

**Department:** County Human Services      **Program Contact:** Peggy Samolinski  
**Program Offer Type:** Existing Operating Program      **Program Offer Stage:** As Requested  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:** In Target

**Executive Summary**

The Early Kindergarten Transition (EKT) program prepares entering kindergarteners and their parents so that they successfully transition into school and attend regularly, improving their educational success by ensuring a strong start. EKT recognizes that parents are a child's first teachers and services are reflective of and responsive to cultural values and norms. EKT is a three-week summer program to engage entering kindergarteners, who have had little to no preschool experience, and their parents/caregivers.

**Program Summary**

**ISSUE:** In Multnomah County, 54% of kindergartners enter elementary school unprepared to be successful as defined by familiarity with classroom and school routines and behaviors, socio-emotional skills, and family engagement in school.

**PROGRAM GOAL:**

The program goals are to increase parental involvement in their children's learning, attendance in kindergarten, and success in school. EKT increases familiarity with school routines and staff develops socio-emotional skills in children, and promotes family-school relationships. Research shows a strong correlation between successful kindergarten transition and overall success in elementary school for the child, their parent/caregiver, the kindergarten teacher, and other students in the class. EKT evaluation suggests a positive impact on kindergarten attendance for EKT participants as well. Children who had no early childhood education experience were one and a half times more likely to be chronically absent during kindergarten compared to those enrolled in EKT.

**PROGRAM ACTIVITY:**

EKT is a school-based summer program with two core components: 1) Kindergarten class time for children led by a kindergarten teacher and 2) Family engagement activities that include a facilitated parent/caregiver group and other activities intended to promote positive family-school relationships, including following up with participating families after the start of the school year. The program specifically focuses on recruiting children of color and English Language Learners who have not had prior preschool experience so that they will be more successful in school. In FY2019 (Summer 2018) two additional schools will offer EKT programs by leveraging resources from Portland Public Schools. EKT is a partnership with Early Learning Multnomah across six school districts, SUN Community School Lead Agencies, Portland State University (PSU), the SUN Service System and Multnomah County Library to support the successful transition into kindergarten. Research by PSU has fostered a continuous improvement approach to study the program elements during implementation and make adjustments to the program model in the subsequent year to be more effective.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY17 Actual	FY18 Purchased	FY18 Estimate	FY19 Offer
Output	Number of children who participate in summer Early Kindergarten Transition.	701 <sup>1</sup>	820	756	810
Outcome	Percent of parents who report comfort with activities they can engage in at home to support their child in school.	95%	90%	90%	90%

**Performance Measures Descriptions**

<sup>1</sup> FY17 actuals were lower than projected due to transitions in contracted service providers following the SUN Request for Proposals.

FY18 estimate and FY19 offer target numbers have been adjusted to reflect the consistent participation of 18 children per classroom, with 42 classrooms in FY18 and 45 in FY19 (one additional school in Parkrose and two in Portland Public Schools).

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
Program Expenses	2018	2018	2019	2019
Personnel	\$103,139	\$0	\$109,585	\$0
Contractual Services	\$216,487	\$105,535	\$243,564	\$73,951
Materials & Supplies	\$11,989	\$0	\$3,005	\$0
Internal Services	\$13,435	\$0	\$15,635	\$0
<b>Total GF/non-GF</b>	<b>\$345,050</b>	<b>\$105,535</b>	<b>\$371,789</b>	<b>\$73,951</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$450,585</b>		<b>\$445,740</b>	
<b>Program FTE</b>	1.00	0.00	1.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$105,535	\$0	\$73,951
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$105,535</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$73,951</b>

Explanation of Revenues

\$73,951 - Portland Public Schools SUN Community School Support

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2018: 25152 YFS - Early Kindergarten Transition Program

Program reduced by \$0.2M due to reductions in the Kindergarten Innovation Grant and Portland Public Schools revenues.