

CAPITAL BUDGET ASK: INVEST \$50M IN THE EARLY LEARNING FACILITIES (ELF) FUND AND \$8.6M IN THE ELF PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PROGRAM

The ELF Fund makes high-quality, affordable preschool and child care available to more Washington families by preserving and expanding physical capacity to serve children.

Through ELF Fund programs, Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program (ECEAP) and/or Working Connections Child Care (WCCC) providers can access grants for pre-development, remodel, purchase, construction, and/or minor renovations of early learning facilities and classrooms. More learning space is a key component of working families having more access to early care and education. ELF Fund resources are distributed through three grant programs including:



- Eligible organizations grant
- Health and safety minor renovation grant
- Public school district grant

Since its inception in 2017, the ELF Fund has **retained and/or created a total of 17,676 early learning slots** and has leveraged \$274.4 million in non-state resources. Many of these resources have been prioritized for communities in greatest need, including:

- Rural counties and/or small cities and towns;
- Child care deserts (where the demand for care far outweighs the supply);
- Communities with low incomes

2023-2025 Early Learning Facilities (ELF) Fund Programs

	Health & Safety Minor Renovations	Eligible Organizations	Public School Districts
Received	179 applications (\$21M)	212 applications (\$196M)	5 applications (\$5.406M)
Awarded	64 applications (\$7M)	48 applications (\$37.5M)	5 applications (\$5.406M)
Funding Gap	115 applications (\$14M)	164 applications (\$157M)	N/A

ORGANIZATIONS IN SUPPORT

Akin	OneAmerica
Brightonview Montessori	ReadyNation
BrightSpark Early Learning Services	SEIU 925
Catholic Charities of Washington	Start Early WA
Child Care Action Council	Support for Early Learning and Families
Child Care Aware of WA	The Imagine Institute
Children's Alliance	Washington Childcare Centers Association
Children's Campaign Fund Action	Washington Parent Ambassadors
Early Care and Education Consortium (ECEC)	Washington State Alliance of YMCAs
Educational Opportunities for Children & Families	Washington State Association of Head Start and ECEAP
Enterprise Community Partners	Washington STEM
KinderCare Learning Companies	Yakima Valley Community Foundation
League of Education Voters	
Mission: Readiness	

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The Early Learning Facilities Group is convened by Start Early Washington.

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