

# Kansas Parents as Teachers Frequently Asked Questions



# KANSAS PARENTS AS TEACHERS (KPAT) FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

## Contents

- 3 General Kansas Parents as Teachers  
Program Information
- 6 Application and Grant Compliance for  
Current or Potential KPAT Grantees
- 12 Program Implementation for Current or  
Potential PAT Affiliates

The Kansas State Department of Education (KSDE) is pleased to share the most commonly asked questions and agency responses regarding the Kansas Parents as Teachers (KPAT) program. We hope this document is a helpful resource as you explore:

- KPAT as a parent/family.
- Parents as Teachers (PAT) program wishing to become of Kansas affiliate.
- Or as another interested party.

This document will be updated as needed based on new or additional information.

For more information, contact:

Lisa Williams  
Education Program Consultant - KPAT State Lead  
(785) 296-4964  
[lwilliams@ksde.org](mailto:lwilliams@ksde.org)

# General Kansas Parents as Teachers Program Information

**Q.** What is the Parents as Teachers (PAT) evidence-based home visiting model?

**A.** The PAT evidence-based\* home visiting model is the comprehensive home-visiting, parent education model used by PAT affiliates. Trained affiliates follow the requirements of the model including:

- Program design.
- Infrastructure.
- How the program is delivered.

\* Evidence-based means that the program has been researched, tested and proven effective if the affiliate follows the model and requirements as instructed.

**Q.** Who can participate in Kansas PAT (KPAT)?

**A.** The PAT model provides services to families with children from prenatal through kindergarten.

**Q.** What are the goals of the PAT program?

**A.** The goals of the PAT program are:

- Increase parent knowledge of early childhood development and improve parent practices.
- Provide early detection of developmental delays and health issues.
- Prevent child abuse and neglect.
- Increase children’s school readiness and success.

**Q.** How can I get more information on PAT?

**A.** For additional information:

- Visit <https://parentsasteachers.org> website.
- Visit [the Kansas State Department of Education \(KSDE\) KPAT webpage](#)<sup>1</sup>
- Contact Lisa Williams, KSDE program consultant for KPAT, by emailing her at [lwilliams@ksde.org](mailto:lwilliams@ksde.org) or by calling her at (785) 296-4964.

**Q.** What is the cost to me for my child and I to participate in the KPAT program?

**A.** There is **no cost** to the family to participate in the KPAT program.

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Early-Childhood/Kansas-Parents-as-Teachers>

**Q.** How is KPAT funded in Kansas?

**A.** The Kansas state budget allocates parent education funding to KSDE. In 2022-2023, this \$8,437,635 in state funding is allocated from the Children’s Initiatives Fund (CIF). KSDE awards this grant funding to Kansas school districts. School districts are required to provide a match of local funds at 50 cents local match for each \$1 of state grant funding.

