



FIRST 5 ALAMEDA COUNTY REQUEST APPLICATION

Alameda County School District EDI Planning and Implementation Grants

Application Deadline: May 1, 2025

APPLICATION INFORMATION:

1. All questions of the application must be completed.
2. Completed applications should be emailed to:
Laura Schroeder
Director of Data and Evaluation
Email: KRCS@first5alameda.org
3. Applications encouraged to be received by **5/1/2025**. Applications must be emailed.
WE WILL NOT ACCEPT FAXED OR MAILED COPIES.
4. All applicants will be notified 7-10 business days from date of approved application.

If you have any questions, please contact Laura Schroeder via email at laura.schroeder@first5alameda.org



TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION	3
SECTION 2: BACKGROUND	3
SECTION 3: SCOPE OF WORK AND REQUIREMENTS	5
SECTION 4: TIMELINE AND FUNDING	6
SECTION 5: ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS	7
SECTION 6: OTHER INFORMATION	8





SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

First 5 Alameda County's (First 5's) work is to fund, partner, administer, and advocate to create the conditions needed to ensure every child in Alameda County is prepared for kindergarten. The organization is an independent government agency funded almost exclusively by taxpayer dollars. Since 1998, we have worked collaboratively with local systems to ensure that families with young children have what they need to thrive. We help build a better future for young children through a broad network of community organizations, support for families and early childhood education providers, community investments, and data for action and advocacy.

New local measures passed by Alameda County voters like the Oakland Children's Initiative (Measure AA) and Alameda County Measure C are providing an opportunity to scale up the work of First 5. With the influx of new local resources, this moment represents a critical opportunity to call upon our systems to address structural inequities that historically have affected our communities.

We seek: Support from each school district in Alameda County in the planning and implementation of the Early Development Instrument (EDI) for academic year 2025/26. It should be noted that districts who wish to receive funding from Measure C are expected to commit to the adoption of the EDI. A key requirement for receiving a grant is identifying an EDI coordinator who will serve as the primary liaison between the school district and First 5, ensuring smooth communication, coordination, and data transfer for the successful implementation of the EDI study. Key responsibilities are in the scope below and include supporting district-wide engagement by facilitating teacher training, managing logistics for EDI completion, coordinating with unions and school boards as needed, and promoting the use of EDI data for local decision-making. **Please review the application materials for scope of work, and application instructions.**

SECTION 2: BACKGROUND

Since 2008, First 5 Alameda County has sponsored a biannual Kindergarten Readiness Community Survey (KRCS, formerly Kindergarten Readiness Assessment/KRA). In 2023, the Early Development Instrument (EDI) was selected as the data collection instrument for the 2025-2026 KRCS based on a participatory process with 13 (of 18) school districts in Alameda County.

The EDI is a nationally recognized population-based measure of early childhood well-being. The goal of the EDI implementation is to better understand kindergarten readiness among the County's youngest learners. The tool is made available to each school district at no cost to the district by First 5 and through the support of Measure C. In recognition that the successful planning and implementation of the EDI requires close collaboration with local school districts, First 5 is making these planning grants available. The scope of work below outlines the key activities required by school districts to support the implementation in 2025-26.

Each district must designate an EDI Coordinator to serve as the point of contact with First 5 and our research partner UCLA. Districts may choose who they feel is best suited to carry out the EDI Coordinator activities listed below. In other jurisdictions that have implemented the EDI, the EDI Coordinator's role



within the district is typically the Director of Early Education, Director of Elementary Education, Director of Curriculum, Director of Assessment, or Associate Superintendent. While the contract term is June 2025 – September 2026, most of the activity for the EDI Coordinator takes place from September 2025 – February 2026 when approximately 20% of their time would be needed.

Equity Statement:

First 5 Alameda County is committed to being an equity-centered, anti-racist, and anti-classist organization. We recognize that we operate in a racialized economic system characterized by extractive and exploitative labor practices and public policies that perpetuate long-standing disparate life outcomes. To this end, we use anti-racist and equity-based practices to invest in and support children, families, and neighborhoods. Our Place, People, Policy framework intentionally prioritizes our investments in communities that have experienced historic and systemic racism and disinvestment.

As a part of this commitment, we use our resources to redress (to set right) these injustices by:

- Celebrating Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) cultures and honoring their assets, values, and needs by ensuring investments, programs, data, and policy work is directed by and reflects the richness and needs of these communities.
- Prioritizing the needs of low-to-moderate-income families and neighborhoods with historical disinvestment.
- Addressing root causes through the administration of public funds, advocacy, and operationalization of public policy.
- Interrupting inequities that impact the conditions needed for kindergarten readiness.
- Ensuring that our investments, policies, practices, and Agency culture are aligned with our equity principles.

