OVERVIEW OF THE EARLY LEARNING DIVISION

Presentation to House Early Childhood Committee
Miriam Calderon, Early Learning Systems Director
January 27, 2021
WHAT IS THE EARLY CARE & EDUCATION (ECE) SECTOR?

- Provides educational environments and experiences that promote children’s learning and development.
- Led by knowledgeable, skilled, well-compensated early childhood educators.
- Supports children’s families as their lifelong teacher(s).
ECE IS DELIVERED ACROSS A VARIETY OF SETTINGS. THIS IS WHY IT IS KNOWN AS “MIXED-DELIVERY” SYSTEM.
The science of child development underscores the importance of the first 2,000 days of childhood.

Figure 1. Synapse formation in the developing brain

ALL ECE SETTINGS ARE EARLY LEARNING SETTINGS
WHO FUNDS THE EARLY CARE & EDUCATION SECTOR?

*prior to Student Success Act
Zip code, income, and race/ethnicity are powerful predictors of a child and family’s opportunities to thrive.
Develops state plan and administers federal Child Care Development Fund (CCDF)
License and regulate child care programs
Administer ECE Programs
Helping families find quality child care that meets individual needs
Support ECE program quality and provide technical assistance
Provide opportunities for professional development of ECE workforce
# CHILD CARE ASSISTANCE FOR FAMILIES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ODHS</th>
<th>ELD</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Determine families’ eligibility and handle enrollment</td>
<td>Accountable for federal CCDF administration (fiscal &amp; policy)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calculate family co-payments and provider payments</td>
<td>Transfer about $120.2 million per biennium to ODHS for ERDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Determine provider eligibility and handle reimbursements</td>
<td>Health and safety assessments for regulated subsidy providers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Set administrative rules for ERDC</td>
<td>Support families in finding subsidized care</td>
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- Co-administer child care subsidy program (Employment Related Day Care, ERDC)
- Implement Baby Promise Pilot
Set foundational health and safety requirements for regulated providers

Monitor and support providers to meet requirements

Conduct progressive enforcement actions for serious health and safety violations

Support families in understanding the health and safety of available care

Investigating allegations of child abuse or neglect with ODHS
  - Complaints and illegal care
EARLY CARE & EDUCATION PROGRAMS

- Oregon Prekindergarten (OPK) [Prenatal-to-Five]
- Parenting Education
- Relief Nurseries
- Healthy Families Oregon
- Early Childhood Equity Fund
- Preschool Promise

Oregon Department of Education
REGIONAL EARLY LEARNING SYSTEMS

EARLY LEARNING HUBS

- 16 Hubs across the state
- Coordinate and align regional early learning systems
- Center family voice, equity
- ECE sector plans and coordinated enrollment
- Regional lead for Raise Up Oregon implementation
- Facilitate action on cross sector strategies

CHILD CARE RESOURCE & REFERRAL (CCR&R)

- 15 CCR&Rs across the state
- Increase availability of high-quality, affordable early care and education
- Center provider voice, equity
- Provide training and technical assistance to ECE workforce
- Spark quality improvement system
- Maintain up-to-date information on child care availability; Child Care Referrals through 211info
Approximately 25,000 early childhood educators across Oregon work in Birth-5 settings: child care centers, homes, schools, Head Start.
# Requirements and Average Compensation for the Early Care and Education Workforce

Requirements and policy are driven by funding stream – and this has large impacts on the support and compensation for educators.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Licensed Child Care</th>
<th>Oregon Pre-K/Head Start</th>
<th>Preschool Promise</th>
<th>Early Childhood Special Education</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree</td>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree in ECE or Step 10 on Registry</td>
<td>Bachelor’s Degree + TSPC License or EI/ECSE Specialist</td>
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<tr>
<td>10-15 hours of training</td>
<td>Annual individualized professional learning plans</td>
<td>Annual individualized professional learning plans</td>
<td>75 PDUs (initial) 125 PDUs (renewal)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$20,000 - $30,000</td>
<td>$35,000 - $65,000*</td>
<td>$35,000 - $65,000</td>
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*new as of 2020-21 SY
2021 PRIORITIES

✓ Implementation of the Student Success Act
✓ Preschool Standards
✓ Coordination with ODHS on subsidy reforms
✓ Raise Up Oregon Implementation
✓ Licensing revisions
✓ COVID-19 response and recovery