**New Construction Loan Fund to Benefit Early-Childhood Classrooms**

Christina Samuels, 2015

Early-childhood providers will have access to a $100 million loan program to pay for classroom renovations and other infrastructure improvements, through a partnership announced Sunday at the Clinton Global Initiative's meeting in New York.

The loan funds will be used to renovate classrooms in seven cities and to build 250 new classrooms over the next three years, according to the announcement. Baltimore will be the launch point.

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The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has developed these voluntary guidelines to assist states in establishing and implementing environmental health programs for K-12 schools in accordance with the Energy Independence & Security Act of 2007. In carrying out this statutory mandate, EPA, along with its federal partners, developed these guidelines to help states establish the infrastructure needed to support schools in implementing school environmental health programs. The practices recommended within these guidelines can also be applied, with appropriate adaptation, to a wide range of school related institutions, including child care and early learning centers.

"Design is not just what it looks like and feels like. Design is how it works."

- Steve Jobs