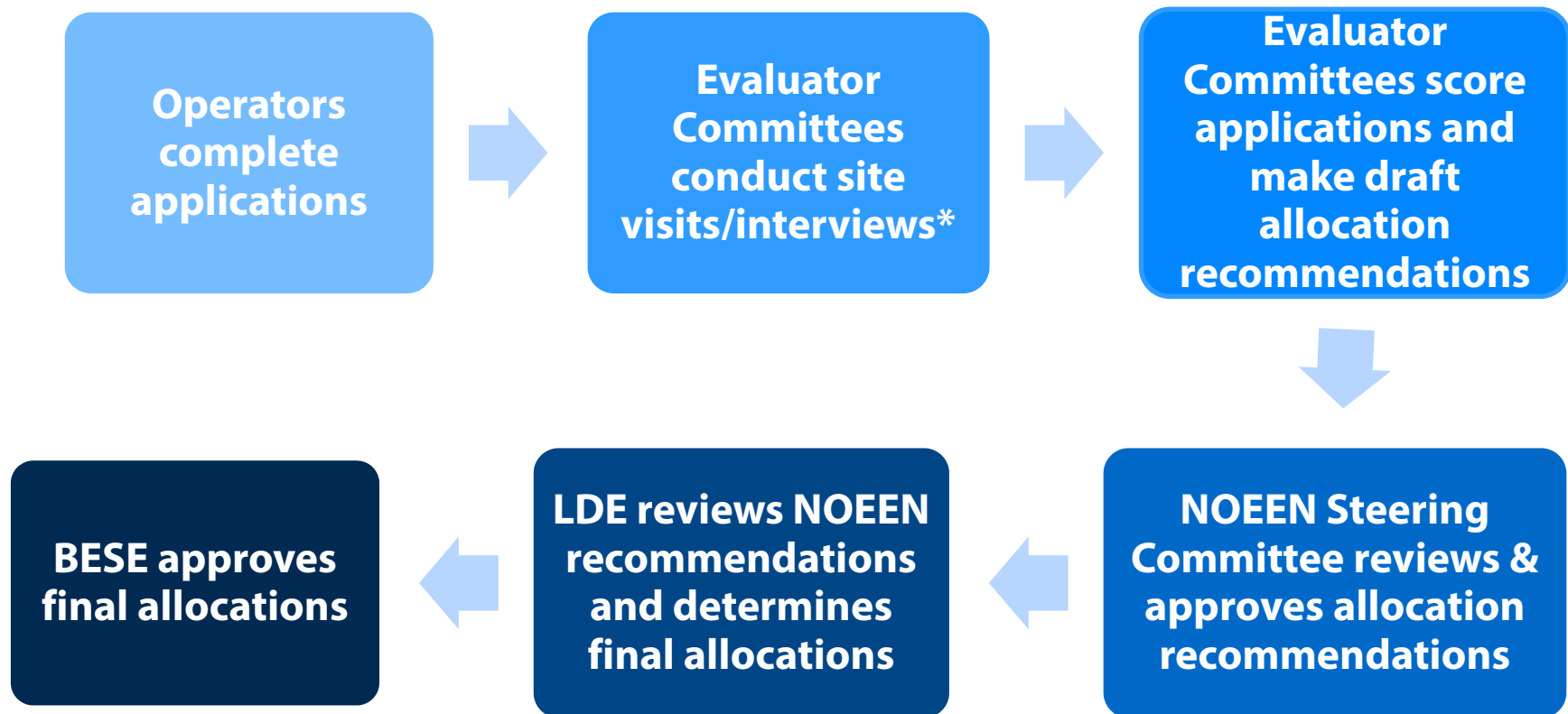
NOEEN Coordinated Funding Request Recommendations November 28, 2017



Agenda

- I. Coordinated Funding Process Overview
- II. Review of Citywide Needs Data
- III. Consider specific Coordinated Funding Request Recommendations

CFR Process Overview



*Sites that do not currently operate an LA 4, PEG, or NSECD program will receive a site visit.

