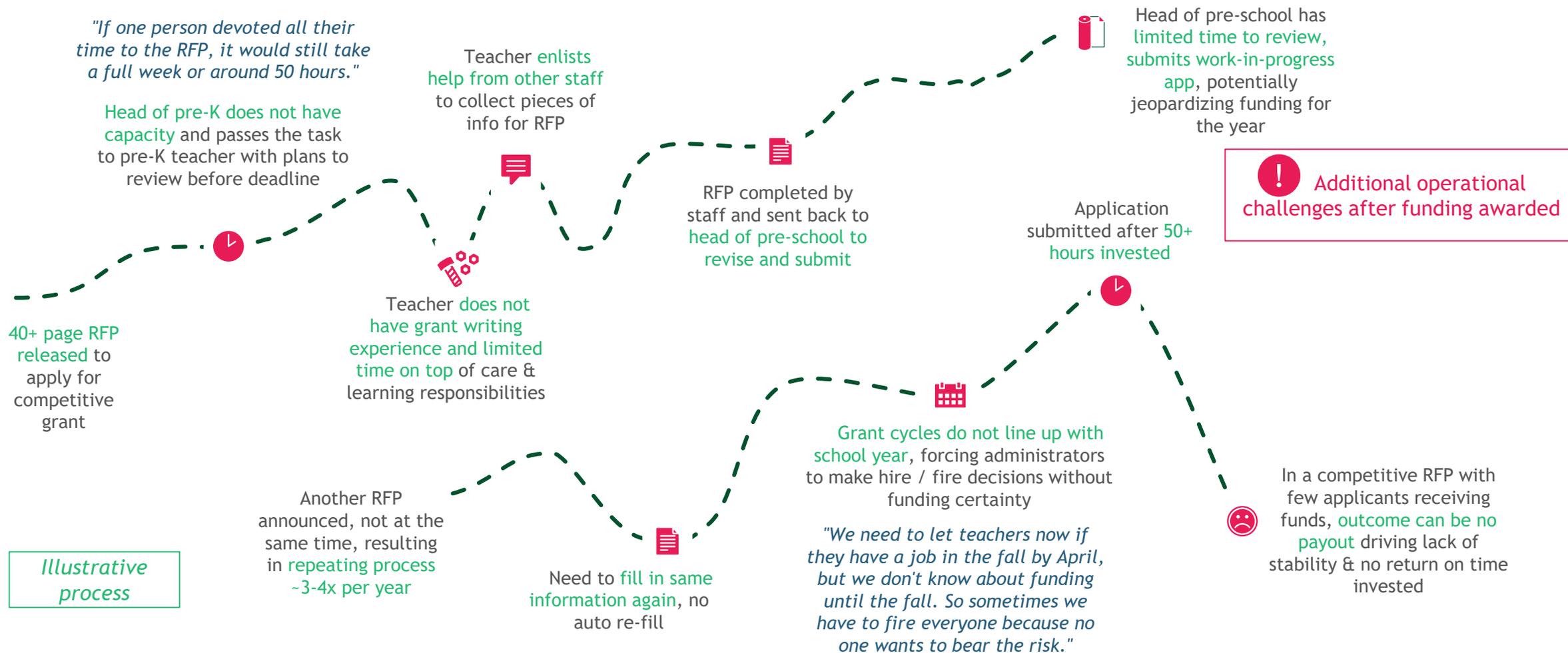


# Funding landscape varies based on source and administration

Use restrictions vary and most programs allocate some funds through RFP

Funding		Admin	Program	2020 \$	RFP	Uses	Restrictions
Fed	State						
✓		Federal	Head Start / Early Head Start	\$366 M	✓	Awarded to administer 0-5 ECEC for low income children	Enrollees must meet max. income requirements
✓		State	MIECHV	\$14 M	✓	Home visits for high risk populations	State has authority over use
	✓	State	Early Childhood Block Grant PFA, PFA-E, PI	\$586 M	✓	Center-based 0-5 ECEC and home visits for 0-3 year olds to those who need it the most	Competitive process; expenditures subject to state discretion
✓	✓	State	Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)	\$721 M	✓ ✗	Subsidy for working families to cover child care costs	Families must meet income eligibility requirements
✓		State	Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)	\$ EBF	✗	Funding awarded to districts to cover early special ed. costs	Awarded via EBF calculations; varies locality to locality
	✓	State	Parents Too Soon; Healthy Families	\$19 M	✓	Supports the Home Visiting program to support at-risk kids	Limited to high-risk populations and geographic regions
✓	✓	State	Early Intervention	\$288 M	✗	Supports development for 0-3 with substantial risk of delay	Recipients must be diagnosed with a developmental delay or medical condition

