High-quality early care and education (ECE) is proven to dramatically improve a child’s opportunities for a better future while offering parents greater job stability and overall economic security.

The Economic Impact
Access to affordable, high-quality child care can increase parental labor force participation and family economic stability. However, widespread problems finding and paying for child care adversely affect both state and national economies. As a direct result of child care issues, the national economy loses $122 billion annually in the form of lost earnings, productivity, and revenue.7 In Oregon: The estimated annual economic impact of the infant-toddler child care crisis: $1.4B.8

There are several early learning programs that provide working families with access to high-quality, affordable ECE opportunities, but currently the demand for care far outweighs the supply, and funding constraints leave many eligible children unserved. Each of these programs has its own eligibility requirements, purpose, and service delivery model. Together they form a mixed-delivery system that supports parental choice and aims to meet children’s individual needs.

Child Care & Development Block Grant (CCDBG)

7,750
Children Birth Through Age Five Served9
Learn more about CCDBG in Oregon here.

Early Head Start

3,325
Children Enrolled11

Head Start

8,570
Children Enrolled13

Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV)

1,079
Families Served16
Learn more about MIECHV in Oregon here.

State-Funded Pre-K

10,009
Children Enrolled16

IDEA Part C

3,718
Children Served18

IDEA Part B, Sec. 619

6,845
Children Served19

Child and Dependent Care Tax Credit (CDCTC)

Through the tax code, the CDCTC helps parents with the cost of work-related child care expenses.

Learn more about CDCTC here.
Early Care and Education (ECE) in Oregon Snapshot

Federal and State ECE Funding in Oregon

Federal funding is foundational to providing ECE.

$110.1M • Head Start and Early Head Start
$91.8M • CCDBG and Mandatory Funds
$8.2M • MIECHV
$7.5M • IDEA Part C
$6.2M • IDEA Part B, Sec. 619
$34.6M • TANF Early Learning and Care Expenditures
$135M • State-Funded Pre-K
$13.1M • CCDBG State Match

Oregon received an additional $547M through COVID-19 relief.

Spotlight: ECE Successes in Oregon

COVID-19 Relief:
Throughout the pandemic, there was strong bipartisan support for federal relief funding to keep the child care sector afloat.
• As a result, 3,235 child care programs in Oregon received support, impacting up to 82,400 children.
• These funds also allowed states to demonstrate what would be possible when equipped with additional resources. Funds have been used to support and stabilize the workforce through increasing staff compensation. 20% of stabilization grants are required to be used for compensation. Grants range from $6,800 - $233,680 and additional bonuses are allocated to programs that serve infants/toddlers, families receiving subsidies, offer nontraditional hours, and provide culturally responsive care.

Preschool Development Grant Birth Through Five (PDG B-5):
PDG B-5 is a competitive federal grant designed to improve states’ early childhood systems. In their 2019 renewal grant application, among other uses, Oregon noted that they would use funding to:
• Expand Baby Promise, which is a key part of Oregon’s approach to improving quality in infant-toddler ECE, with a focus on rural, frontier, and tribal areas.
• Improve the quality of Oregon’s early childhood professionals, including fulfilling the requirement of the state’s Student Success Act to create “portable and stackable” credentials — leveraging newly-aligned competencies.

Early Care and Education (ECE) in Oregon Snapshot

Accessiblity
Many families struggle to find the care they need.
• 60% of Oregon residents live in a “child care desert.”
• Hispanics/Latinos and rural families disproportionately represented among those who live in a “child care desert.”
• 3% of children under age 3 receive early intervention services.

Affordability
The cost of ECE is too expensive for many families.
• The annual price of center-based infant care is $15,786, and home-based infant care is $9,600.
• Families receiving a CCDBG subsidy pay between $27 and $784 per month for one child in care.
• A two-parent household spends 10% of their income on child care, while HHS defines spending over 7% to be a burden.

ECE Workforce
Early childhood educators have some of the lowest paying jobs in the United States, earning poverty-level wages.
• $34,610 child care worker annual salary ($16.64 per hour).

Program Quality
Program quality varies substantially across and within states.
• Met 6.9/10 of NIEER’s Quality Standards Benchmarks for state-funded pre-K programs. Only 5 states met all 10 benchmarks in 2022.
• 54% of children received developmental screenings at 9, 18, and 30 months in the past year.

For full sourcing information, visit here.

---

*CSCCE | **ACF | ***OR PDG B-5 Renewal Grant Application

---

FFYF Website  •  Follow FFYF on Twitter @FirstFiveYears  •  Subscribe to FFYF's Mailing List