Timeline

Date	Action
Sept. 26	NOEEN Steering Committee considers approval of CFR process
Oct. 2	Agenda releases CFR application
Oct. 4-11	Agenda conducts CFR process webinar for operators
Oct. 27	CFR applications due
Oct. 30-Nov. 10	Evaluators score CFR applications and conduct site visits/interviews
Nov. 13-16	Evaluator Committees deliberate to make draft CFR allocation recommendations
Nov. 17	Agenda publicly posts draft CFR allocation recommendations
Nov. 28	NOEEN Steering Committee considers approval of Evaluator Committees preliminary CFR allocation recommendations
Dec. 1	Agenda submits NOEEN-approved CFR allocation recommendations to LDE
Jan. 23	BESE considers approval of final LDE CFR allocations

Overview of CFR Requests

Funding Source	2017-18 Seats	Programs Requests	# of Seats Requested
LA 4	1,642	42 sites (includes 3 centers)	1,714 (increase of 72)
NSECD	500	11 nonpublic schools, 12 centers	717 (increase of 217)
PEG	160	6 centers	160
TOTALS	2,302		2,591 (increase of 289)

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.

LA4 & NSECD		
Quality* 50%	Parent Demand* 50%	Meeting Families' Needs Bonus Points

*For applicants that do not have this data, a site visit will be conducted.

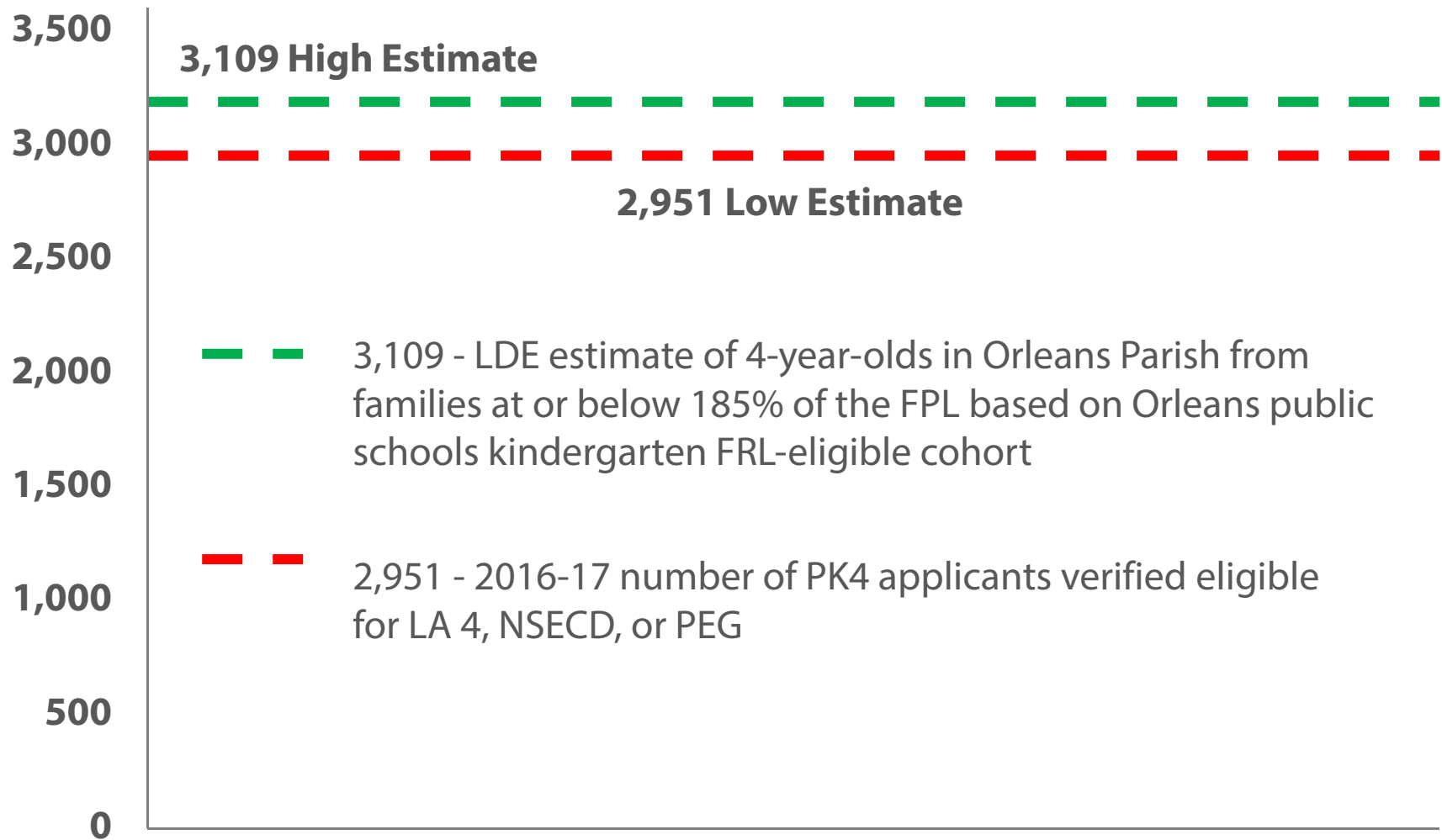
Scoring & site visits will be conducted by Evaluator Committees comprised of staff with expertise in each of the following.

