

(1) A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE COUNTY BOARD, THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS, AND, IN THE DISCRETION OF THE COUNTY BOARD, THE LOCAL MANAGEMENT BOARD THAT INCLUDES:

(I) THE TERMS OF THE COLLABORATION TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE COUNTY BOARD, THE PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS, AND, IF APPLICABLE, THE LOCAL MANAGEMENT BOARD, INCLUDING THE ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF EACH OF THESE ENTITIES; AND

(II) A PLAN FOR ESTABLISHING ONGOING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PRIVATE SERVICE PROVIDERS AND PUBLIC SCHOOL EARLY EDUCATION PROGRAMS; AND

(2) DOCUMENTATION THAT SHOWS THAT:

(I) THE DEPARTMENT'S EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSESSMENT SYSTEM WILL BE IMPLEMENTED AT THE CENTER;

(II) ALL PARTICIPATING AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES THROUGH THE CENTER HAVE VOLUNTARILY OBTAINED ACCREDITATION OR, BY THE DATE OF THE GRANT APPLICATION, HAVE VOLUNTARILY INITIATED AND ARE ACTIVELY PURSUING THE PROCESS OF OBTAINING ACCREDITATION; AND

(III) THE CENTER WILL PROVIDE COMPREHENSIVE, FULL-DAY EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES.

(E) (1) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DISTRIBUTE AN EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT TO A COUNTY BOARD TO BE USED TO PURCHASE EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES FROM PROVIDERS THAT HAVE VOLUNTARILY OBTAINED ACCREDITATION OR HAVE VOLUNTARILY INITIATED AND ARE ACTIVELY PURSUING ACCREDITATION.

(2) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DISTRIBUTE AN EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT GRANT TO A PRIVATE PROVIDER OF EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES TO BE USED:

(I) TO ASSIST THE PROVIDER IN VOLUNTARILY OBTAINING ACCREDITATION; OR

(II) FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES LEADING TO INCREASED COMPETENCY AND APPROPRIATE CREDENTIALING THAT IS RELATED TO EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION SERVICES.

(F) THE DEPARTMENT MAY DISTRIBUTE FUNDS TO A COUNTY BOARD FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE DEPARTMENT'S EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSESSMENT SYSTEM IN THE COUNTY'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

(G) (1) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(I) ESTABLISH APPLICATION PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING JUDY CENTER GRANTS AND EARLY CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION ENHANCEMENT GRANTS AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION;