



# Oregon

Kate Brown, Governor

Early Learning Division



## HB 2054: KPI Technical Fix for Targeting Grant Resources

### **Background:**

The Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program (KPI) and associated Fund were established by HB 2013 (2013 Oregon Laws) to invest in promising models for connecting early learning and K-12 education across the state. The Program is designed to establish scalable and replicable models for P-3 alignment at the local level, with a focus on shared professional development for early learning providers and kindergarten teachers, supporting successful transitions into kindergarten for all children, and engaging families as equal partners in children's learning and development.

There have been significant changes in the financing of early childhood education since 2013, most notably the passage of the Student Success Act (SSA; HB 3427, 2019 Oregon Laws). In this new stage of early childhood education funding, it is essential to examine the role of the KPI as the Early Learning Division implements the SSA. KPI remains the central funding source that incentivizes deeper levels of collaboration that support successful transitions from early learning into the K-12 system. This important distinction needs to be emphasized in a revised KPI statute to drive communities to strengthen collaboration between early care and education providers programs, children's families, and elementary schools, as children transition into kindergarten.

### **Statutory Change:**

HB 2054 narrows the scope for the use of program grant funds to better target resources to kindergarten transition, engaging families of a child (0-5 years) in learning and development and investing in priority populations and geographic areas identified in Early Learning Hub community plans. Also, HB 2054 codifies Early Learning Hubs as a pass through entity for grant funds, which is the current practice.