

Requested by HOUSE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION (at the request of the Early Learning Division)

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
HOUSE BILL 2025**

1 On page 1 of the printed bill, delete lines 24 through 27 and delete pages
2 2 through 4.

3 On page 5, delete lines 1 through 16 and insert:

4 **“SECTION 2.** ORS 329.172 is amended to read:

5 **“329.172. (1)(a) The Preschool Promise Program is established.** The
6 Early Learning Division shall administer [*a preschool program*] **the Pre-**
7 **school Promise Program** as provided by this section. The [*preschool pro-*
8 *gram*] **Preschool Promise Program** shall expand preschool options
9 available to the children of this state.

10 **“(b) In administering the Preschool Promise Program, the Early**
11 **Learning Division shall identify local entities as provided under sub-**
12 **section (3) of this section within the region served by each Early**
13 **Learning Hub to serve as a preschool provider or as a fiscal agent for**
14 **multiple preschool providers that meet the eligibility criteria estab-**
15 **lished under subsections (4) and (5) this section.**

16 **“[(2)(a)] (2) For the purpose of expanding and coordinating preschool**
17 **options under the Preschool Promise Program, Early Learning Hubs**
18 **shall:**

19 **“(a) Once every two years, in consultation with resource and re-**
20 **ferral entities established under ORS 329A.100 to 329A.135, complete a**
21 **community plan to identify priority populations of children and fami-**

1 **lies to enroll in preschool, to assess the availability of high-quality**
2 **preschool programs and to identify existing preschool providers and**
3 **other related services within the region served by the Early Learning**
4 **Hub.**

5 *“(A) Coordinate the providers of preschool programs under this section.]*

6 *“(B) Convene annual meetings between representatives of the Oregon*
7 *prekindergarten program and the preschool program described in this section*
8 *to coordinate the enrollment of eligible children in the programs before the*
9 *eligible children are enrolled. The representatives shall collaborate to deter-*
10 *mine the program that best meets the needs of eligible children and their*
11 *families within the Early Learning Hub.]*

12 *“(b) The Early Learning Hubs shall apply for state funding, coordinate*
13 *local planning and enter into contracts with preschool providers.]*

14 **“(b) Based on the results of the most recent community plan, an-**
15 **nually coordinate and collaborate with preschool providers to:**

16 **“(A) Determine the preschool program that best meets the needs**
17 **of eligible children and their families within the Early Learning Hub;**
18 **and**

19 **“(B) Enroll eligible children in preschool programs.**

20 **“(3) A local entity may apply to the Early Learning Division to be**
21 **awarded grants or contracts to be a preschool provider or to act as a**
22 **fiscal agent for multiple preschool providers under this section if the**
23 **local entity is:**

24 **“(a) An Early Learning Hub designated under ORS 417.827;**

25 **“(b) A resource and referral entity established under ORS 329A.100**
26 **to 329A.135;**

27 **“(c) An education service district;**

28 **“(d) A school district;**

29 **“(e) A federal Head Start program;**

30 **“(f) A community-based organization; or**

1 **“(g) Another entity identified by the Early Learning Division.**

2 “[(3)] (4) A preschool provider that meets the requirements of this sub-

3 section may apply to participate in the [*preschool program described in this*

4 *section*] **Preschool Promise Program to receive grants or contracts un-**

5 **der the program.** The preschool provider:

6 “(a) Must be establishing a new preschool program or expanding an ex-

7 isting preschool program.

8 “(b) Must meet or exceed the requirements of subsection [(4)] (5) of this

9 section.

10 “(c) May be a **federal** Head Start program, an Oregon prekindergarten

11 [*program*], a child care provider, a relief nursery, a private preschool, a

12 public school, a public charter school, an education service district or a

13 community-based organization that provides a preschool program.

14 “[(4)] (5) A preschool provider may participate in the [*preschool program*

15 *described in this section*] **Preschool Promise Program** if the provider’s

16 preschool program:

17 “(a) Provides, at a minimum, the annual number of instructional hours

18 required for full-day kindergarten.

19 “(b) Takes into consideration the scheduling needs of families who need

20 full-time child care.

