

Division: Preschool & Early Learning

Program Characteristics:

Program Description

The high cost of preschool creates a significant barrier for many families. To ensure all children in Multnomah County can benefit from free preschool, voters approved the Preschool for All (PFA) initiative in 2020. The Preschool & Early Learning (PEL) division is working toward universal preschool by 2030 by partnering with a diverse network of child care providers—including child care centers, Head Start programs, family child care homes, and school districts—to fund and expand the number of preschool seats.

The Preschool for All (PFA) program is continually expanding to establish a comprehensive, publicly funded preschool system across Multnomah County. For FY 2027, the program is projected to dramatically exceed its post-COVID seat goal of 4,500 seats.

PEL contracts with qualified child care providers to offer preschool to children and families. All partnering sites are required to follow PFA policies, align with Oregon's Early Learning and Kindergarten Guidelines, and create inclusive environments for children with disabilities and developmental delays. PFA also collaborates with community organizations to strengthen program quality, expand access, and provide essential resources.

In FY 2027, providers will receive \$18,228 per school-day/school-year seat and \$26,004 for full-year/year-round seats. Providers also receive funding for start-up costs, transportation, and inclusion support.

Equity Statement

Preschool for All expands access to free preschools across Multnomah County. Sites include a mix of center-based, school, and family child care programs that are culturally and linguistically responsive to families' needs. Providers receive resources and coaching to create inclusive environments for children with developmental delays and disabilities, helping all families find the preschool setting that best supports their child.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	2026 General Fund	2026 Other Funds	2027 General Fund	2027 Other Funds
Personnel	\$0	\$2,629,414	\$0	\$3,904,572
Contractual Services	\$0	\$98,552,896	\$0	\$200,083,242
Materials & Supplies	\$0	\$229	\$0	\$0
Internal Services	\$0	\$299,383	\$0	\$431,914
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$101,481,922	\$0	\$204,419,728
Total Expenses:	\$101,481,922		\$204,419,728	
Program FTE	0.00	17.00	0.00	24.00
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY25 Actual	FY26 Estimate	FY27 Target
Number of Preschool for All seats	2,225	3,844	7,500
Number of Preschool for All locations	133	224	330