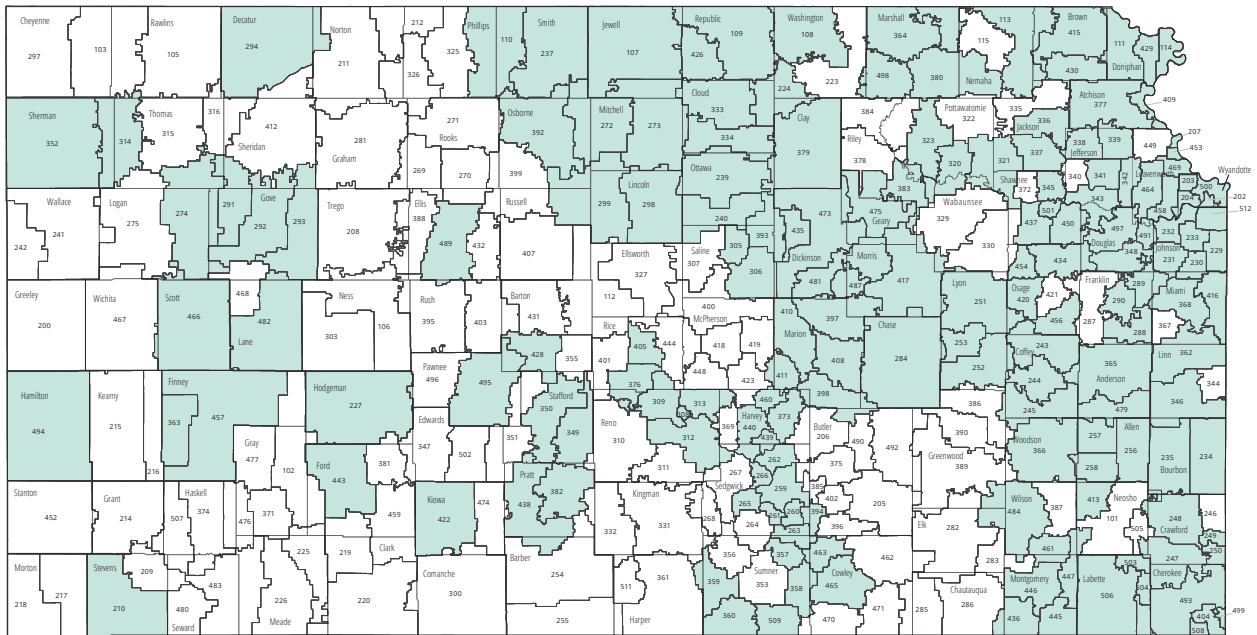
The 1999 Legislative session created the Children’s Cabinet to oversee the expenditures from the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement, which is the source of revenue for CIF. Ninety-five percent of the state’s portion of the Master Settlement Agreement was dedicated to improving the health and well-being of children and youth in Kansas. The Children’s Cabinet advises the governor and legislature regarding the use of money credited to CIF, evaluates programs utilizing Children’s Initiatives Fund money, assists the governor in developing and implementing a coordinated and comprehensive delivery system to serve children and families in Kansas, and supports the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

**Q.** How is the PAT program administered in Kansas?

**A.** In 1990, the Kansas Legislature established PAT in Kansas and designated the Kansas State Board of Education as responsible for awarding grants to support school districts’ parent education programs (see [Kansas Statutes Annotated 72-4161 through 72-4166](#)<sup>2</sup>). KSDE is the State Office Affiliate for PAT in Kansas and has the responsibility for working with existing and potential PAT affiliates to provide technical assistance and support to help meet fidelity requirements required by PAT National Center.

**Q.** Is the PAT program a statewide program?

**A.** The map of KPAT programs in Kansas is below:



Link to online list of KPAT programs:

<https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/Early%20Childhood/PAT/2023-2024PATKSDIRECTORY.pdf?ver=2023-09-28-124043-303>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch72/072\\_041\\_0061.html](https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch72/072_041_0061.html)

**Q.** How can we get a PAT program in my community?

**A.** If you are interested in learning more about the process to become a new PAT affiliate in Kansas, contact Lisa Williams, KSDE program consultant for KPAT, by emailing her at [lwilliams@ksde.org](mailto:lwilliams@ksde.org) or by calling her at (785) 296-4964.

**Q.** Are there other home visiting programs in Kansas?

**A. Yes.** KPAT is one of several evidence-based home visiting programs available to meet the needs of and support all Kansas families. For more information on home visiting programs in Kansas, visit: <http://kshomevisiting.org>

# Application and Grant Compliance for Current or Potential KPAT Grantees

**Q.** What is the application timeline for the KSDE – PAT grant?

**A.** KSDE-PAT grant application timeline:

MONTH	ITEM
<b>February or March</b>	KSDE will announce opening of application.
<b>April</b>	Due date for application.
<b>May</b>	The Kansas State Board of Education will consider KPAT staff recommendations for grant awards. Following approval of the State Board, KPAT staff will notify grantees of the award amount.
<b>July 1</b>	New grant year will begin.