# Provider perspective: drafting a quality RFP response to receive funding requires significant time, and grant writing skills - key barriers for pre-K teams





## Navigating ECEC: provider perspective

Pre-school provider using both Head Start and Preschool for All (PFA) funding streams

### Process works well for providers who:

- Are larger and can deal with some variability
- Have a superintendent, others willing to take on funding risk
- Have time and resources to dedicate to applying for grants
- Already have infrastructure in place to support programs

### Funding application deadlines vary by type of program

- **Head Start and Early Head Start:** applications are released at any time for either new funding or recompetition, and applicants have 60 days to apply
- **Early Childhood Block Grant:**
  - Ideally, applications are released in *January*, due in *March*, and awarded in *June*
  - Recently, applications are released in *April* and awarded in *October*

### Leading to challenges for providers, including:

Incomplete view of funding for the year ahead makes it difficult to plan for longer-term investment

“ We don't know how much we will have in terms of funding for the year with both Head Start and Preschool for All programs at the center; typically we make decisions for the next few months and can't hire additional staff (e.g., mental health staff, social worker) to help with the kid's needs

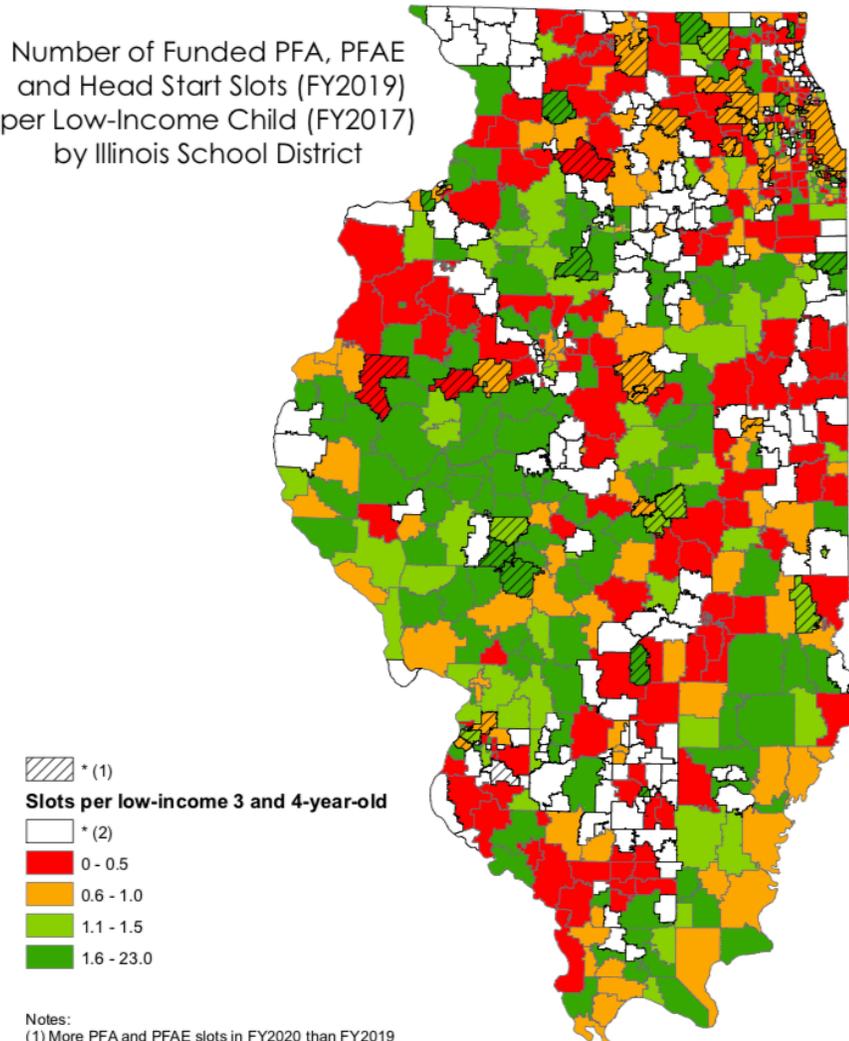
Funding timeline inconsistent with other administrative time lines (e.g., notifying teachers of employment)