Evaluator Committees		
Public School Applications	Nonpublic School Applications	Center Applications
1 RSD, 1 OPSB staff	2 LDE staff	2 Agenda staff

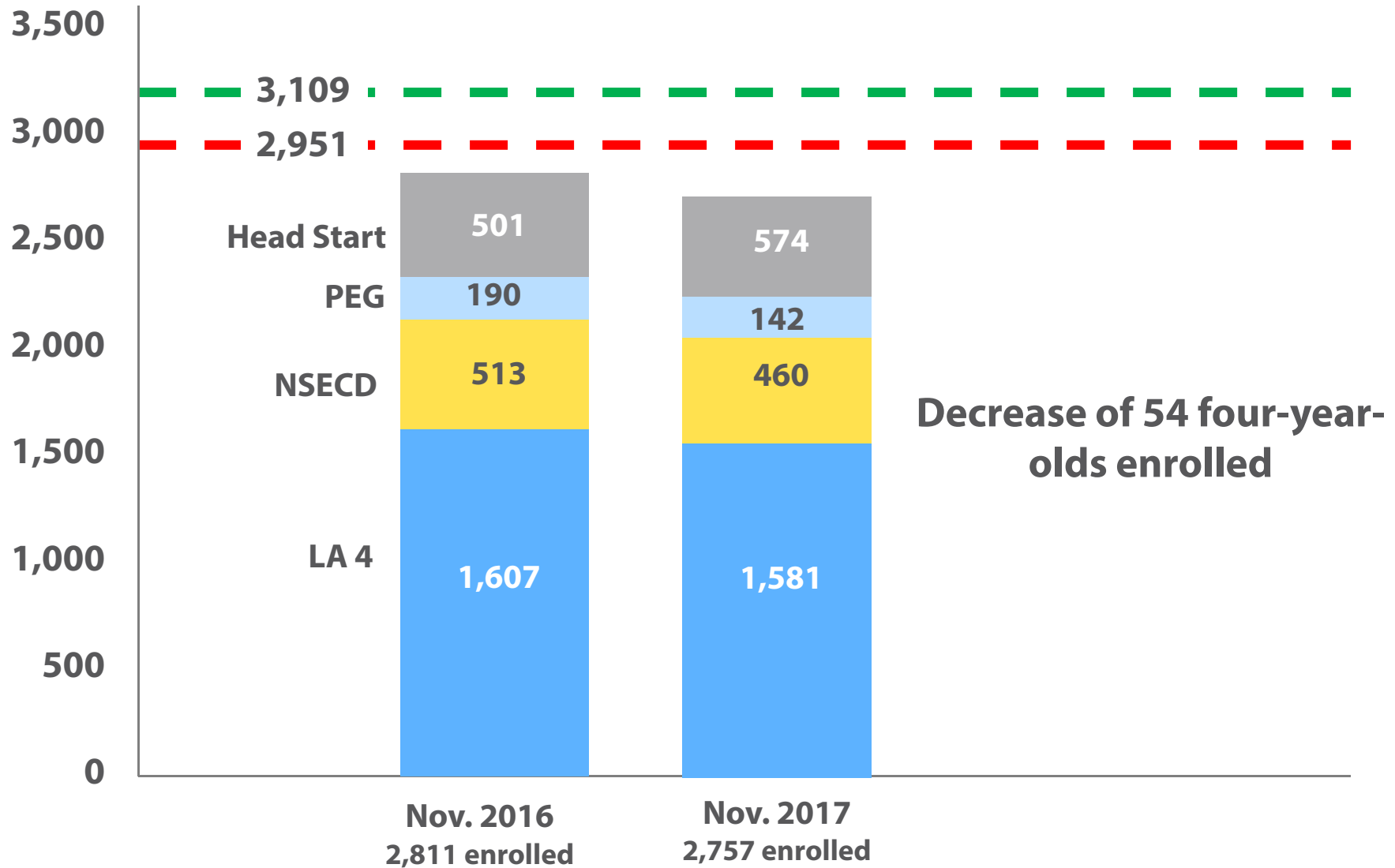
