



Request for Applications

Family Support & Family Preservation Funds

Overview

The Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton, & Lincoln Counties supports underserved children and families in our region to learn and thrive by making resources and supports more available, more accessible, and more effective. The EL Hub is a collection of program and service providers who believe that by working together as K-12 schools, early education, and health, human services, and business we can better serve children and families.

In 2013, the Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 2013, which directed the Early Learning Hubs to accomplish three specific goals:

1. Create an early childhood system that is aligned, coordinated, and family-centered;
2. Ensure that children arrive at school ready to succeed; and
3. Ensure that Oregon's young children live in families that are healthy, stable and attached.

Invitation for Applications

The EL Hub Governing Board invites interested providers and agencies in Linn, Benton, and Lincoln counties to submit Applications for funding for projects that help fulfil our goal to increase family stability by providing preventative parenting support services to reduce participation in the child welfare system as described in Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2.

Application Due Date

To be considered for funding, proposals must be submitted to: elhub@linnbenton.edu by 5:00 pm, on Monday June 6th, 2022 (see Attachment 2: Timeline: RFA Process). Applications will be accepted in English or Spanish and will be translated by the Review Team, if necessary.

Requirements

Applications must address Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and may address additional Strategies (see Attachment 1: Raise Up Oregon Strategies). In addition, applications must align to the Family Support & Family Preservation Funding requirements (see Attachment 3).

Evaluation criteria

Evaluation of the Application are based on the criteria in the Family Support & Family Preservation Scorecard (Attachment 4). There are 60 points possible.

Formatting Requirements:

The Application must be no more than 4 pages in length, double spaced plus the Cover Page (see Attachment 5). Use an 11 pt. or greater font size for narrative text and no smaller than half-inch margins. Diagrams and tables may be in smaller font sizes and do not count towards the page limit.

Cover Page

Each Application must have a completed Cover Page (see Attachment 5).

Statement of Need: (10 points)

How will your project address Strategy 9.2? What data source have you used to develop this project proposal? Why have you chosen to respond to this set of issues in this way and why does this matter in the places you will be providing services?

Methodology (20 points)

Describe your project and give an overview of activities. How will your project be implemented in a way that is culturally responsive to your target population? How will your project meet the needs of traditionally underserved populations?

Note: the target number of children or families with young children and the EL Hub Priority Populations from the Cover Page (see Attachment 5) will be scored with this section.

Cross-Sector Collaboration (5 points)

Indicate cross-sector collaboration(s). Identify the role of each partner.

Outcomes (5 points)

How will your proposed project provide preventative parenting support services to reduce participation in the child welfare system (Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2)? How will you achieve the impact? How will you evaluate your progress?

Organization Description (10 points)

Why is your organization and/or staff best equipped to carry out this activity? Describe the history of your organization in providing this type of service or why your organization would like to expand to include these services. Describe your organizational capacity to meet timelines and reporting deliverables (including processes for tracking expenses for reimbursement)?

Budget (10 points)

Provide projected cost (separated by Personnel and Materials & Supplies). Will your project leverage other funding? If so, include the estimated percentage of the overall budget requested to be funded by the EL Hub.

Contracting Period

Projects recommended for funding can begin work on or after July 1, 2022 and continue through June 30, 2023. If a shorter timeline is needed for your project, include the proposed timeline in the methodology section of your application.

Note: Family Support Funds cannot be carried over and must be fully spent by June 30, 2023.

RAISE UP OREGON AT-A-GLANCE

SYSTEM GOAL 1: CHILDREN ARRIVE READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

- **OBJECTIVE 1:** Families are supported and engaged as their child's first teachers.
 - Strategy 1.1** Expand parenting education and family supports.
 - Strategy 1.2** Scale culturally responsive home visiting.
- **OBJECTIVE 2:** Families have access to high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) affordable early care and education that meets their needs.
 - Strategy 2.1** Expand access to, and build the supply of, high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) affordable infant-toddler early care and education that meets the needs of families.
 - Strategy 2.2** Expand access to, and build the supply of, high-quality (culturally responsive, inclusive, developmentally appropriate) affordable preschool that meets the needs of families.
 - Strategy 2.3** Strengthen child care assistance programs.
 - Strategy 2.4** Build the state's capacity to ensure children are healthy and safe in child care.
 - Strategy 2.5** Improve the essential infrastructure for high-quality early care and education.
- **OBJECTIVE 3:** The early care and education workforce is diverse, culturally responsive, high quality and well compensated.
 - Strategy 3.1** Improve professional learning opportunities for the full diversity of the early care and education workforce.
 - Strategy 3.2** Build pathways to credentials and degrees that recruit and retain a diverse early care and education workforce.
 - Strategy 3.3** Compensate and recognize early childhood educators as professionals.
 - Strategy 3.4** Improve state policy to ensure early care and education work environments guarantee professional supports.
- **OBJECTIVE 4:** Early childhood physical and social-emotional health promotion and prevention is increased.
 - Strategy 4.1** Ensure prenatal-to-age-five health care services are comprehensive, accessible, high quality, and culturally and linguistically responsive.
 - Strategy 4.2** Increase capacity to provide culturally responsive social-emotional supports for young children and their families.
 - Strategy 4.3** Increase and improve equitable access to early childhood oral health.
 - Strategy 4.4** Strengthen coordination among early care and education, health, and housing to promote health and safety for young children.
- **OBJECTIVE 5:** Young children with social-emotional, developmental, and health care needs are identified early and supported to reach their full potential.
 - Strategy 5.1** Ensure adequate funding of and access to a range of regional and community-based services, including Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education services.
 - Strategy 5.2** Continue to prioritize screening through the health system and build pathways from screening to a range of community-based services and supports for children and families.
 - Strategy 5.3** Prevent expulsion and suspension by strengthening state policies and supports to early care and education programs.
- **OBJECTIVE 6:** Children and families experience supportive transitions and continuity of services across early care and education and K-12 settings.
 - Strategy 6.1** Establish shared professional culture and practice among early care and education and K-3 that supports all domains, including social-emotional learning.
 - Strategy 6.2** Improve the Oregon Kindergarten Assessment to better support decision-making between early learning and K-12 stakeholders.