We acknowledge that our unconscious and conscious bias impacts our practices. Therefore, we are committed to deepening our understanding of how power, wealth, and opportunity imbalances appear in policies, communities, organizations, and interpersonal relationships. We can only do this as lifelong learners with a growth mindset focused on transformative change.

We commit to continuous improvement and to hold ourselves accountable to operationalize this statement and our principles.

In addition to our co-created Equity Statement, we are adopting the “Guiding Principles for Federal Action on Racial Equity” developed by national leaders PolicyLink and Race Forward to further articulate our intentions. The statement and principles are consistent with our systems approach and will be operationalized into each of our strategies.





PRINCIPLES

PRINCIPLE 1: UNDERSTAND THE PAST, THE PRESENT, AND YOUR INFLUENCE

Understand and acknowledge the federal, state, and local* government’s role in impacting society at a wide scale to this day—whether positive, negative, or seemingly neutral

PRINCIPLE 2: CONSISTENTLY ADDRESS ROOT DRIVERS

Target the fundamental root drivers of gaps and inequities and prioritize the people who have traditionally been excluded, recognizing these investments will benefit all

PRINCIPLE 3: WORK IN PARTNERSHIP WITH IMPACT IN RELEVANT COMMUNITIES

Leverage the expertise and experiences of all to promote equity, particularly leaders of color and their communities

PRINCIPLE 4: ADOPT A CONTINUOUS LEARNING AND ADAPTIVE APPROACH

Acknowledge that the scale and complexity of reaching racial equity will require ongoing commitment, action, and adjustments to drive meaningful change and strengthen our democracy

PRINCIPLE 5: BE TRANSPARENT AND ACCOUNTABLE

Build public trust and accountability in the long-term commitment for racial equity through data-driven decision-making and outcome tracking

**Edited from the original “Five guiding principles for federal action on racial equity” developed by PolicyLink. Original source: 2021 PolicyLink report, For Love of Country: A Path for the Federal Government to Advance Racial Equity, page 36.*

SECTION 3: SCOPE OF WORK AND REQUIREMENTS

CONTRACT OBJECTIVES:

To provide District Planning Grants to school districts in Alameda County in order to support the adoption and implementation of the EDI instrument.

Required Standards and Activities

- At least 90% of all Kindergarten teachers complete the EDI for kindergarten students in their classroom during the data collection period (Jan – March 2026)
- Sign the UCLA sub licensee agreement
- Each district will appoint an EDI Coordinator to serve as the point of contact between the district and First 5. The EDI Coordinator will ensure First 5 and/or our research partner UCLA obtain all the necessary information for the EDI implementation and support communication and coordination in the district. The EDI Coordinator shall:





- Attend meetings of district EDI coordinators for coordination and alignment hosted by First 5
- If the district deems it necessary to enter into a data sharing agreement, the EDI Coordinator will serve as the point of contact for obtaining signatures.
- Coordinate and support roster transfer between district IT lead and UCLA at two points in time: 1) Testing in the fall, and 2) Time of implementation (January-March 2026). A list of data fields is included in Appendix A
- If needed, coordinate and communicate with relevant unions and the local school board for approval of the EDI implementation.
- Communicate and coordinate with teachers (e.g., communicate the purpose and goals of the EDI; coordinate teacher training for the EDI; monitor teacher completion rates and follow-up as needed). First 5 and/or UCLA will provide templates, materials and support.
- Support the logistics of substitute release time so teachers can have protected time to complete the EDI. First 5 will provide financial support for substitute teachers, the mechanism to be determined in partnership with the district.
- Communicate with parents (e.g., opt out letters, parent survey invitations) and monitor parent responses. First 5 and/or UCLA will provide templates, materials and support.
- Support the use of data in the district (e.g., hosting a data walk, incorporating data into standing meetings, sharing data with stakeholders)
- Complete an end of term grant report to inform future implementation of the EDI and document how the EDI data was used at the school district.
- Complete reasonable additional duties as determined by First 5 and contractor for successful implementation of the EDI.

SECTION 4: TIMELINE AND FUNDING

CONTRACT TIMELINE

The term of the contract will be June 2025 – September 2026.