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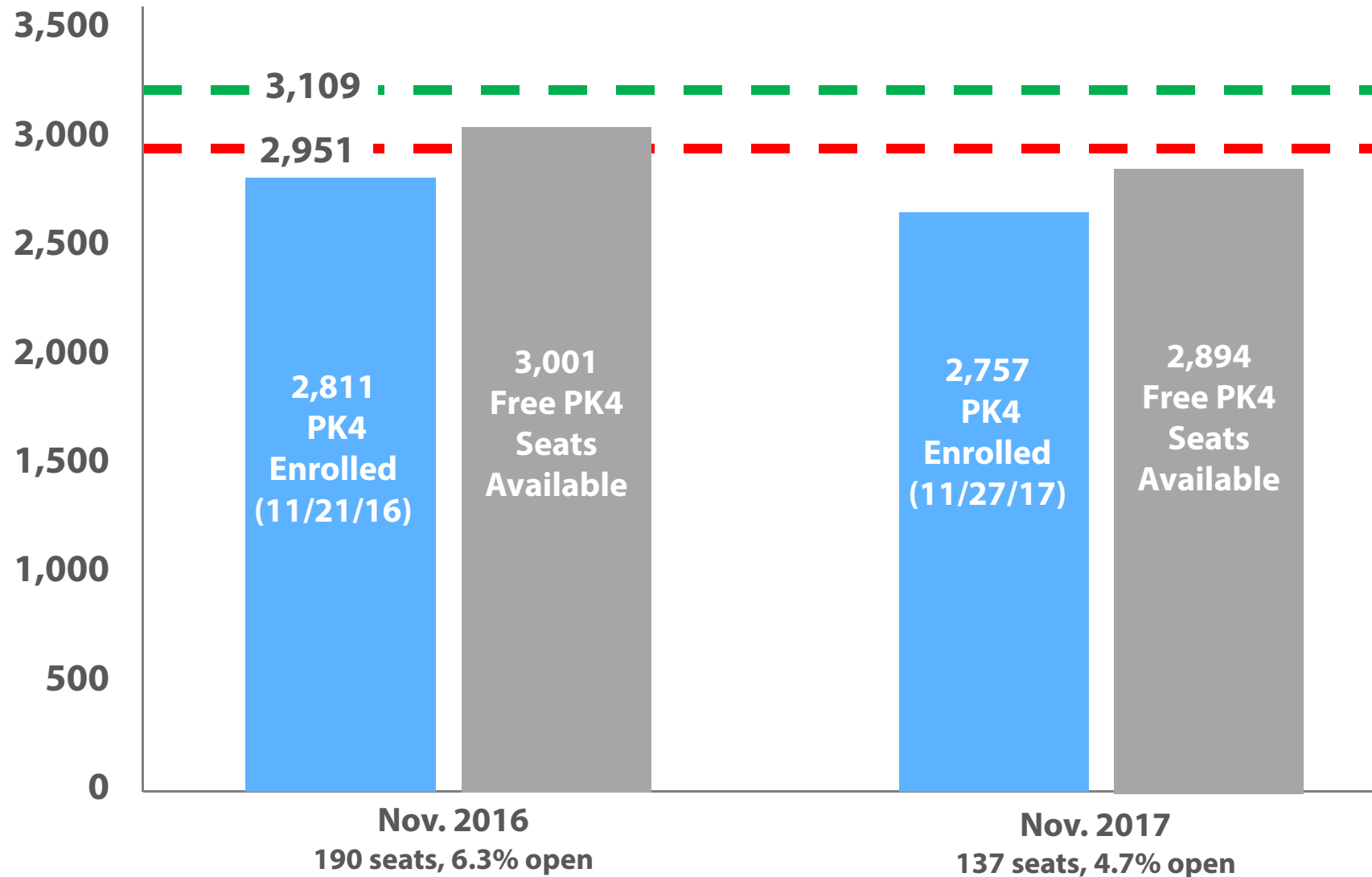
How Many Children are Eligible for Free PK4 Seats in New Orleans?