“ We have to let teachers know if they have a job in the fall by April, but we don't find out about funding until the fall. Last time, I was able to get the school superintendent to take a risk and agree to keep the teachers and bear the burden if we didn't get funding; another time we let all 80 preschool teachers go and when we got funding, had to hire 50+ teachers in 3 weeks

1. Applications due ~45 days after RFP has been released, no consistent release or deadline date  
Source: Head Start, ECBG, Expert Interviews,

# Program availability varies across the state and is inequitably distributed

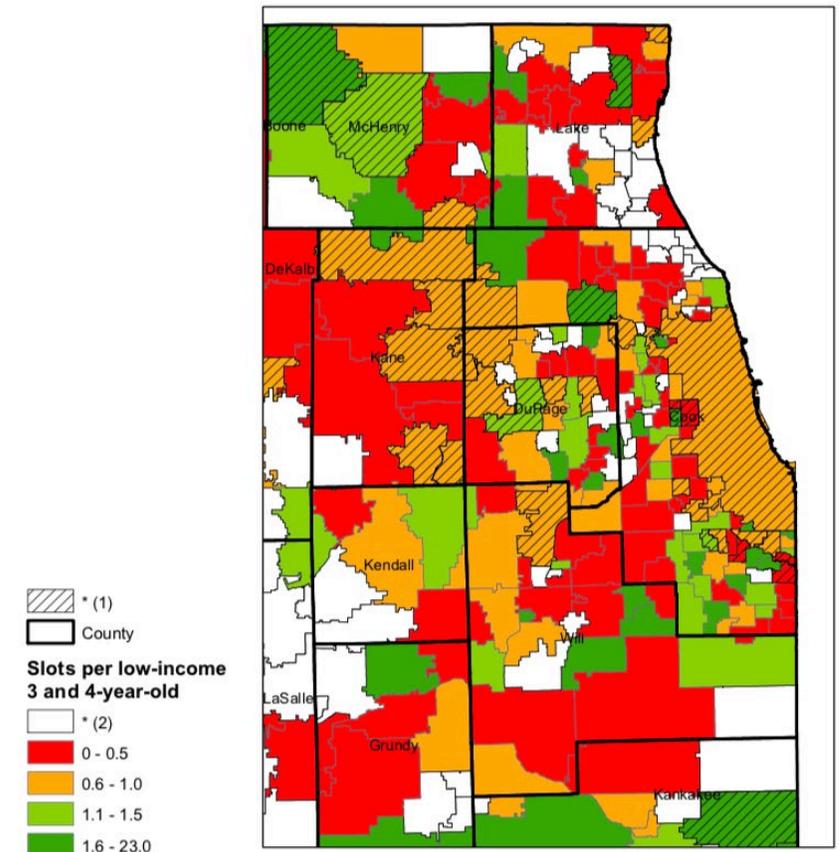
Number of Funded PFA, PFAE and Head Start Slots (FY2019) per Low-Income Child (FY2017) by Illinois School District



Notes:  
 (1) More PFA and PFAE slots in FY2020 than FY2019  
 (2) Indicates districts with fewer than 30 children (3 and 4-years old) below 185% of the poverty level with no slots.

Number of Funded PFA, PFAE and Head Start Slots (FY2019) per Low-Income Child (FY2017) by Illinois School District

