

Policy

INSTRUCTION

8077

PROGRAM RECRUITMENT AND SELECTION POLICY
TARGETED PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

- I. The Madison-Oneida BOCES Board of Education has adopted the following Program Recruitment and Selection Policy for its Targeted Pre-K Program.
- II.
 - A. Children enrolled in the New York State Pre-Kindergarten Program must meet the economically disadvantaged eligibility requirements of Section 151-2.2(b) of the Regulations of the Commissioner. This section defines “economically-disadvantaged” as “a child whose family is eligible for some form of assistance lunch as Aid to Families of Dependent Children, free or reduced price school lunch, food stamps, Medicaid, unemployment compensation or disability compensation.” The Madison Oneida BOCES will use the free and reduced lunch program for selection, and will begin selection on April 1st of each year.
 - B. In addition, Section 151-2.5(1) of the Regulations of the Commissioner states “that at least 80 percent of the Pre-Kindergarten children served by the program are economically disadvantaged or that all interested and eligible economically disadvantaged children residing in the area served by the program will be served by the program.” A minimum of 80 percent of the children in each session must meet the criteria for economic eligibility, and in fact, programs should be operating above the 80 percent level if there are eligible and interested four year olds. Such children must be enrolled prior to accepting any other child.
 - C. Remaining slots will begin to be filled on June 1st of each year. Once the above criteria have been met additional slots will be filled beginning with children from the lowest income families.
- III. Recruitment plans will include (but not limited to):
 - A. Outreach to children:
 - of migrant and other working poor families.
 - from varying cultural and linguistic groups.
 - with disabilities. Pre-Kindergarten enrollment in each Pre-Kindergarten session should approximate the district’s ratio of children with disabilities who are presently in integrated settings.
 - B. Contact with community agencies and schools for referrals.
 - C. Open registration events at selected PreKindergarten Centers.

Madison-Oneida Board of Cooperative Educational Services

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assistance such as Aid to Families of Dependent Children, for reduced price school lunch, food stamps, Medicaid, unemployment compensation or disability compensation”.

In addition, Section 151-2.5(1) of the Regulations of the Commissioner states “that at least 80 percent of the prekindergarten children served by the program are economically-disadvantaged or that all interested and eligible economically-disadvantaged children residing in the area served by the program will be served by the program.”

These requirements clearly indicate that all grantees accepting funds must ensure that at least 80 percent of the children enrolled meet the eligibility requirements of Section 151-2.1(b) and 151-2.5(1) of the Regulations of the Commissioner. Only when all applicants for enrollment meeting these criteria have been enrolled can the grantee enroll children from other interested families. When selecting children from other interested families for enrollment, the grantee must take into consideration the economic status of such families and should enroll determined as the neediest children coming from low income, working families.

We look forward to working with you throughout the upcoming school year.

cc: Betsy Kenney