BUDGET

First 5 Alameda County will award the following amounts based on the number of kindergarten students in each district:

Tier	# Kindergarten Students	Award
1	10-500	\$25,000
2	501-1,000	\$35,000
3	1,001+	\$45,000





SECTION 5: ELIGIBILITY & APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

ELIGIBILITY DESCRIPTION

All school districts with at least 10 kindergarten students are eligible for a planning grant. The level of support is tiered based on the size of the kindergarten population in the district. Below is a table of tier 1, 2, and 3 districts based on most recently available data from California Department of Education.

Table of School District by Kindergarten Student Population and Corresponding Tier

School District	# of Kindergarten Students	Tier
Oakland Unified	2634	3
Fremont Unified	2090	3
Hayward Unified	1390	3
Dublin Unified	856	2
San Leandro Unified	783	2
Livermore Valley Joint Unified	753	2
Pleasanton Unified	650	2
Alameda Unified	613	2
New Haven Unified	605	2
Castro Valley Unified	600	2
Berkeley Unified	563	2
Newark Unified	348	1
Albany City Unified	232	1
San Lorenzo Unified	225	1
Piedmont City Unified	135	1
Emery Unified	42	1
Sunol Glen Unified	21	1

Source: California Department of Education. "Enrollment Report for SY 23-24". Accessed on DataQuest on February 21, 2025.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Interested applicants should submit Application Form attached to Laura Schroeder, Director of Data and Evaluation at KRCS@first5alameda.org. If you have questions, you can reach Laura Schroeder at the same email address or laura.schroeder@first5alameda.org.





SECTION 6: OTHER INFORMATION

1. No response will be considered for an award unless submitted in full. Applicants are strongly encouraged to apply by the application deadline of May 1, 2025. After this date, applications will be considered based on feasibility of the project.
2. Specifications are carefully prepared describing the services desired. An addendum will be issued to all applicants, if necessary, stating revisions, deletions, or additions to be made to the specifications.
3. First 5 reserves the right to cancel the RFA at any time, for any reason, even after review of all the applications, and it is not responsible for any expenses incurred by an applicant in developing an application.
4. First 5 reserves the right to reduce, amend, and/or rescind this RFA at any time prior to final execution of the contract.
5. First 5 reserves the right to negotiate scope of work, budget, and costs with successful applicant. If negotiations fail to culminate in a contract, First 5 may select another applicant.
6. First 5 reserves the right to request clarification from any applicant on their application.
7. First 5 reserves the right to accept all or a portion of an application. First 5 reserves the right to waive any minor irregularities in an application. First 5 reserves the right to contract with more than one firm. All applications become the property of First 5.
8. All applications will remain confidential until a contract is negotiated. However, because First 5 is a public entity, all applications can become public after all successful contract negotiations.
9. First 5 shall require indemnification on behalf of itself and Alameda County entities with any agencies or individuals into which it enters into agreements. In addition, First 5 requires all agencies to provide evidence of both workers' compensation and general liability insurance, with First 5 listed as additional insured.



FIRST 5 ALAMEDA COUNTY

DISTRICT EDI PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION GRANTS

APPLICATION FORM

1. Please provide the name of your District: Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Confirm the tier of your school district. If it differs from the table above, please provide justification. Click or tap here to enter text.
3. EDI Coordinator
 - a. Is the EDI coordinator a new or existing position for your district? Click or tap here to enter text.
 - b. Provide the title (and name if already known) of who in your district may take on the role of EDI coordinator Click or tap here to enter text.
 - c. Is the EDI Coordinator a 12, 11, or 10-month position? Click or tap here to enter text. If not a 12-month position, please provide a contact person for communication over the summer months. Click or tap here to enter text.
 - d. Provide a rationale for this selection using the roles and responsibilities guide above. Click or tap here to enter text.
4. Describe any anticipated challenges or opportunities that you anticipate regarding EDI implementation in your Local Educational Agency. Click or tap here to enter text.

By submitting this application, my LEA commits in good faith to move forward with EDI implementation.



APPENDIX A: LIST OF DATA FIELDS REQUESTED IN THE ROSTER

- District name
- School name
- School type
- School type specify (only fill this out if school type=other)
- Teacher's last name
- Teacher's first name
- Teacher's email
- Class time
- Class ID (this must be unique to the class)
- Student ID
- Student first name
- Student last name
- Student's street address
- Student's city of residence
- Student's zip code
- Student's date of birth
- Student's extended zip code
- Number of absences
- Number of sick days
- Sex of the child
- Student's ethnicity
- Student's first language
- Student's IEP status
- Student's ELL status
- Reduced price meals
- Parent Email Address