

Enrolled House Bill 2024

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Pre-session filed (at the request of Governor Kate Brown for Department of Education)

CHAPTER

AN ACT

Relating to early childhood care.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:

(a) "Local entity" includes:

- (A) An Early Learning Hub designated under ORS 417.827;**
- (B) A resource and referral entity;**
- (C) An education service district;**
- (D) A federal Head Start program;**
- (E) A community-based organization; or**
- (F) Any entity identified by the Early Learning Division.**

(b) "Provider" means a provider of infant and toddler care.

(c) "Resource and referral entity" means a resource and referral entity established under ORS 329A.100 to 329A.135.

(2) The Early Learning Division shall administer an infant and toddler care program to improve access to high quality infant and toddler care for families whose incomes, at the time of enrollment, are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines.

(3)(a) Each biennium, each Early Learning Hub, in consultation with resource and referral entities, shall complete a community plan. The plan must include the following for the region served by the Early Learning Hub:

- (A) Identification of priority populations of children and families to enroll in the program;**
- (B) Assessment of the availability of high-quality infant and toddler care;**
- (C) Identification of existing providers and opportunities to increase the number and enrollment capacity of providers;**
- (D) Prioritization of local entities to serve as providers based on community need and enrollment capacity;**
- (E) Identification of local entities to serve as fiscal agents for multiple providers;**
- (F) Identification of methods for increasing the enrollment capacity of providers and for providing professional development to providers; and**
- (G) Identification of other services related to infant and toddler care.**

(b) After completing a community plan described in paragraph (a) of this subsection, an Early Learning Hub shall submit the plan to the Early Learning Division for approval based on rules adopted by the Early Learning Council.

(4)(a) The Early Learning Division shall contract with resource and referral entities to recruit eligible providers to participate in the infant and toddler care program established under this section.

(b) To be eligible to participate in the program, a provider must demonstrate a commitment and ability to:

(A) Address the needs identified in the community plan approved by the Early Learning Division under subsection (3) of this section;

(B) Provide care to infants and toddlers;

(C) Serve families whose incomes, at the time of enrollment, are at or below 200 percent of the federal poverty guidelines; and

(D) Serve families who otherwise meet criteria established by the Early Learning Council by rule.

(5)(a) The Early Learning Division shall identify a local entity within each Early Learning Hub region that shall be responsible for awarding grants and contracts to providers who meet the eligibility criteria established under subsection (4) of this section.

(b) Before a provider may be awarded a grant or contract under this section, the provider must agree to participate in any quality improvement and professional development activities necessary to meet the standards established by the Early Learning Division.

(6) Resource and referral entities shall:

(a) In consultation with each provider awarded a grant or contract under this section, develop a quality improvement and professional development plan for the provider; and

(b) Provide coaching and other professional development services necessary to execute the plan developed under this subsection.

Passed by House June 20, 2019

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Timothy G. Sekerak, Chief Clerk of House

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Tina Kotek, Speaker of House

Passed by Senate June 29, 2019

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Peter Courtney, President of Senate

Received by Governor:

.....M.,....., 2019

Approved:

.....M.,....., 2019

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Kate Brown, Governor

Filed in Office of Secretary of State:

.....M.,....., 2019

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Bev Clarno, Secretary of State