**Q.** How do I get information on the PAT grant application process?

**A.** When the grant application opens, KSDE KPAT program will post the announcement, instructions and deadlines on the [KSDE KPAT website](#).<sup>3</sup>

**Q.** When do KPAT program grantees receive funding from their award?

**A.** Funds for PAT grantees are disbursed in three payments:

MONTH	AWARDED GRANT DISBURSEMENT
<b>September</b>	50%
<b>March</b>	25%
<b>June</b>	25%

Refer to the [KSDE Online Budget Packet webpage](#)<sup>4</sup> for estimated payment dates for state and federal aid.

**Q.** Is there a local match that the school district must meet to be eligible for a KSDE KPAT grant?

**A.** **Yes.** The 2022-2023 state budget requires that a grantee must provide a local match of 50 cents for each \$1 awarded in state grant funds.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Early-Childhood/Kansas-Parents-as-Teachers>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Fiscal-and-Administrative-Services/School-Finance/Online-Budget-Packet>

**Q. May districts use federal funds toward the required local match?**

**A.** KPAT programs must use local funds as a match, and the source of those local funds is irrelevant to the question of whether they can count as the local match. Therefore, KSDE strongly encourages programs to contact the funding source (e.g., Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA); Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV); Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title 1; and private organizations) for questions related to allowable use of funds. For example, if the Department for Children and Families stipulates that FFPSA funds cannot be used as a local match, then those funds cannot be used as a local match regardless of whether or not KSDE would receive them as such. Each funder determines the allowable uses for their funds.

It is helpful to remember that the legal use of funds may not reflect the strength of the strategy. KSDE encourages programs to seriously consider the long-term effects of using unstable funds as a match source. Doing so could result in the total program budget being negatively impacted, especially in programs that contribute a local match of exactly 50%.

**Q. May districts use Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) Title 1 funds toward the required local match?**

**A.** Districts must adhere to the purpose, regulations and requirements of the funding source, including maintenance of all documents and records.

KSDE reminds all KPAT programs that K.S.A. 72-4161 provides definitions for this program, including:

(c) "Parent education program" means a program developed and operated by a board for the purpose of providing expectant parents and parents of infants or toddlers or both with information, advice, assistance, resource materials, guidance and learning experiences regarding such measures as parenting skills and the various styles of parenting, the processes and principles of growth and development of children, home learning activities designed for infants and toddlers, techniques emphasizing a positive approach to discipline, effective methods of communicating and interacting with children so as to foster the development of self-esteem, strategies for structuring behavioral limits and increasing mutual positive regard, and other elements of effective parenting that are conducive to the structuring of a home environment in which children are encouraged to be successful and productive learners.

Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) defines the purpose for Title I as: "The purpose of this title is to provide all children significant opportunity to receive a fair, equitable, and high-quality education, and to close educational achievement gaps."

The purpose of the KPAT program (e.g., to provide parents with information) may not align with the purpose of ESSA Title I (e.g., to provide all children significant opportunity). KPAT programs are encouraged to work with local, state, and federal ESSA Title I staff or representatives to determine whether or not ESSA Title I funds may be used towards the required local match.

Please visit the [KSDE ESSA Title I webpage](https://www.everystudentsucceedsact.org/title-i-improving-basic-school-programs-operated-by-state-and-local-educational-agencies)<sup>5</sup> for additional information.

---

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.everystudentsucceedsact.org/title-i-improving-basic-school-programs-operated-by-state-and-local-educational-agencies>

**Q.** Our district partners with the KPAT Association to receive Bright Futures (Family First Prevention Services Act) funding. How should our district record that revenue in our parent education program fund?

**A.** The funds should be treated as 4500 federal funds. The grantee will create a revenue fund account within the 4500 function series (Restricted Grant in Aid from the Federal Government through the State). When the grantee reports on the USD Budget, they will report all revenue and expenditures in the PAT fund. The district should lump all federal aid sources into one line as 4500 Federal Aid within the USD budget fund.

