

Get Ready Cohort : Request for Applications, September 2019

What is a Ready Start Network?

Ready Start Networks (RSNs) are coalitions of individuals committed to creating and implementing a bold local vision for early childhood. RSNs are driven by a community's need to improve opportunities and inspire change for children birth to age five. Each Ready Start brings together partners to continuously improve the quality of and access to early childhood opportunities in their community.

There are four pillars in the Ready Start model: developing a **blueprint** to guide the network to success, building a **coalition** of community leaders to promote and support the network, establishing a **governance** structure to guide decision-making, and creating and managing **fundraising** strategies to support the network's vision.

What is the Get Ready Cohort?

The Get Ready Cohort is an opportunity for community network lead agencies interested in becoming a Ready Start, but questioning whether to apply, to learn more about the four pillars of the RSN model. Get Ready community networks will participate in weekly interactive webinars that will explore each pillar, feature current Ready Start Network leaders, and provide guidance to prepare for the Ready Start Network Cohort 3 application in the Spring of 2020. Lead Agencies participating in the Get Ready Cohort will receive \$25,000 to support Ready Start Network activity, and will receive technical assistance and feedback as they develop their blueprint and preliminary application components. Additionally, the Get Ready Cohort will prepare lead agencies to complete early childhood components of the Super App, which includes sharing a community blueprint.

The application for the third cohort of Ready Start Networks is anticipated to be released in February 2020. Participating in the Get Ready cohort is not required for a community to apply for RSN cohort 3.

Get Ready Application

Community networks can apply for the Get Ready Cohort by completing the brief application found at tinyURL.com/GetReadyCohort by September 27 at 12 p.m.

Get Ready Timeline

September 27: Get Ready Application due at 12 p.m.
October 16: BESE approves allocations for Get Ready communities
October 23: Overview of Four Pillars webinar
October 30: Blueprint Deep Dive webinar
November 4: Super App released
November 6: Blueprint Review webinar
November 13: Coalition Deep Dive webinar
November 20 : Coalition Review webinar
December 4: Governance Deep Dive webinar
December 11: Governance Review webinar
January 8: Fundraising Deep Dive webinar
January 15: Fundraising Review webinar
January 22: What Now? Moving Forward webinar
February of 2020: Cohort 3 Ready Start Network application released
February 7: Super App due

All webinars will take place on Wednesdays at noon.