



Early Learning Division | 775 Summer St NE, Suite 300, Salem, OR 97301

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Budget Overview

Governor Brown had tough decisions to make under difficult circumstances, including a \$1.7 billion budget gap. The Governor's Budget has prioritized early education and core services that serve children and support families, particularly those in communities furthest from opportunity, such as Oregonians in poverty, communities of color, and rural communities. It protects the significant new investments that were made in early learning in 2015 and 2016 and adds additional support for the early learning workforce.

Healthy Families Oregon

Program Description

Healthy Families Oregon (HFO) is an accredited multi-site state system with Healthy Families America (HFA) and Oregon's largest child abuse prevention program serving all counties in Oregon. HFO focuses on strengthening the parent-child relationship to assure healthy child growth and development.

In the 2014-15 program year, 2,459 high risk families received intensive home visiting services and 7,681 first birth families were screened to determine risk and eligibility.

The Governors 2017-19 Budget of \$24.8 million maintains current service level funding for the biennium.

Relief Nurseries

Program Description

Relief Nurseries are comprehensive therapeutic support programs serving families with children under age six. Relief Nurseries intervene to keep children safe in their homes, reduce the number of children in foster care, enhance early literacy, and increase school readiness in therapeutic early childhood classrooms, home visits, parenting education and referral to other services as needed.

The Governors 2017-19 Budget, \$8.9 million, maintains current service level funding for the biennium.

Oregon Pre-Kindergarten/Early Head Start

Program Description

The Oregon Pre-Kindergarten (OPK) program provides preschool education, child health and nutrition, and family support services throughout the state to lowest income and highest need preschool children ages three to five years.

Currently the state funds 8,220 child enrollment slots through the OPK program and federal Head Start funds ~4,500 child enrollment slots for a total of 13,706 enrollment slots.

The Oregon Early Head Start (EHS) program provides comprehensive services to children under age three and expectant mothers living at or below the federal poverty level. The services are a critical link for children to gain necessary skills to be successful in school; to assist families in understanding the needs of their children; and to encourage families to be involved in their child's education.



Currently, there are 2,339 enrolled slots. The state funds 64 slots through this program.

The Governors 2017-19 Budget of \$152 million maintains current service level funding for the biennium.

Preschool Promise

Program Description

Preschool Promise is Oregon's publicly funded high quality preschool program for families whose incomes are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level. High quality preschool is one of the most effective strategies for closing the opportunity gap, preparing children for kindergarten, and ultimately raising school achievement.

Preschool Promise is currently serving 1,300 children annually through our network of Early Learning Hubs.

The Governors 2017-19 Budget of \$35.2 million maintains current service level funding for the biennium.

Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education

Program Description

The Oregon Department of Education contracts with local agencies to provide a statewide system of free services for young children with developmental delays and disabilities and their families, including: Early Intervention (EI)--Individually designed services for children birth to three and support for parents to enhance children's physical, cognitive, communication, social emotional and/or adaptive development; and Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)--Specially designed instruction for children ages 3 to the age of public school eligibility in the areas of physical, communication, cognitive, social/emotional, and/or adaptive development.

The Governor's 2017-19 Budget continues current service level at \$169 million.

Employment Related Day Care

Program Description

Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) provides helps low-income working-families pay for child care. It is a two-generation program, helping families have stable employment and helping children have access to stable early learning environments.

The Governor's 2017-19 Budget continues the current General Fund investment in ERDC

General Fund supports 14 percent of this budget, Other Funds, 3 percent, and Federal Funds, 83 percent. The major source of Other Funds is federal Childcare and Development Fund dollars transferred from the Department of Education (ODE) for the ERDC program. In order to comply with new requirements from the Federal government for Childcare and Development grant funds, ODE will be transferring \$6.1 million less to ERDC, which will result in a reduction in the number of families that can be served in ERDC.



Early Learning Hubs

Program Description

Early Learning Hubs are entities designated by regional partners to coordinate early learning services designed to produce better outcomes for children: increase kindergarten readiness for at-risk children, increase the number of children living in stable and attached families and to ensure system coordination and efficiency in order to attain Oregon's 40-40-20 Educational Goal. Regional partners include counties, cities, school districts, education service districts, community colleges, public universities, private educational institutions, faith based organizations, nonprofit service providers, and tribes.

The Governor's 2017-19 Budget of \$16.8 million continues current service level and will support ongoing work of the Early Learning Hubs in coordinating services to ensure that children who are farthest from opportunity arrive at kindergarten ready to succeed.

Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program

Program Description

The goal of the Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program is to promote community and school partnerships and innovations that result in a measurable increase in children's readiness for kindergarten. This program creates the opportunity to increase the connection between early learning and K-12 by investing in innovative and promising models for early learning/K-12 integrations across the state and to build a body of evidence that Oregon can use to create stronger alignment between its early learning and K-12 education systems.

The Governor's 2017-19 Budget of \$9.4 million continues current service level

Early Learning Workforce Professional Development

The Governor's 2017-2019 budget includes \$7.3 million in new funds for professional development to enhance and expand access for the early learning workforce. These investments will help the early learning workforce across the continuum of care access community-based coaching and training and access, as well as credentialing and degree granting programs. This dovetails with the launch of the Spark program in January 2017, the new brand for QRIS (quality rating improvement system). Spark means quality early learning spaces and Spark provides the opportunity for continuous learning for our early learning providers. It is energizing to have the funds and the Governor's support behind our work.

Childcare quality standards

The Governor's Budget also provides funding to continue to promote and enforce childcare quality standards for health and safety of children in child care facilities. The Governor's Budget includes adjustments to the allocation of Child Care Development Block Grant to ensure compliance with new federal regulations including conducting expanded criminal background checks for all child care providers and staff members, supporting increased child care provider pre-service and ongoing training requirements, establishing qualifications and



requisite training for licensing inspectors, and attaining the appropriate level of inspector-to-provider ratios. The reallocation of \$6.1 million in CCDF funds will support implementation and ensure compliance with federal requirements.

Focused Child Care Networks

Program Description

A Child Care Network is a cohort of child care practitioners who meet frequently to discuss best practices, access and share resources, receive training and encourage progress as they work toward increasing the quality of their programs. The Focused Child Care Networks (Focused Networks) utilize Oregon's Quality Rating and Improvement System as the framework to support quality improvements with an expectation that programs will submit an application and portfolio to receive a star rating.

The Governor's Budget includes \$2.4 million to maintain current service level for Focused Child Care Networks.