**Q.** Can school districts apply for a KPAT grant, Kansas Preschool Pilot, and Preschool-Aged At-Risk funds?

**A.** Districts are eligible to apply for all three funding opportunities administered by the KSDE Early Childhood team – KPAT; Preschool-Aged At-Risk program, and the Kansas Preschool Pilot.

**Q.** How does KSDE suggest programs spend funds that were not fully utilized in its designated line item? For example, an employee left the program and so now the program has salary funds available.

**A.** Best practice is to utilize grant funds earlier in the year because these funds are intended to be utilized on the children and families served during the program year. KSDE recognizes that there may be times when circumstances prevent programs from spending all the funds in a designated line item. However, KSDE does not encourage or suggest programs spend funds in a specific way.

If you determine additional funds may be available at the end of the program year, you may:

- Return the funds to KSDE. We will reallocate funds appropriately.
- Purchase screeners or required assessment tools (e.g., OEA machine or Pick 2).
- Purchase program materials and supplies consumed, worn out or deteriorated. Diapers, wipes, thermometers and other such items for families may be considered miscellaneous items. Please refer to [The Kansas Accounting Handbook for Unified School Districts<sup>6</sup>](#) (page 36-37) for additional information.
- Provide parents with additional training(s) and/or receive additional training(s).
- Identify and resolve gaps preventing the program from being effectively and efficiently implemented with fidelity. PATNC recognizes fidelity as meaning to model or Blue Ribbon status.

---

<sup>6</sup> [https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/School\\_Finance/guidelines\\_manuals/Accounting\\_Handbook18.pdf](https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/School_Finance/guidelines_manuals/Accounting_Handbook18.pdf)



**Q. What are the reporting requirements for PAT grantees?**

**A.** The reporting requirements for the PAT grant will be determined annually and will be defined in the KSDE PAT grant application. At a minimum, the reporting requirements include:

REPORT	SYSTEM	DUE DATE
Assign KSDE KIDS number	KIDS Collection System or Foundations for School Success (FSS)	Upon enrollment
KIDS ENRL collection report*	KIDS Collection System	September-October
Mid-year Report	As determined by KSDE	Jan. 31
KIDS MILT (Military Count)*	KIDS Collection System	February-March
Final Expenditures Report	KSDE Authenticated Applications	May (determined annually)
KIDS EOYA collection report*	KIDS Collection System	June 30
KIDS EXIT (information on student who left the district)*	KIDS Collection System	Upon exit from the school district.
PAT National Center Inc. Affiliate Performance Report	PATNC Portal	July 10 (Or Monday following if due on the weekend.)

All grantees must complete the annual reporting requirements by the due dates defined in the current grant.

\* KIDS Collection System reporting dates are tentative and subject to change. Refer to the “KIDS Submission Calendar” at <https://kidsweb.ksde.org>. for the appropriate year to confirm exact date.

**Q. Who is responsible for uploading data in the KIDS Collection system?**

**A.** KPAT programs must determine who will be uploading data into the KIDS Collection system. Before the ENRL (the Sept. 20 count report) is due in late September/early October, KPAT programs are encouraged to coordinate with their local district administrator and KIDS coordinator (or data clerk) to determine the following:

- Who is responsible for uploading KPAT data into KIDS Collection?
- If the KIDS coordinator will upload, what is the process to ensure they receive the data (e.g., access to Visit Tracker, completing the KIDS template, school information system enrollment, other)?
- If the KIDS coordinator will upload, when is the internal data submission deadline?
- If the KPAT coordinator will upload, how do they register for KIDS Collection training? The KIDS team trains annually. Training may be found at <https://kidsweb.ksde.org/Training>.

The KIDS Collection template, and details on how to use the template, may be found here: <https://kidsweb.ksde.org/Documents>.

