



STATE OF OREGON
Office of the Governor
KATE BROWN

New Investments in Early Care and Education
Governor's Recommended Budget, 2019-21

Research shows that children who start school lacking the fundamental, developmentally appropriate social and emotional skills are less likely to succeed in school and graduate. The benefits of high-quality pre-kindergarten and early childhood education programs are especially beneficial to children from low-income families. Governor Brown's budget invests \$368.9 million into early care and education, to set up the youngest Oregonians for success.

Investments include:

Child Care Supply & Quality: The Governor's budget and investment proposal addresses the child care shortage throughout the state with a combination of efforts to incentivize more providers to provide quality care.

- Infant & Toddler Care (Baby Promise): \$10 million aimed at increasing the supply of quality and affordable infant and toddler care.
- Licensing Caseloads: \$1.5 million to prevent an increase in caseloads, which impact quality oversight, and continue to improve efficiencies when multiple agencies are involved in investigations.

Preschool & Kindergarten Readiness: There are about 30,000 low-income kids who have no access to preschool, and we know that high-quality preschool is a key driver of success starting in kindergarten. The Governor's investment plan proposes to close this gap through the following:

- Preschool Promise: \$169.7 million to create six times more slots (nearly 6600) in Oregon's Preschool program that serves children in families at 200% of Federal Poverty Level or below.
- Equity Fund: \$15 million to create a new fund to provide culturally specific and responsive kindergarten readiness services to historically underserved families around the state.

- Oregon Prek & Early Head Start: \$101.3 million to convert nearly a third of existing Oregon Prekindergarten slots to full-day and make the program work better for families by providing transportation services and allowing Head Start to retain high-quality staff. It will also add 960 slots for Early Head Start for families with children birth to 3.
- Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education: \$45.6 million to increase the level of service provided to children under 5 years old with disabilities and learning delays.

Workforce Quality: As we grow the early childhood system to serve more kids through high-quality child care and preschool, the Governor is committed to building the pipeline of quality early childhood educators with three strategies.

- Early Learning Professional Networks: \$18.3 million to enhance support for child care providers to improve their quality rating and enhance their ability to serve more children to address the child care shortage.
- Scholarships: \$7 million in scholarships for early childhood educators interested in gaining additional certifications and credentials through a partnership with the Higher Education Coordinating Commission, the Early Learning Division, and the Educator Advancement Council.
- Centers for Excellence: \$3.5 million to create regional demonstration sites to promote collaboration across communities with the ability to best practices in teaching and learning successful transitions across early childhood and K-12.

Community-Based Family and Parenting Support: Governor Brown believes families with young children need a range of services and supports. Her budget invests in the following areas, which will help an additional 2,000 families access programs that promote positive child development and family well-being.

- Relief Nurseries: \$5 million
- Healthy Families Oregon home visiting program: \$2 million
- Parenting education: \$2 million