

Administrative Memo

Date: August 30, 2012
To: School Administrators
From: Chris Nicastro, Commissioner of Education
Subject: LS-12-005 - Changes in Office of Early and Extended Learning

Due to legislative budget cuts in the Early and Extended Learning Office of the Department, technical assistance and support services will be significantly curtailed in the 2012-2013 school year. While we regret this change, we are unable to support the level of service schools and districts have grown accustomed to in the past. All technical support and assistance will be provided to the extent possible via electronic means: email, telephone, webinar, etc. There is virtually no budget to support travel or outreach services.

For Parents as Teachers (PAT), the Conference on the Young Years and Missouri Preschool Project (MPP) grant distribution questions, call Lana Brooks at 573.526.3874 or email, lane.brooks@dese.mo.gov; or Angie Koetting at 573.751.2095 or email, angie.koetting@dese.mo.gov.

For the Child Care Development Fund [Block] Grant (CCDFG), call Gretchen Berhorst at 573.526.6990 or email, gretchen.berhorst@dese.mo.gov. Her duties will be expanded to also assist the work of the Office for Quality Schools.

For questions about Birth to 3rd grade curriculum alignment and assessment work, contact Jo Anne Ralston at 573.751.3545 or email, joanne.ralston@dese.mo.gov.

For questions related to Extended Learning, continue to contact Cindy Heislen (573.526.9761), James Reed (573.526.3961), Erika Brandl (573.526.5395) and Kim Wolf (573.522.2627). Please note, budget restrictions will also impact the service delivery model for Extended Learning functions.

We regret any inconvenience these reductions might create.