**Q.** My school district says that a child cannot be in both Kansas PAT and Preschool. Is this correct?

**A.** KSDE allows for a child to be enrolled in both preschool and KPAT. Dual enrollment in preschool and KPAT is not considered a duplication of services; preschool is child education occurring in a classroom setting, and KPAT is parent education occurring in the home environment. However, a district may develop local policies that prohibit a child and their family from receiving both preschool and KPAT services. Districts determine the best use of local early childhood investments.

If marking a student as enrolled in both preschool and KPAT creates an error in the KIDS Collection System, then please check settings for Directory Updates. The KPAT building must be marked as serving KPAT grade levels. The Directory Updates administrator (e.g., data clerk, superintendent, administrative assistant, etc.) must update the Directory to include “daycare”, “Pre-School Aged Without IEP”, and “Pre-School Aged With IEP”. If these are unmarked in the Directory, then the KIDS Collection System will reject KPAT students. Hence, because the file is being rejected, it may seem as if a student cannot be in both preschool and KPAT.

If updating the Directory does not fix the KIDS Collection System error, and you use a student information system (SIS) (e.g., Skyward, PowerSchool, Infinite Campus, etc.), then please work with your KIDS Administrator to ensure that the SIS vendor is utilizing the current **KIDS Collection System File Specifications** available at <https://kidsweb.ksde.org/Vendors>. Alternately, the SIS vendor may not yet have developed a “check box” to capture students as enrolled in KPAT. If this is the case, you can work with your individual SIS vendor to encourage them to update the dashboard and/or you may hand-populate column D58 Kansas Parents as Teachers Program (KPAT).

**Q.** What are the record retention guidelines for PAT programs?

**A.** KSDE publishes record retention guidance as part of the annual budget package and workshops. The KPAT programs follow the same standards as other school district financial records. [Please click here to view the timelines.](#)<sup>8</sup>

**Q.** Are private schools eligible to directly receive KPAT funding from KSDE?

**A.** **No.** Private agencies or institutions may be paid by recipient public schools as service providers, but they are not eligible to receive direct funding through the KPAT program. Below is the statute that directs which entities are eligible to receive funding: From [K.S.A. 72-4162](#)<sup>9</sup> (bolding is from KSDE):

72-4162. Development and operation of programs authorized; interlocal and cooperative agreements; contracts; grants of state moneys, application and eligibility requirements; reports.

- a. **The board of every school district may:** (1) Develop and operate a parent education program; (2) enter into cooperative or interlocal agreements with one or more other boards for the development and operation of a parent education program; (3) **contract with private, nonprofit corporations or associations or with any public or private agency or institution, whether located within or outside the state, for the provision of services which are appropriate to a parent education program;** and (4) apply for a grant of state moneys to supplement amounts expended by the school district for development and operation of a parent education program.
- b. In order to be eligible to receive a grant of state moneys for the development and operation of a parent education program, a board shall submit to the State Board an application for a

<sup>7</sup> Individual Education Plan (IEP)

<sup>8</sup> <https://www.ksde.org/Portals/0/School Finance/budget/Online Budget Packet/Record Retention.pdf?ver=2021-06-15-133000-497>

<sup>9</sup> [https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch72/072\\_041\\_0062.html](https://www.ksrevisor.org/statutes/chapters/ch72/072_041_0062.html)

grant and description of the program. The application and description shall be prepared in such form and manner as the State Board shall require and shall be submitted at a time to be determined and specified by the State Board. Approval by the State Board of the program and application is prerequisite to the award of a grant.

- c. Each board which is awarded a grant under this act shall make such periodic and special reports of statistical and financial information to the State Board as it may request.

**Q.** If I am a district that does not yet having a KPAT program, what is my first step?

**A.** Districts are not required to be a PAT affiliate to apply for KPAT funding from KSDE but will need to receive affiliation when the program year begins if funding is received.

New programs are encouraged to complete [the Parents as Teachers National Center \(PATNC\) affiliation form by clicking here](#).<sup>10</sup> PATNC will contact KSDE. KSDE will work with you and PATNC to support you through each step of implementing a PAT program.