21 “(c) Serves children who:

22 “(A) Are at least three years of age but not older than five years of age,

23 as determined by the date used to determine kindergarten eligibility; and

24 “(B)(i) Are members of families whose incomes, at the time of enrollment,

25 are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; or

26 “(ii) Otherwise meet criteria established by the Early Learning Council

27 by rule.

28 “(d) Provides continuity from infant and toddler services to early ele-

29 mentary grades.

30 **“(e) Demonstrates an ability to maximize available federal, state**

1 **and local funds.**

2 “[*e*] (f) Demonstrates quality through meeting standards, including:

3 “(A) [*Attaining one of the top two ratings of*] **Participating in** the quality
4 rating and improvement system for early childhood programs.

5 “(B) Adopting culturally responsive teaching methods and practices.

6 “(C) Providing a high-quality, culturally responsive family engagement
7 environment that supports parents as partners in a child’s learning and de-
8 velopment.

9 “(D) Providing high-quality, culturally responsive curricula, assessments
10 and professional development that are linked to one another and to the
11 state’s comprehensive early learning standards.

12 “(E) **Providing a classroom environment that is inclusive of all**
13 **children, regardless of ability or family income.**

14 “[*E*] (F) Providing highly trained lead preschool teachers who have:

15 “(i) At least a bachelor’s degree in:

16 “(I) Early childhood education or a field related to early childhood edu-
17 cation; or

18 “(II) A field not related to early childhood education if the Early Learn-
19 ing Division, based on rules adopted by the Early Learning Council, deter-
20 mines that the teacher has completed coursework that is equivalent to a
21 major in early childhood education and has sufficient training in early
22 childhood education;

23 “(ii) An associate degree with additional training or additional certifica-
24 tion in early childhood education or a field related to early childhood edu-
25 cation, as determined by the Early Learning Division based on rules adopted
26 by the Early Learning Council; or

27 “(iii) Sufficient alternative credentialing to indicate that the teacher is
28 highly trained, as determined by the Early Learning Division based on rules
29 adopted by the Early Learning Council.

30 “[*F*] (G) Providing lead preschool teachers **and teaching assistants**

1 with a salary that meets the minimum salary requirements established by the
2 Early Learning Council.

3 “[*(G)*] **(H)** Providing at least one **teaching** assistant in each classroom
4 who provides support for academic instruction and who meets the state’s
5 personnel qualification requirements of one of the top two tiers for the
6 quality rating and improvement system for early childhood programs.

7 “[*(H)*] **(I)** Providing **children and families with** additional health and
8 child development supports [*for children and families*], such as screening,
9 referrals and coordination with health care providers.

10 “[*(f)*] **(g)** Incorporates best practices in outreach, enrollment and pro-
11 gramming for diverse cultural and linguistic populations and children who
12 have been historically underserved in preschool programs.

13 “[*(g)*] **(h)** Works in collaboration with community programs to ensure that
14 families have knowledge of, and are connected to, community resources and
15 supports to meet the needs of children and families served by the preschool
16 program.

17 “[*(h)*] **(i)** Participates in an ongoing monitoring and program evaluation
18 system that is used for continuous program improvement.

19 “[*(5)(a)*] **(6)(a)** While any moneys received under a **grant received or a**
20 contract entered into as provided by this section must be used to serve
21 children described in subsection [*(4)(c)*] **(5)(c)** of this section, nothing in
22 subsection [*(4)(c)*] **(5)(c)** of this section prevents a preschool provider from
23 serving additional children, including children who:

24 “(A) Pay tuition for the preschool program and whose family [*incomes*]
25 **income** at the time of enrollment exceeds 200 percent of federal poverty
26 guidelines.

27 “(B) Are funded by the Oregon prekindergarten program, a **federal** Head
28 Start program or another source of funding.