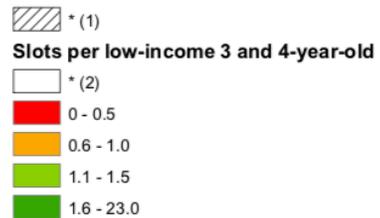
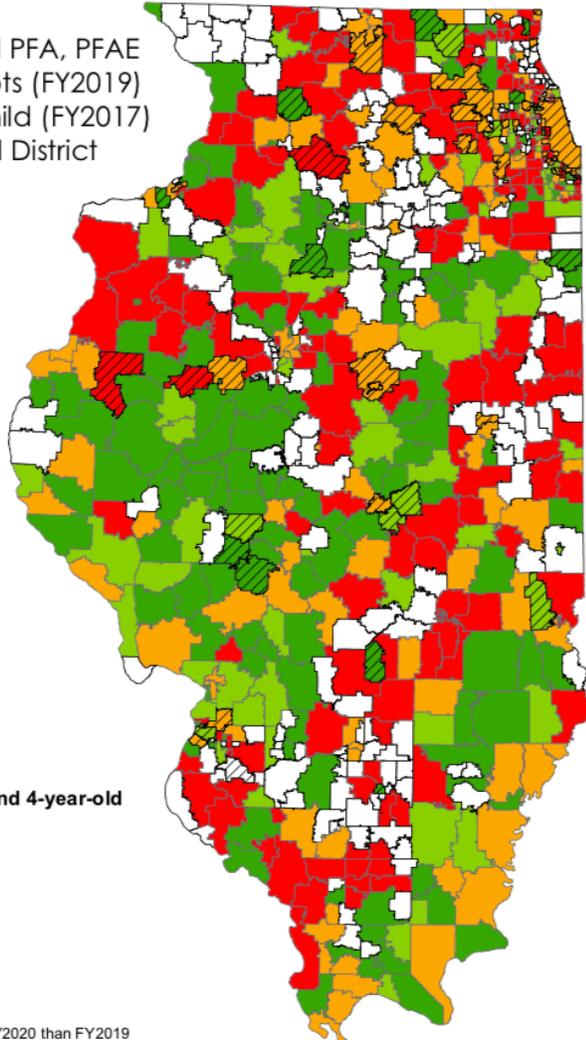
Metro Chicago Area



Notes:  
 (1) More PFA and PFAE slots in FY2020 than FY2019  
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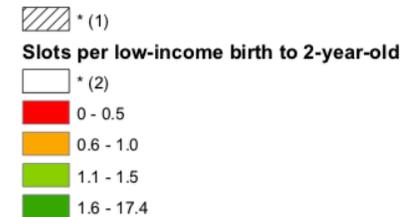
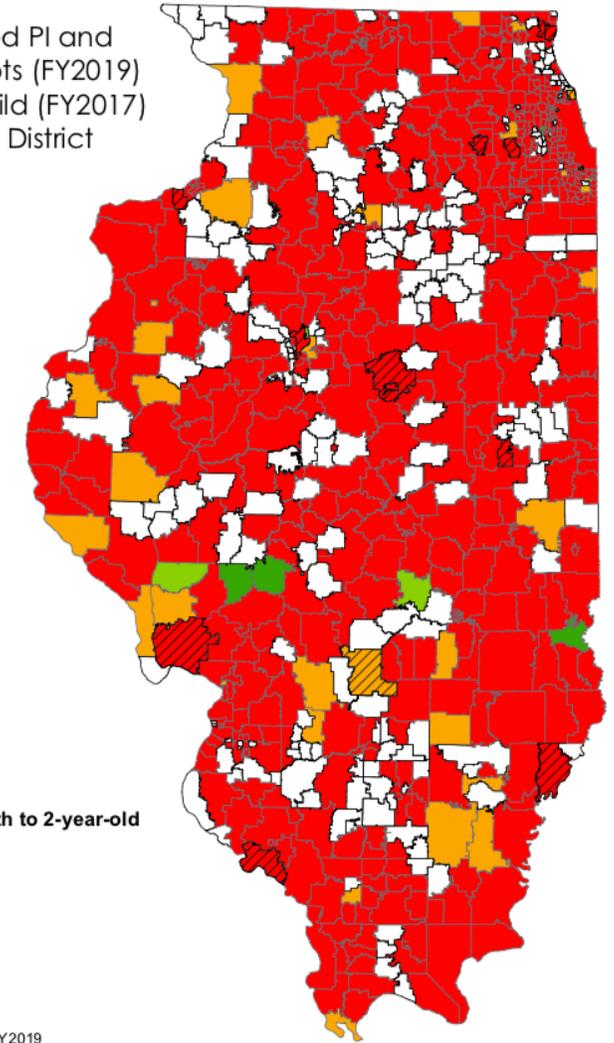
# Access to programs across the state and by age varies significantly

Number of Funded PFA, PFAE and Head Start Slots (FY2019) per Low-Income Child (FY2017) by Illinois School District



Notes:  
 (1) More PFA and PFAE slots in FY2020 than FY2019  
 (2) Indicates districts with fewer than 30 children (3 and 4-years old) below 185% of the poverty level with no slots.

Number of Funded PI and Early Head Start Slots (FY2019) per Low-Income Child (FY2017) by Illinois School District



Notes:  
 (1) More PI slots in FY2020 than FY2019  
 (2) Indicates districts with fewer than 30 children (birth to 2-years old) below 185% of the poverty level with no slots.