---

<sup>10</sup> <https://parentsasteachers.org/evidencebased-home-visiting-model#benefits>

# Program Implementation for Current or Potential PAT Affiliates

**Q.** How do we stay connected and informed of the work of the KPAT Program and KSDE?

**A.** There are **multiple ways** to stay connected.

Check out the KSDE website at <https://www.ksde.org>. You may find additional information on the [KSDE Early Childhood webpage](#).<sup>11</sup>

Each KPAT grantee is automatically included on the KPAT listserv. When information specific to KPAT or home visiting in Kansas is released or updated, KSDE will share that information via the KPAT listserv. Please contact Beccy Strohm at [bstrohm@ksde.org](mailto:bstrohm@ksde.org) to update or add contact information.

KSDE sends regular written updates during the school year. To sign up for the KSDE Early Learning listserv, which will receive the KSDEweekly agency communications, please contact Beccy Strohm at [bstrohm@ksde.org](mailto:bstrohm@ksde.org).

**Q.** Will a provisional affiliate status affect funding?

**A.** Provisional affiliates are eligible to receive funding under the KPAT grant. Districts are strongly encouraged to provide PAT Model or Blue Ribbon affiliate level service to all children and families served. Model and Blue Ribbon programs fully implement the PAT evidence-based model as intended so as to produce positive outcomes for enrollees. The KSDE PAT program consultant will work closely with affiliates in provisional status to help ensure program success and to support evidence-based model implementation.

**Q.** What other funding sources might be available to support program implementation?

**A.** **Districts should strategize PAT program funding, recognizing that grant funding levels are not guaranteed for future years.** Districts should consider increasing local sources of funding to maintain existing levels of service (accounting for inflation) and/or to expand services provided. School districts should also consider applying for other federal, state and/or local funds that may be available to support parent education, home visiting, health, family engagement and/or community engagement.

**Q.** If a PAT affiliate is a consortium of school districts, how do we add or remove districts from the consortium?

**A.** **Consortium design is a local decision.** Membership is neither approved nor denied by KSDE.

Consortiums report their membership using the application process. Programs have an opportunity to verify contact information prior to the directory being published. Consortiums are asked to verify the districts listed.

If an update to the consortium occurs during the program year, KPAT programs should contact Lisa Williams at [lwilliams@ksde.org](mailto:lwilliams@ksde.org).

---

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.ksde.org/Agency/Division-of-Learning-Services/Special-Education-and-Title-Services/Early-Childhood>

**Q.** Where can I find additional resources to support implementation of a PAT program?

**A.** General information for PAT can be found at the [national PAT website](#).<sup>12</sup> Affiliates of PAT have access to the curriculum content and resources for which they are an affiliate. Those resources are found in the section of the website called O.L.I.V.E.R. If you are an affiliate and have questions about navigating the PAT affiliate portal, please contact Lisa Williams, KSDE PAT consultant at: [lwilliams@ksde.org](mailto:lwilliams@ksde.org) or by phone (785) 296-4964. As an affiliate, you have access to: Curriculum, Technical Briefs, videos, work spaces and much more.

**Q.** Have the modes for delivering the PAT curriculum changed following the COVID pandemic?

**A.** **Yes.** PAT recognizes that a hybrid model for home visiting provides flexibility for both the family and the parent educator, and gives programs another way to meet families where they are. Families and parent educators can adapt as needed, using both virtual and in-person visits and groups as circumstances or preferences change over time. Affiliates can find much more detail regarding this topic in the PAT curriculum and Technical Briefs found in the affiliate portal on the PAT website.

---

<sup>12</sup> <https://parentsasteachers.org/>

For more information, contact:

**Lisa Williams**  
Education Program Consultant - KPAT  
State Lead  
(785) 296-4964  
[lwilliams@ksde.org](mailto:lwilliams@ksde.org)



Kansas State Department of Education  
900 S.W. Jackson Street, Suite 102  
Topeka, Kansas 66612-1212

[www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org)