Overview

Establishes a grant program to encourage full-day enriched programming for kindergarten students.

Section

1 Full-day enrichment kindergarten grants.

Subd. 1. Establishment. Establishes a grant program to encourage full-day enriched programming for kindergarten students.

Subd. 2. Awards. Permits kindergarten providers to apply for grants to offer full-day kindergarten programs consistent with the criteria in subdivision 3. Directs the commissioner to establish application procedures and time lines. Allows up to six grants, which may be awarded to school districts with school-age care programs or to private kindergarten program providers. Requires applicants to describe available reading and instructional offerings, non general fund money available to expand programming, and evaluation methods.

Subd. 3. Program design. Requires applicants to offer extended hours of kindergarten enrichment activities to all kindergarten students at the site that complement kindergarten instruction. Allows providers to charge an income-based sliding fee. Allows providers and participants to receive public and private funds to cover program costs.

Subd. 4. Use of grant funds. Allows a grant recipient to use grant funds for program start-up costs and identifying and developing financing alternatives for participating families.

2 Appropriation. Appropriates an unspecified general fund amount for grants. Allows the commissioner to use up to 10 percent of the appropriation to provide technical and financial assistance to program providers. Requires the commissioner to report on the program to the legislature by January 15, 2002.