How Many Eligible Children Are Enrolling in Free PK4 Seats?



Children Enrolled v. Available Seats



Why the Discrepancy?

If there are an estimated 2,950-3,100 four-year-olds in New Orleans eligible for a free PK4 seat, why are only ~2,900 currently taking advantage of this?

Possible reasons:

- **Hidden costs of assigned program are too high for some families** (program is in an inconvenient location; having to transport child to/from program; cost of before/after-care, etc.)
- **Family Preferences:** Families unable to get a program they highly preferred are instead choosing no care or paid care over a free seat in a program they do not want. *There's a mismatch between where parents want to send their children and where seats are available.*
- **Some over-income children with developmental delays are not being identified.**
- **Awareness:** Some eligible families are not aware of opportunity for free pre-K
- **Verification Obstacles:** Some families are unable to meet procedural requirements of enrolling in a program (verification paperwork, travel to FRC or Head Start center during work hours, parents with literacy challenges may find the process difficult, etc.)
- **Decrease in eligible population:** The city's number of economically disadvantaged kindergartners has decreased since 2014. This decrease may be indicative of larger demographic shifts in our city's population of low-income families.

How Should this Data Inform the Coordinated Funding Request?

This data highlights an important tension that NOEEN needs to keep in mind when planning for the coordinated funding request:

Offering enough seats to serve all estimated eligible four-year-olds



~2,950-3,100 seats



May result in some empty seats



Under-enrolled classrooms

Offering the number of seats we know we can fill



~2,800 seats



Would mean giving up existing publicly-funded seats



Risk of having to turn away additional eligible four-year-olds; not allowing any room for choice/transfers mid-year

Additional Factors to Consider

- LDE Early Childhood staff have shared that they intend to seek BESE approval to expand income eligibility for LA 4 and NSECD from 185% of the FPL to align with Medicaid eligibility (~212% of the FPL), effective August 2018; we estimate this could result in an additional ~150 children citywide being made eligible for LA 4, NSECD, and PEG.
- The federal Preschool Expansion Grant expires at the end of the 2018-19 school year. If Congress does not reauthorize this grant, the city will lose 160 publicly-funded PK4 seats.

Achieving the Right Balance

Given this information, we recommend that NOEEN attempt to strike a balance by requesting from LDE a very small increase in publicly funded seats for 2018-19. These increases encompass the addition of 2 new sites, with the possibility for more new sites to be added in the upcoming month, expanding choice for families.

Funding Source	2017-18 Available Seats	2018-19 NOEEN Recommendation	Change (17-18 to 18-19)
LA 4	1,642	1,674	+32
NSECD	500	505	+5
PEG	160	160	0
Head Start	592	(assuming) 592	(assuming) 0
TOTALS	2,894	2,931	+37

CFR Recommendation – LA 4

- The LA 4 recommendation includes one new LA 4 site – Elan Academy on the Westbank.
- All current LA 4 providers were granted the increases or decreases in seats they requested, with the exception of a couple of sites that are anticipated to close or be taken over by new charter operators next year, pending BESE and OPSB decisions and processes.
- If any additional sites/operators that are recommended for LA 4 seats closes or changes operators, RSD and OPSB will work with LDOE to reassign these seats to different school sites, as appropriate, with the goal of not losing any LA 4 seats citywide.
- The recommendation includes 40 seats that are currently unassigned. RSD and OPSB are currently working with charter operators to assign these seats in the coming months to new school sites, again, with the goal of not losing any LA 4 seats citywide.

CFR Recommendation – NSECD

- All current NSECD providers are recommended to keep NSECD seats.
- For the past two years, the legislature has cut the funding source LDOE uses to fund NSECD seats, resulting in LDOE cutting seats to our providers at the beginning of the school year. Because of this, even though we received many requests from providers for an increase in NSECD seats, we only asked for a negligible increase of 5 NSECD seats.
- Our request used quality and enrollment data to reduce some seats among current providers so that one new site could open an NSECD classroom next year (Good Shepherd).

CFR Recommendation – PEG

- Given that 2018-19 is the final year of the PEG grant (unless Congress chooses to reauthorize it), Agenda did not open up the PEG grant for new sites.
- All current center have committed to maintain the existing PEG classrooms for the 2018-19 school year.

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Approvals to Consider

- Recommendations for NSECD
- Recommendations for LA 4
- Recommendations for Preschool Expansion Grant