



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION

# RecognizeB5

2022-2023

RecognizeB5 awards a financial incentive to eligible teachers & is a strategy for supporting, retaining, and rewarding talented, yet undercompensated, early educators in non-school early learning settings.

RecognizeB5 will distribute approximately **\$25M** to more than 11,400 early childhood educators in 2022-2023.

“Being an educator can, at times, feel overwhelming and undervalued. We do more than just educate children, and we do not exactly do it for the salary we get paid. The money we received through the Grant made me feel more valued for what I do, and hopeful that our government can work towards seeing educators as real professionals who hold an important position in our society.”

“It truly made me feel appreciated and valued. Money is not why I do what I do and has little to do with the rewarding feeling I get for doing my job. However, working tirelessly in a notoriously underpaid profession can weigh on my heart and mind at times when I feel like my paycheck doesn't even closely reflect the quality of my work and the effort I put in.”

“It is sometimes easy to be overlooked or considered as babysitters and not true educators. This recognition allowed me to feel extra appreciated and valued for the work I do.”

“I spent it on things I needed and wanted for my class.”

“Because of this grant, I was able to keep a roof over my children's head. My youngest was hospitalized and I didn't have enough PTO left to use.”

“I'm a single mom of 3, and when I found myself completely struggling to make ends meet, the payments showed up and helped me get through that financially insecure time.”

