



EARLY LEARNING

Department of Early Learning

Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program expansion

Expand ECEAP slots by 1,133 in 2018 and 1,575 in 2019, for a total of 2,708 new slots. Of this number, 20 percent are funded for three hours a day, 70 percent are funded for six hours a day and 10 percent are funded for 10 hours a day. (\$27.8 million General Fund-State)

Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program slot rate increase

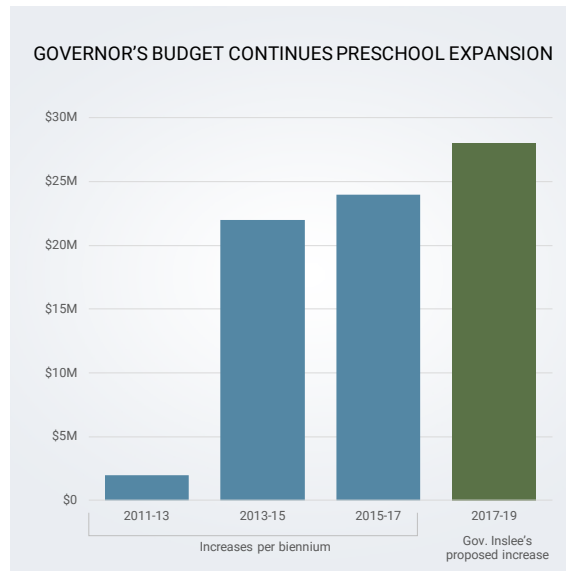
Increase the rates paid for ECEAP slots by more than 6 percent. Rates are increased by \$477 per child for three-hour slots, by \$610 per child for six-hour slots and by \$953 per child for 10-hour slots. (\$13.8 million GF-S)

Safeguard vulnerable children

Replace federal funds no longer available for Early Child Intervention Services. Use of federal Medicaid funds for this program was prohibited in 2014, which provides important services and treatment in a child care setting for more than 350 children ages birth through 5 with significant developmental, behavioral or mental health challenges. (\$2.1 million GF-S)

Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program summer school pilot

Create an ECEAP summer school pilot for 320 children who will receive three hours of class a



day over the summer before starting kindergarten in the 2017–18 school year. Another 320 children will receive six hours of class a day over the summer before starting kindergarten in the 2018–19 school year. Results of the pilot will determine at what rate ECEAP summer classes increase WaKids scores. WaKids is an inventory to measure children's readiness for kindergarten. (\$2.0 million GF-S)

Home visiting expansion

Expand the home visiting program for 180 more families beginning in 2019. Home visiting programs have positive impacts on children's

cognitive development and behavior, and will help achieve the Department of Early Learning's goal that 90 percent of children in Washington are kindergarten-ready by 2020. (\$1.3 million GF-S)

Reach Out and Read

Maintain the Reach Out and Read contract. More than 1,700 medical professionals will give free books to children and advise parents about the importance of reading while modeling age-appropriate child-adult interactions that promote literacy. (\$600,000 GF-S)

School for the Blind

Add staff

Fund a second staff member so Western and Eastern Washington are each covered and more children, ages birth to 3, are assessed for services that are offered in the community. (\$219,000 GF-S)

Reductions

Department of Early Learning

Early Achievers

Reduce funding for the Early Achievers Quality Rating and Improvement System. The reduction may be applied to one or more areas of the system such as support services, technical assistance, coaching, educational scholarships, professional tools and curriculum, training and professional development for child care providers. (save \$4.6 million GF-S)