



Early Learning Division

2022 Legislative Session Recap

The Early Learning Division (ELD) would like to thank the Oregon Legislature for its deep and on-going support for early learning and child care during the 2022 Legislative Session. New legislation and the resources allocated during this session will assist the ELD and our partner-agencies in transitioning to the Department of Early Learning and Care and advancing our mission to support all of Oregon's young children and families to learn and thrive. Below is a summary of the legislation and its impact on our programs and services.

Passed HB 4005: Early Care and Education Governance

This legislation builds on HB 3073 (2021), which established the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC). HB 4005 delays the establishment of DELIC to July 1, 2023 to align with the beginning of a new budgetary biennium and the transfer of Employment Related Day Care (ERDC) to DELIC. It also transfers the license-exempt child care background check process for subsidized care from the Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS) to the Office of Child Care in the ELD. Among several other provisions, HB 4005 increased ERDC reimbursement rates for child care providers and allocated \$26.6 million to fund those new rates for the remainder of this biennium.

Passed HB 4033: Tribal Advisory Committee Composition

This legislation addressed the [Tribal Advisory Committee](#) (TAC) that was established by HB 2055 (2021) to better reflect the government-to-government relationship fostered by the state and the nine federally recognized tribes within Oregon's borders. HB 4033 makes the representative from the Commission on Indian Services a nonvoting member and removes the four ELD-appointed parents from the committee—who are not selected by the individual tribes—to respect tribal sovereignty and consultative relationship with the state. Tribes will continue to lift up parent voices in the TAC.



Passed SB 1547: Recorded Programs Oversight

Requires the staff and volunteers of recorded programs to enroll in the Central Background Registry, in accordance with recommendations from a 2020 Secretary of State audit on child care background checks.

Released Funds for Program Expansion

The legislature invested \$68 million for early learning program expansion in 2021, but \$38 million remained unscheduled until the Division could show community capacity for expansion of Preschool Promise, Oregon Prenatal to Kindergarten and Healthy Families Oregon. The legislature approved the \$38 million to be released by the Department of Administrative Services to ELD based on demonstrated capacity for implementation.

Passed HB 5202 – Omnibus Budget

The following are additional investments that the legislature made in the early care and education sector:

Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC) Positions

The Legislature approved \$3.2 million for 34 positions to continue the development of DELIC. These positions were part of the Special Purpose Appropriation set aside in the 2021 Legislative Session. In planning for DELIC, ELD determined a need for an additional 35 positions this biennium. The legislature approved \$3.6 million for 32 positions, but is allowing the Division to request three other proposed positions at the September 2022 Emergency Board meeting, if needed, pending any updates in the grants management planning process.

Early Childhood Suspension and Expulsion Prevention Program

HB 5202 approved the full \$5.8 million allocation for the establishment of the Early Childhood Suspension and Expulsion Prevention Program. The legislature held back \$5.2 million in the 2021 session, awaiting the implementation plan for the program.

Child Care Supply & Capacity Building and Wage Enhancements

- \$8.2 million for NeighborImpact's Rebuild Childcare Plan, which will fund child care program expansions and support new child care programs in central Oregon.
- \$1.2 million for Euvalcree's Rebuild Childcare Plan, which will fund renovation of the Euvalcree Center in Ontario, Oregon, and will provide training, professional development, and start-up operating costs for an estimated ten new in-home child care providers.



- \$7.9 million for the United We Heal Training Trust's Rebuild Childcare Plan, which will fund child care provider capital grants, equipment grants, training, coaching, and mentorship for new providers among other initiatives.
- \$22 million for Seeding Justice's Capacity Building Grant Fund for grants to culturally specific and other child care providers to become licensed, to expand services, or to start new child care centers.
- \$21 million for Portland State University's Oregon Center for Career Development in Child Care to award two annual \$500 recruitment and retention payments to child care staff working in Oregon.

Relief Nurseries

Relief Nurseries received a \$2 million investment from the legislature for increased wages.

Health Families Oregon

Health Families Oregon received a \$2 million investment from the legislature for increased wages.

