



2025

Oregon Early Childhood Coalition LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

In 2025, providers, families, and advocates from across Oregon call on the Legislature to choose children in early learning and care, health, and family support.

The Oregon Legislature faces a critical moment in 2025 to prioritize Oregon’s young children, prenatal through age 5, and address systemic barriers to their well-being.

Proactive investments in early childhood services can break cycles of poverty, decrease maternal and infant mortality, and ensure long-term stability for children and families across Oregon.

When we choose children, we improve people’s lives and bend the cost curve on spending driven by crises. Prioritizing children builds a more just and promising future for all.

Early Education and Child Care

Employment Related Daycare (ERDC)	Serve the 8,000+ families on the ERDC waitlist and the 4,000 ERDC families without a provider	Up to \$500 million
Child Care Navigation	Improve the support for families in ERDC to find a child care provider	\$15 million
Child Care Workforce	Grow the workforce by investing in pay, apprenticeships, and higher education	TBD
Child and Adult Food Care Program	Ensure children receive nutritious meals, stabilize child care providers, and bring federal funds to Oregon, benefiting local farmers	\$4.5 million LC 1898 LC TBD
Inclusive Child Care Zoning	Create by-right zoning for child care and provide best practices & guidance for cities and counties	LC 4078 LC TBD
Birth-5 Early Literacy	Secure expanded funding for early literacy, including increasing funding for Reach Out and Read	\$25 million
EI/ECSE	Restore and improve services for children with disabilities and delays eligible for Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education	\$24 million LC 1415



Maternal-Child Health

Doulas and Lactation Counselors	Expand access to proven peer support and reduce birth and postpartum disparities in physical & mental health	\$6 million + state Medicaid share LC 3705
Perinatal Workforce Work Group	Make recommendations for diversifying the perinatal workforce	~\$250,000 LC 2869
Social Emotional Health Workforce	Expand behavioral health capacity to serve young children, 0-5, and parents	\$5 million per year
Elevate Children in CCO 3.0	Ensure CCOs prioritize the first 1,000 days, when health and development set a foundation for future well-being	LC 2701

Supporting Families

Relief Nurseries	Support 13 additional therapeutic early childhood classrooms and five outreach workers	\$4.9 million
Healthy Families Oregon	Expand and sustain home visiting services across the state	\$3 million
Nurse Family Partnership	Continue to provide the non-federal Medicaid match funding needed to provide proven NFP services	\$6.32 million LC TBD
Upstream Pilots	Allocate state funding to 7 local regions to support child success models as demonstration projects	\$10 million