29 “(b) If a preschool [*program*] **provider participating in the Preschool**
30 **Promise Program** serves children described in paragraph (a) of this sub-

1 section, moneys received under a **grant or** contract as provided by this sec-
2 tion may not be used to pay for expenses incurred for the children described
3 in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

4 “[~~(6)~~] **(7)** A preschool [*program*] **provider participating in the Preschool**
5 **Promise Program** may receive a waiver of any of the requirements de-
6 scribed in subsection [~~(4)~~] **(5)** of this section if the waiver:

7 “(a) Is for a preschool program that is maintaining progress toward
8 quality; **and**

9 “(b) Is anticipated for the first years of the preschool program only. [
10 *and*]

11 “[*(c) Is granted for only one year at a time.*]

12 “[~~(7)~~] **(8)** To assist the Early Learning Division in administering this
13 section, the Early Learning Council shall:

14 “(a) Identify resources necessary for the Early Learning Division to de-
15 velop, support and sustain the implementation of a high-quality preschool
16 program, including evaluations, professional development opportunities,
17 technical assistance, monitoring guidance and administrative assistance.

18 “(b) Ensure that pathways and supports are available to teaching staff to
19 increase culturally and linguistically diverse staff to teach and assist in
20 preschool classrooms.

21 “(c) Establish minimum salary requirements and target salary guidelines
22 for lead preschool teachers **and teaching assistants at preschool provid-**
23 **ers participating in the Preschool Promise Program** [*as required under*
24 *subsection (4)(e)(F) of this section*]. Minimum salary requirements may be
25 differentiated by program type. Target salary guidelines shall be, to the ex-
26 tent practicable, comparable to lead kindergarten teacher **and teaching as-**
27 **stant** salaries in public schools. The Early Learning Division shall provide
28 guidelines and technical assistance to [*programs*] **preschool providers par-**
29 **ticipating in the Preschool Promise Program** to address salary disparities
30 among preschool teachers and preschool staff.

1 “(d) Develop strategies that strive to increase the mean salary for [*lead*
2 *preschool teachers and other preschool staff in this state*] **lead teachers,**
3 **teaching assistants and other preschool staff employed by preschool**
4 **providers participating in the Preschool Promise Program.**

5 “(e) Administer waivers as described in subsection [(6)] (7) of this section.

6 “(f) **Develop strategies to ensure preschool providers have the re-**
7 **sources necessary to maintain children in placement in the Preschool**
8 **Promise Program.**

9 “[8)] (9) Each biennium, the Early Learning Division shall submit a re-
10 port to the Legislative Assembly that describes:

11 “(a) The number of children served by the [*preschool program described*
12 *in this section*] **Preschool Promise Program**, including the number of chil-
13 dren:

14 “(A) Whose family incomes are at or below 200 percent of the federal
15 poverty guidelines;

16 “(B) Whose family incomes are between 100 and 200 percent of the federal
17 poverty guidelines;

18 “(C) Who pay tuition; [*and*]

19 “(D) Who are eligible for Head Start programs[.]; **and**

20 “(E) **Who are eligible for early childhood special education.**

21 “(b) The cost to serve each child described in subsection [(4)(c)] (5)(c) of
22 this section.

23 “(c) The level of state support received for implementing the [*preschool*
24 *program described in this section*] **Preschool Promise Program.**

25 “(d) The effectiveness of the [*preschool program described in this section*]
26 **Preschool Promise Program**, including student progress and outcomes.

27 “(e) Improvements that have been made to the administration and evalu-
28 ation of the [*preschool program*] **Preschool Promise Program** to improve
29 the effectiveness of the program.

30 “(f) The salary, education levels and turnover rates of lead preschool

1 teachers **and teaching assistants** employed by preschool providers **partic-**
2 **ipating in the Preschool Promise Program** [*receiving moneys under this*
3 *section*].

4 “[~~(9)~~] **(10)** The Early Learning Division shall coordinate with the De-
5 partment of Education and other state agencies in support of the [*preschool*
6 *program described in this section*] **Preschool Promise Program**.

7 “[~~(10)~~] **(11)** The Early Learning Division shall prescribe the form and
8 timeline for applications to participate in the [*preschool program as provided*
9 *by this section*] **Preschool Promise Program**.”.

10 On page 6, delete lines 30 through 32.

11 In line 33, delete “(3)” and insert “(2)”.

12 In line 35, delete “(4)” and insert “(3)”.

13 In line 36, delete “(3)” and insert “(2)”.

14 In line 39, delete “(5)” and insert “(4)”.

15 In line 42, delete “(6)” and insert “(5)”.

16 In line 45, delete “(7)” and insert “(6)”.

17 On page 7, line 2, delete “(8)” and insert “(7)”.

18