RAISE UP OREGON AT-A-GLANCE

SYSTEM GOAL 2: CHILDREN ARE RAISED IN HEALTHY, STABLE, AND ATTACHED FAMILIES

- **OBJECTIVE 7:** Parents and caregivers have equitable access to support for their physical and social-emotional health.
 - Strategy 7.1** Increase equitable access to reproductive, maternal, and prenatal health services.
 - Strategy 7.2** Improve access to culturally and linguistically responsive, multi-generational approaches to physical and social-emotional health.
- **OBJECTIVE 8:** All families with infants have opportunities for connection.
 - Strategy 8.1** Create a universal connection point for families with newborns.
 - Strategy 8.2** Provide paid family leave.
- **OBJECTIVE 9:** Families with young children who are experiencing adversity have access to coordinated and comprehensive services.
 - Strategy 9.1** Expand and focus access to housing assistance and supports for families with young children.
 - Strategy 9.2** Provide preventive parenting support services to reduce participation in the child welfare system.
 - Strategy 9.3** Improve the nutritional security of pregnant women and young children, particularly infants and toddlers.
 - Strategy 9.4** Link high-quality early care and education, self-sufficiency, and housing assistance programs.

SYSTEM GOAL 3: THE EARLY LEARNING SYSTEM IS ALIGNED, COORDINATED, AND FAMILY CENTERED

- **OBJECTIVE 10:** State-community connections and regional systems are strengthened.
 - Strategy 10.1** Ensure family voice in system design and implementation.
 - Strategy 10.2** Ensure family-friendly referrals.
 - Strategy 10.3** Further develop the local Early Learning Hub system.
- **OBJECTIVE 11:** Investments are prioritized in support of equitable outcomes for children and families.
 - Strategy 11.1** Ensure resources are used to reduce disparities in access and outcomes.
 - Strategy 11.2** Align and expand funding opportunities for culturally specific organizations.
- **OBJECTIVE 12:** The alignment and capacity of the cross-sector early learning workforce is supported.
 - Strategy 12.1** Support consistent, high-quality practice among all professionals in the family- and child-serving early learning workforce.
 - Strategy 12.2** Improve cross-sector recruitment, retention, and compensation.
- **OBJECTIVE 13:** The business and philanthropic communities champion the early learning system.
 - Strategy 13.1** Educate business leaders on the economic value of early care and education to the Oregon economy.
 - Strategy 13.2** Introduce business leaders to the science of early childhood development and the impact of public investment.
- **OBJECTIVE 14:** The data infrastructure is developed to enhance service delivery, systems building, and outcome reporting.
 - Strategy 14.1** Strengthen data-driven community planning.
 - Strategy 14.2** Integrate early learning data into the Statewide Longitudinal Data System.
 - Strategy 14.3** Develop and implement a population survey to track the well-being of children and families across Oregon.
 - Strategy 14.4** Create and use an early learning system dashboard to create shared cross-sector accountability for outcomes for young children and their families.

Attachment 1:

Raise Up Oregon Strategies

Attachment 2:
Timeline: RFA Process

Notification posted	May 9 th , 2022
Applications Due	June 6 th , 2022
Applications Reviewed	June 7 th , 2022 – June 24 th , 2022
Recommendations brought to Governing Board	June 30 th , 2022
Formal Notice of Award	July 1 st 2022
Contract Start Date	July 1 st , 2022

Attachment 3: Family Support & Family Preservation Funding Requirements

Family Support and Preservation Services must be provided in a culturally competent and gender-specific manner that reflects the population, needs and resources of the community.

1. Family Support Services shall:
 - a. be family-focused and targeted to the family and not only the child or other individual family member(s);
 - b. be focused on at- risk families so that the services will have an impact on the population that would otherwise require services from Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS); and
 - c. focus on child welfare (not educational needs or other services which are the responsibility of other agencies).

