

# Early Childhood Programs in Oregon

**275,000 young children ages 0-5 live in Oregon.**

Oregon is building an early learning and care system to have a positive, lifelong impact for all of Oregon's youngest residents. To accomplish this, the state has invested in a mix of programs to meet children and families where they are, and support the following goals where:

- **Children are raised in healthy, stable, and attached families**
- **Children are ready for Kindergarten**
- **Oregon's early learning system is aligned, coordinated, and family centered**

## What to know about Oregon's Early Learning & Care System

- **Oregon has a mixed-delivery approach.** We avoid one-size-fits-all solutions, and instead offer different options to better support children and families.
- **Oregon is committed to quality.** This means that all programs strive to be developmentally appropriate, culturally relevant, and inclusive of children with disabilities and delays.
- **Programs are voluntary.** Families choose whether they would like to participate.
- **Programs are complementary.** For some families, it could make sense to engage with more than one program. Ideally, programs coordinate to best serve children and families.
- **Programs are both targeted and universal.** Some programs are open to all families; some have specific eligibility criteria required by federal or state law
- **Programs do not reach all eligible and interested children and families.** Most programs prioritize participation because more families express interest than there is funding, staff, and facilities available to serve them.

# Early Childhood Programs in Oregon

The following pages identify the early childhood programs in Oregon that are designed to meet the state's goals for children and families. These are categorized by family support programs, early learning and care, and aligned and coordinated systems.

## Family Support Programs

Designed for ages 0-3	Designed for ages 3-5
<p><b>Universally offered nurse home visits</b> Families can choose to receive up to 3 visits from a nurse in their home to check in, connect with desired support.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> Medicaid + state match, insurance <b>Eligibility:</b> Open to all families</p>	
<p><b>Intensive home visiting</b> Families meet ~weekly with skilled home visitor to set family &amp; child goals and work toward them. Oregon has 3 funded programs: Healthy Families Oregon, Nurse Family Partnership, and Early Head Start (home-visiting model).</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> Federal (MIECHV &amp; Medicaid), State <b>Eligibility:</b> Based on risk factors</p>	
<p><b>Relief Nurseries</b> Relief Nurseries provide children, birth through age five, and their families with wraparound support to strengthen infant and early childhood mental health, prevent child abuse, and avoid unnecessary foster care. The unique Relief Nursery model combines parent education, home visits, and therapeutic classrooms at nearly 40 sites across Oregon.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State &amp; local match (Relief Nurseries provide a minimum 25% match for state funding), philanthropy <b>Eligibility:</b> Based on risk factors</p>	
<p><b>Parenting Education</b> Provides families with free parenting classes, resources, and events to support reliable, responsive, and sensitive parenting.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State funding, philanthropy <b>Eligibility:</b> Open to all families</p>	

## Early Learning & Care Programs

Designed for ages 0–3	Designed for ages 3–5
<p><b>Early Head Start</b> Intensive comprehensive child development and family support services to infants and toddlers and their families. Can be offered through home visits, classrooms, or combination.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> Federal funding to local programs <b>Eligibility:</b> Mostly &lt;100% federal poverty level</p>	<p><b>Head Start</b> Helps young children prepare to succeed in school and promotes children's development through services that support early learning, health, and family well-being.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> Federal funding to local programs <b>Eligibility:</b> Mostly &lt;100% federal poverty level</p>
<p><b>Oregon Prenatal to Kindergarten</b> This is Oregon's state investment in Early Head Start &amp; Head Start.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State (General Fund) <b>Eligibility:</b> Mostly &lt;100% federal poverty level</p>	
<p><b>Early Intervention &amp; Early Childhood Special Education (EI/ECSE)</b> Provides a seamless system to support the development and educational needs of children with diagnosed disability and delay, ages 0–5, and their families.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> Federal, Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) funding parts B &amp; C and state funding (General Fund) <b>Eligibility:</b> Diagnosed disability or significant developmental delay</p>	
<p><b>Employment Related Day Care (EDRC)</b> Helps families that are working, in school, or addressing other family well-being needs to afford child care.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> Federal Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) &amp; state funding <b>Eligibility:</b> 200% federal poverty level</p>	
<p><b>Baby Promise</b> Provides infant and toddler child care to low-income families through contracts with child care providers</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> CCDBG <b>Eligibility:</b> 200% federal poverty level</p>	<p><b>Preschool Promise</b> Provides free, quality preschool to low-income families through grants to preschool providers.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State <b>Eligibility:</b> 200% federal poverty level</p>



## Early Learning & Care Programs (continued)

Designed for ages 0–3	Designed for ages 3–5
	<p><b>Early Childhood Equity Fund</b> Supports culturally specific school-readiness programs such as parent-child groups, parenting education, early literacy &amp; native literacy, and Native language preservation.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State <b>Eligibility:</b> Historically underserved children &amp; families</p>
	<p><b>Kindergarten Partnership &amp; Innovation Fund</b> Connects early learning with K-12 through parent engagement and summer transition to kindergarten.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State <b>Eligibility:</b> Open to all families</p>

## Aligned & Coordinated Systems

Designed for ages 0–3	Designed for ages 3–5
<p><b>Early Learning Hubs</b> 16 locally organized Hubs coordinate early learning and care and promote cross-sector partnerships to create local systems that are aligned, coordinated, and family-centered.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State</p>	
<p><b>Child Care Resources</b> Recruit, train and promote retention of a high quality, diverse Early Learning and Child Care Workforce through professional development and collaboration.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State &amp; federal CCDBG</p>	
<p><b>Department of Early Learning &amp; Care (DELIC)</b> <b>DELIC</b> is responsible for providing high quality early learning and care services to children and families in the state. It works closely with other state agencies, local governments, schools, child care providers, parents, and other stakeholders to ensure that the best possible early learning experiences are available for all children in Oregon.</p> <p><b>Funding:</b> State &amp; federal</p>	