



Children learn so much in their first five years. By creating a safe, nurturing place for children to learn, explore their world and build relationships, you are setting the foundation for them to be successful in school, work and life.



Speak with our Care Coordinator



Find resources for families



Help families complete a free Developmental Screening

Want more info?

Call | 231.922.7878

Email | HelpMeGrow@NorthwestEd.org



Early
Childhood

Northwest Education Services

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“Having an early childhood specialist to support our teachers in the classroom and the quality training provided outside of the classroom are all part of the quality of programming. This partnership has allowed us to provide competitive wages for our staff and keep our teaching materials up to date. I've heard it said many times - ‘If you know better, you do better,’ and that is absolutely true. Early childhood development practices are always evolving and we are lucky to have this partnership to help us work through the changes!”

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Tonya Dupuie
Childcare Coordinator
Bellaire Preschool & Kid's Club

Early Childhood Great Start Readiness Program Northwest Education Services



Prospective Community Partners



Bright start for kids.
Brighter future for Michigan.

What is the Great Start Readiness Program?

The Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) is Michigan's state-funded preschool program for 4-year-olds. It serves children who meet income and/or other criteria in the year before they are eligible to attend Kindergarten.

Programming features:

- Research-based curriculum and assessments.
- Credentialed lead and associate teachers.
- Four- or five-day student enrollment options for weekly attendance.

Who can be a GSRP provider?

- Licensed childcare centers that hold a regular license.
- Centers working toward "enhancing quality" level within the Great Start to Quality Rating System.
- Centers that enroll a minimum of five GSRP-eligible students.

Would I have to meet all program requirements to partner as a GSRP provider in order to start?

No, our Northwest Education Services (North Ed) early childhood team will work to support your program to meet the necessary requirements within the timeline provided by MiLEAP.

What do I have to do to apply or be considered to become a GSRP community partner?

- Complete the Great Start to Quality (GSQ) Self-Assessment Survey.
- Let us know you're interested!

Schedule a meeting with a North Ed GSRP team member and let us help you take the next steps toward applying. Call 231.922.7878.

Benefits of Community Partnerships and GSRP

- Enrollment and funding supports.
- Stabilized and increased enrollment in your center due to families seeking GSRP.
- Quality supports from an early childhood instructor.
- Program classrooms may integrate children from a variety of programming funding sources (GSRP, family tuition, DHHS subsidy).
- Gain additional funding to support classroom materials, professional development, staff salaries and more.
- Access to marketing support through North Ed.

Professional Development & Quality Improvement

- GSRP classrooms benefit from support and visits from a master's level Early Childhood Specialist (ECS).
- Professional development on chosen curriculum, assessment and CLASS observation tool.
- Professional development tailored to the needs of staff across northwest Michigan.
- Additional opportunities for other center staff and directors to learn, connect and network.



Benefits for Families

- Allows parents a childcare choice for settings that best meet their families needs.
- Provides continuity of care for children to all stay in one place for education and care needs.
- Provides convenience for families to have one drop off/pick up location for all children enrolled at one site.
- Increases parent and child access to free preschool opportunities through GSRP.

Want to Learn More?

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