

FY27 Shared Visions Parent Support Application

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

This document is intended to guide prospective applicants and current grantees in applying for a Shared Visions Parent Support Program. It addresses all questions received to date regarding the FY27 competitive application process.

1. Are Area Education Agencies (AEAs) eligible to apply for the Shared Visions Parent Support Grant?

A: Yes. AEAs are eligible to apply as public nonprofit agencies. To be considered for funding, AEAs must submit a competitive grant application through lowagrants.gov. Detailed materials and related information are posted on the Iowa Department of Education's [Shared Visions webpage](#).

2. We applied for the Shared Visions Preschool grant this year. Are we allowed to apply for the Parent Support Grant as well?

A: Yes. If eligible, programs can apply for both Shared Visions Preschool and Parent Support Grants. Eligible organizations (public schools, licensed nonprofit child care centers, Head Start agencies, community action agencies and other public nonprofit agencies) must submit a competitive grant application through lowagrants.gov.

3. If we don't apply this year, will the opportunity be available again next year?

A: Historically, Shared Visions grants are awarded for five year cycles, with the option to renew annually if program requirements are met. Applications for the next Shared Visions Parent Support Grant cycle are scheduled for FY2031.

4. What curriculum requirements does the Shared Visions Parent Support Grant have?

A: Although a specific curriculum is not identified, necessary program information should be provided by the applicant. This includes identification of curricula and the family support model to be implemented. The program should meet the needs of

parents through the use of a validated curriculum or which is based on a model project which has proven successful. Iowa Administrative Code chapter 281–64.20.

5. What does a typical budget look like for direct services to qualifying families?

A: Shared Visions funds are intended to provide direct services to families and their children to the fullest extent possible. There is not a pre-determined amount for which applicants should apply. An applicant should apply for an amount they anticipate will cover the costs of the proposed program and services to be provided while also ensuring the required 20% in-kind match. Funding is based on annual legislative appropriations. Shared Visions grant budget guidance is available on the [Shared Visions webpage](#). Budgets include salaries and benefits, travel and training, purchased services, supplies and equipment and other expenses. Shared Visions funds are intended to provide direct services to families and their children to the fullest extent possible.

6. Can the grant pay for childcare for parents to attend educational workshops?

A: Yes. Grant funds may be used for purchased services such as child care and/or transportation costs for enrolled children and their families during the time of parent support group meetings.

7. How many families are typically served in a parent support grant? Do you count families as mother/father units together if they do not reside in the same household? How is this quantified with a child?

A: An applicant determines how best to report the number of families to be served through a caseload providing group-based parent education. One option may be to provide the maximum number of families who would attend a scheduled group-based parent education meeting or an estimation of the maximum number of families to be served through the group-based parent education program. Size of caseload(s) for each family support program educator and total number of families to be served by the applicant organization may vary based on the organization service model and plan.

8. What is the due date for the Shared Visions Parent Support Application deadline?

A: The application is due to the Department via [IowaGrants.gov](#) on March 26, 2026, by 4:30 p.m.