2. Family Support Services may include
 - a. Services, including in-home visits, parent support groups, and other programs designed to improve parenting skills by reinforcing parents' confidence in their strengths, and helping them to identify where improvement is needed and to obtain assistance in improving those skills. Focus is on improving parenting skills with respect to child development, family budgeting, coping with stress, health, and nutrition. Example of programs may include parenting classes, parent-to-parent supports, and in-home visitation classes;
 - b. Structured activities involving parents and children to strengthen the parent-child relationship, including, for example, Healthy Families Oregon;
 - c. Drop-in centers to afford families opportunities for informal interaction with other families and with program staff, including for example, family resource centers;
 - d. Transportation, information and referral services to afford families access to other community services, including child care, health care, nutrition programs, adult education literacy programs, legal services, and counseling and mentoring services, including for example, Dial-a-Ride, child care resource and referral; and
 - e. Early developmental screening of children to assess the needs of such children, and assistance to families in securing specific services to meet these needs, including for example, Healthy Families Oregon.

Family Preservation Services for children and families are designed to help families (including adoptive and extended families) who are at-risk or in crisis, including:

1. Service programs designed to help children:
 - a. where safe and appropriate, return to families from which they have been removed;
or
 - b. be placed for adoption, with a legal guardian, or, if adoption or legal guardianship is determined not to be safe and appropriate for a child, in some other planned, permanent living arrangement.
2. Pre-placement preventive services programs, such as intensive family preservation programs, designed to help children at risk of foster care placement remain safely with their families;
3. Service programs designed to provide follow up care to families to whom a child has been returned after a foster care placement;
4. Respite care of children to provide temporary relief for parents and other caregivers (including foster parents); and
5. Infant safe haven programs to provide a way for a parent to safely relinquish a newborn infant at a safe haven designated pursuant to a state law.

Attachment 4:

Family Support & Family Preservation Scorecard

Application: Family Support & Family Preservation Funds Scoring Rubric			
Statement of Need - 10 points			
Not Well Defined – Not aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 0 pts	Shows Promise –Some concepts are aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 1 pts.	Is Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 3 pts.	Completely Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements and Fulfills the Needs 5 pts.
How will your project address Strategy 9.2 and what data source(s) have you used to develop this project proposal?			
Reasons for choosing to respond to the issues in this way and why does it matter in the places you will be providing services?			
			Total

Methodology - 20 points				
	Not Well Defined – Not aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements Well Defined 0 pts	Shows Promise –Some concepts are aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 1 pts.	Is Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 3 pts.	Completely Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements and Fulfills the Needs Established for EI 5 pts.
Project description and overview of activities				
How will your project be implemented in a way that is culturally responsive to your target population?				
How will your project meet the needs of traditionally underserved populations?				
Target number of children and/or families				
Total				

Cross-Sector Collaboration - 5 points				
	Not Well Defined – Not aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements Well Defined 0 pts	Shows Promise –Some concepts are aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 1 pts.	Is Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 3 pts.	Completely Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 5 pts.
Cross-sector collaboration(s) - and the role of each partner.				
				Total
Outcomes - 5 points				
	Not Well Defined – Not aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements Well Defined 0 pts	Shows Promise –Some concepts are aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 1 pts.	Is Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 3 pts.	Completely Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 5 pts.
How will your proposed project provide preventative parenting support services to reduce participation in the child welfare system (Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2)? How will you achieve the impact? How will you evaluate your progress?				
				Total

Organization Description - 10 points				
	Not Well Defined – Not aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements Well Defined 0 pts	Shows Promise –Some concepts are aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 1 pts.	Is Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 3 pts.	Completely Aligned with Raise Up Oregon Strategy 9.2 and/or Funding Requirements 5 pts.
Is the organization and/or staff equipped to carry out the proposed activity? Do they have history of providing this type of service? If not, why do they want to expand to include these services?				
Describe your organizational capacity to meet timelines and reporting deliverables, including processes for tracking expenses for reimbursement?				
Total				

**Attachment 5:
Cover Page**

Application

Family Support & Family Preservation Funds

Cover Page			
1. Applicant Organization:		2. Contact Person:	
3. Phone Number:		4. Email:	
5. Mailing Address:			
6. Which Raise Up Oregon Strategy does your project address?	<input type="checkbox"/> 9.2 Required	<input type="checkbox"/> Additional: Please list	
7. How much funding is requested from the Early Learning Hub of Linn, Benton, & Lincoln Counties?			
8. Indicate the timeframe you are requesting funding for: (Maximum allowable range is 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023)			
9. Describe the startup timetable:			
10. List specific communities to be impacted by your services:			
11. How many young children and/or families with young children will be served?			_____Children _____Families
12. Indicate the EL Hub Priority Populations who will be impacted by your service (check all that apply):	<input type="checkbox"/> Children prenatal to age 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Children who are Latinx <input type="checkbox"/> Children living in rural communities <input type="checkbox"/> Children with disabilities <input type="checkbox"/> Children who are emergent bilinguals <input type="checkbox"/> Children who are Native American or are from Tribal Nations/communities		
13. What age groups of children will be served (check all that apply):	<input type="checkbox"/> Prenatal <input type="checkbox"/> Infant/Toddler (under 3 years) <input type="checkbox"/> Preschool (3-5 years) <input type="checkbox"/> Transitioning Kindergartners (5-6 years)		