

EXHIBIT A

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The role of the Grantee will be to design and conduct a detailed study of Illinois' early childhood care and learning system, provide policy recommendations, provide a cost-benefit framework capable of evaluating multiple scenarios, and disseminate results in multiple formats. The Grantee will have access to data from multiple state agencies participating in this joint research effort.

- Design and Conduct an Early Childhood Study
- The research partner will consult with ISBE's Illinois Data FIRST stakeholders to refine the studies' questions and scope to address priority questions 1 and 2.
- Review goals and priority areas for the ROI research project
- Discuss ROI and evaluation methodologies
- Discuss deliverables
- Review availability of data needed for study
- Present final study design to ISBE's Illinois Data FIRST stakeholders
- Provide a cost-benefit framework capable of evaluating multiple scenarios
- Present proposed early childhood cost-benefit framework to Illinois Data FIRST stakeholders
- Disseminate study results in multiple formats
- Submit plan for communicating results to ISBE's Illinois Data FIRST stakeholders
- Provide policy recommendations

- **Priority Question 1:** What is the impact of funding choices made at the federal, state, and local level on program quality and stability?

Rationale: As the funding climate changes within the state, the impact funding sources and levels has on program quality and stability must be evaluated.

- **Priority Question 2:** What are the various cost savings resulting from publicly-funded early learning programs in terms of later educational and human service investments?

Rationale: Illinois must demonstrate the benefits of early childhood education programs in order to show a return on investment and to continue building support.

EXHIBIT B

DELIVERABLES OR MILESTONES

Deliverable 1 due August 1, 2018 or 14 days after execution

- NIU will send one STATA and license to ISBE and ISBE will install it on the machine with NIU access within 5 working days of its arrival at the agency.
- Finalized research proposal with specifications for analytic data (this data due within 30 days for NIU virtual access)

Deliverable 2 due September 30, 2018

Quarterly Report will be submitted to ISBE that summarizes progress and

- Revisions or additions of the analytic data
- Determination of the 2 EC programs for the more-limited cost-benefit analysis (without extension) and rationale for the choice

Deliverable 3 due January 31, 2019

Quarterly Report will be submitted to ISBE that summarizes progress of

- Presentation to Early Learning Council between October 1 – November 30, 2018 for input/feedback on study plans
- ROI Study – summary of work completed and any additional data requests
- Limited Cost Benefit Analysis – preliminary outline including proposed metrics and methodology
- List of additional metrics that will need new data agreements (at least from DHS) for no-cost extension

Deliverable 4 due April 1, 2019

Quarterly Report will be submitted to ISBE that summarizes progress of

- ROI Study – summary of the work completed and any last data requests from current data
- Limited Cost Benefit Analysis – final outline with final metrics and methodology
- Changes in contract/deliverables if extension is granted

Deliverable 5 due June 30th, 2019

Quarterly Report will be submitted to ISBE that summarizes

- ROI Study- draft report
- Limited Cost Benefit Analysis – draft report
- No cost extension requested to June 30, 2020

Deliverable 6 due September 30, 2019

- Final study and final limited cost-benefit framework
- ISBE will have new data for extension available to NIU researchers

Deliverable 7 due January 31, 2020

- Quarterly report will be submitted to ISBE with progress on new metrics for extension

Deliverable 8 due April 1, 2020

- Quarterly report will be submitted to ISBE with draft full cost-benefit analysis framework for extension

Deliverable 9 due June 30, 2020

- Final full cost-benefit analysis
- Presentation to Early Learning Council