

# Updates *with* Deputy Secretary Mickelson

## PreK Grant Reminder

The NM PreK Grant is a competitive, multi-year grant for tribal, licensed child care centers, licensed child care homes, Head Start, school districts, and/or charter schools to offer the NM PreK program according to the established New Mexico PreK Standards.

- The FY25 New Mexico PreK Grant application is **open**.
- The application is due no later than 3 p.m. Friday, April 19, 2024.
- Only **one more** office hours via Zoom left:
  - Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 6 p.m.

Application schedule, office hour recordings, flyer, deadlines:  
[nmeccd.org/prekgrant](https://nmeccd.org/prekgrant)

## The FY25 New Mexico PreK Grant Application is now Open!

Does your community need more PreK access? ECECD has opened the NM PreK Grant to providers who want to expand an existing PreK program, or start a new PreK program.



[NMECCD.ORG/prekgrant](https://NMECCD.ORG/prekgrant)

# Updates *with* Deputy Secretary Mickelson

## April Advisory Council Dates

Subcommittee:

Program Quality and Accountability

**Thursday, April 25, from 3 – 4 p.m.**

Subcommittee:

Public-Private Partnership  
**Monday, April 8, from 9 – 10:15 a.m.**

Subcommittee:

Early Childhood Professionals  
**Monday, April 15, from 1 – 2 p.m.**

Subcommittee:

Data, Infrastructure and Analysis  
**Wednesday April 17, from 11 - 12:15 p.m.**

Zoom links and meeting materials can be found at:  
[nmececd.org/ecec-advisory-council](https://nmececd.org/ecec-advisory-council)







# FOCUS Redesign Survey

ECECD Deputy Division Director of Policy, Research, and Quality Initiatives, Casey Lafferty



# FOCUS Redesign Survey


- ECECD is engaged in a multi-year redesign of FOCUS, New Mexico's child care quality rating and improvement system. **ECECD is soliciting input from families with young children and those working in the field of early childhood education and care.**
- The FOCUS Redesign Survey will be live on **Wednesday, April 3, 2024!** It takes only 20 minutes to complete, and your answers will be critical to helping ECECD understand the expectation for assessing, improving, and communicating the level of quality in early childhood education and care settings.
- This survey is designed to be completed by anyone invested in New Mexico's quality early childhood education system, including providers, families, higher education, and community partners.

***This is your opportunity to share information about improving the quality of child care.***

# What Does Quality Child Care Mean to you? Make Your Voice Heard !

The Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) is launching a multi-year redesign of FOCUS, New Mexico's tiered quality rating and improvement system. A key part of this effort is soliciting feedback from families with young children (under age 5) as well as those working in the field of early childhood education and care, including centers, family child care homes, child care teachers, quality support consultants, and higher education faculty.

**This survey is designed to be completed by anyone invested in New Mexico's quality early childhood education system, including providers, families, higher education, and community partners.**

 **Make your voice heard!**

Start the survey by visiting [bit.ly/4cy9hsD](https://bit.ly/4cy9hsD) or by scanning the QR code with your phone camera!



The FOCUS Redesign Survey will be live on **Wednesday, April 3, 2024.**

**For more information:**

**Email:**  
[FOCUSredesign@eeced.nm.gov](mailto:FOCUSredesign@eeced.nm.gov)

**Webpage:** [nmeccd.org/focus-redesign](https://nmeccd.org/focus-redesign)



NEW MEXICO  
**Early Childhood**  
Education & Care Department

[nmeccd.org/FOCUS-Redesign](https://nmeccd.org/FOCUS-Redesign)





# 2024 NM Cost of Care and Rate Survey

ECECD Division Director of Policy, Research, and Quality Initiatives, Lela Wendell



# New Mexico Cost of Child Care

Prenatal to Five Fiscal Strategies would like to hear what it costs to provide child care from those operating:

- child care centers
- family and group child care homes
- preschool programs
- school age programs
- registered homes (FFN)
- Tribal programs



# New Mexico Cost *of* Child Care

## Share your voice!

You will help update New Mexico's cost model which is used to inform Child Care Assistance Program rates. We will ask providers to share valuable information on the cost of care including quality, challenges, and serving special populations.

### Provide input by:

- Completing the online survey
- Attending an input session

Scan the QR code to register for an input session and complete



[survey.alchemer.com/s3/7763877/2024-Cost-of-Care-and-Rate-Survey](https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/7763877/2024-Cost-of-Care-and-Rate-Survey)



# Who should take which survey?

	Cost Survey	FOCUS Redesign Survey	Family Survey
Center Director	✓	✓	
Family Child Care <i>Owner</i>	✓	✓	
Classroom Educator		✓	
Family Child Care <i>Provider</i>		✓	
Family/Parent		✓	✓
Consultant/Coach		✓	
Higher Education Faculty		✓	