



# 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.**

### Racial Equity Priorities

Oregon's Early Childhood Coalition has identified five racial equity priorities for the 2025 legislative session. These priorities are identified as most important to heal harms to Black and Indigenous children, and children of color. By addressing racial disparities, we simultaneously work to remove barriers for all marginalized communities.

- 1 Child and Adult Food Care Program
- 2 Early Childhood Literacy Fund
- 3 Expand the Perinatal Workforce
- 4 Relief Nurseries
- 5 Healthy Families Oregon

## Early Education and Child Care

<b>Employment Related Daycare (ERDC)</b>	Serve the 9,500+ families on the ERDC waitlist and the 4,000 ERDC families without a provider.	<b>Up to \$500 million SB 5514</b>
<b>Child Care Workforce</b>	Grow the workforce by investing in a child care retention and recognition payment program and apprenticeships.	<b>\$TBD HB 3008</b>
<b>Early Educator Degree Programs</b>	Invest in Oregon's public university and community college early childhood degree programs and lab schools.	<b>\$20 million HB 3011</b>
<b>Child and Adult Care Food Program</b>	Ensure children receive nutritious meals, stabilize child care providers, and maintain funding for home based sponsors.	<b>\$4.5 million HB 3201</b>
<b>Inclusive Child Care Zoning</b>	Create by-right zoning for child care and provide best practices & guidance for cities and counties.	<b>\$0, HB 3560 ~\$250k, HB 3496</b>
<b>Birth-5 Early Literacy</b>	Secure expanded funding for early literacy, including more funding for Reach Out and Read.	<b>\$25 million</b>
<b>EI/ECSE</b>	Restore and improve services for children with disabilities and delays eligible for Early Intervention/Early Childhood Special Education.	<b>\$24 million SB 5515 HB 2682</b>

## Maternal-Child Health

<b>Doulas and Lactation Counselors</b>	Expand access to proven peer support and reduce birth and postpartum disparities in physical and mental health.	<b>\$6 million + Medicaid match SB 692</b>
<b>Perinatal Workforce Taskforce</b>	Make recommendations for diversifying the perinatal workforce.	<b>~\$250,000 SB 693</b>
<b>Social Emotional Health Workforce</b>	Expand behavioral health capacity to serve young children, 0-5, and parents.	<b>OHA or DAS Budget Bill \$5 million per year</b>
<b>Elevate Children in CCO 3.0</b>	Ensure CCOs prioritize the first 1,000 days, when health and development set a foundation for future well-being.	<b>\$TBD SB 695</b>

## Supporting Families

### Relief Nurseries

Relief Nurseries request \$4.9 million above the Governor's Recommended Budget to sustain services for over **2,300** children and families, and reach up to **300** more children with vital therapeutic classroom and home visiting services.

**\$4.9 million above current service level SB 5514**

### Healthy Families Oregon

Expand and sustain home visiting services across the state

**\$6 million SB 420 SB 5514**

### Nurse Family Partnership

Continue to provide the non-federal Medicaid match funding needed to provide proven NFP services

**\$6.32 million SB 1033**

### Upstream Pilots

Allocate state funding to 7 local regions to support child success models as demonstration projects

**DELIC or DAS Budget Bill \$10 million**



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