

EARLY LEARNING INVESTMENTS

Operating & Capital Budgets



This table summarizes the key early learning components of the 2021-23 operating and capital budgets. The adopted budgets utilize state and federal dollars to support implementation of the Fair Start for Kids Act and other early learning investments. It is the Legislature's intent that the newly enacted Capital Gains tax will serve as the funding source once short-term federal funds conclude.

	State Funding	Federal Funding	Total Funding
Expand Access and Affordability			
WCCC Eligibility Increase to 60% State Median Income		\$ 17,359,000.00	\$ 17,359,000.00
WCCC Co-pay Reductions		\$ 76,731,000.00	\$ 76,731,000.00
Waiver of WCCC Student Parent Work Requirement		\$ 8,833,000.00	\$ 8,833,000.00
1,250 ECEAP Slot Expansion	\$ 14,930,000.00	\$ 9,968,000.00	\$ 24,898,000.00
Early ECEAP Expansion	\$ 3,781,000.00		\$ 3,781,000.00
Home Visiting	\$ 8,070,000.00	\$ 3,000,000.00	\$ 11,070,000.00
Support the Early Learning Workforce			
WCCC Reimbursement Rate Increase to 85th Percentile of Market Rate		\$ 116,805,000.00	\$ 116,805,000.00
Child Care Health Premium Assistance & Navigators (HCA budget)		\$ 30,266,000.00	\$ 30,266,000.00
10% ECEAP Rate Increase	\$ 14,930,000.00	\$ 14,889,000.00	\$ 29,819,000.00
Family Child Care Collective Bargaining Agreement	\$ 6,390,000.00		\$ 6,390,000.00
Complex Needs Funds	\$ 5,070,000.00	\$ 4,604,000.00	\$ 9,674,000.00
Trauma-Informed Care Supports		\$ 2,802,000.00	\$ 2,802,000.00
Dual Language Rate Enhancement	\$ 3,380,000.00		\$ 3,380,000.00
Equity Grants	\$ 1,327,000.00	\$ 3,982,000.00	\$ 5,309,000.00
5% Infant Care Enhancement		\$ 2,521,000.00	\$ 2,521,000.00
Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation		\$ 2,400,000.00	\$ 2,400,000.00
Professional Development	\$ 2,005,000.00	\$ 6,016,000.00	\$ 8,021,000.00

Accountability and Oversight			
Fair Start for Kids Act	\$	543,000.00	\$ 543,000.00
Other Investments			
Employer Supported Child Care	\$	829,000.00	\$ 829,000.00
Help Me Grow Linkage System	\$	530,000.00	\$ 530,000.00
Child Care Collaborative Task Force Cost of Quality Work	\$	335,000.00	\$ 335,000.00
One-Time Dollars			
Child Care Provider Stabilization Grants	\$	400,000,000.00	\$ 400,000,000.00
Total New Operating Budget Investments	\$	62,120,000.00	\$ 700,176,000.00
Capital Budget			
Early Learning Facilities /Capital Budget	\$	32,500,000.00	\$ 18,500,000.00
Total New Operating and Capital Budget Investments	\$	94,620,000.00	\$ 718,676,000.00

September 14, 2021

For more information, please contact ERICA HALLOCK, Director of Policy & Advocacy:
ehallock@startearly.org