

## **SECTION I. APPROACH**

The State of Oklahoma is pleased to present this application for the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG B-5) CFDA Number 93.434. Until very recently, Oklahoma has been an example for other state on how to set quality standards and create universal access to PreK, but a recent lack of federal and state funding for infrastructure support has stalled efforts to improve the effectiveness of our mixed delivery system. We are resolved to recapture and maintain our reputation as an early childhood field leader by creating the country's most effective early childhood mixed delivery system. To that end, we propose to use this funding opportunity to meet two overarching goals: 1) identify, refine, and implement long-overdue improvements to the state's entire early childhood mixed delivery system, and 2) target special strategies and resources on closing disparities in services and outcomes for Oklahoma's most vulnerable and underserved children and families.

The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness (OPSR) has been designated by Governor Mary Fallin (Appendix 1) to lead this effort. OPSR is a quasi-governmental organization created under the enabling legislation of the Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Act of 2003 Title 10 O.S.§ 640 to promote school readiness. The Oklahoma Partnership for School Readiness Board (OPSR Board) serves as the State Early Childhood Advisory Council and is responsible for accomplishing both state and federal legislative duties and responsibilities. With an established reputation for providing non-partisan support for best practices in policy, programs and services to improve early childhood outcomes, the OPSR has the expertise, capacity and experience to lead Oklahoma's coordination of the OKFutures initiative. The OPSR regularly convenes diverse partners in the performance of its legislative duties and has already brought together philanthropic partners such as the George Kaiser Family Foundation, Inasmuch and the Potts