



Program #25207 - PEL - Preschool for All Infant Toddler Stabilization FY 2026 Department Requested

Department: County Human Services **Program Contact:** Leslee Barnes
Program Offer Type: Operating **Program Offer Stage:** Department Requested
Related Programs: 40099B, 72052A, 72052B, 78335, 10000A
Program Characteristics:

Program Description

ISSUE: Universal preschool can have negative impacts on infant and toddler care. Preschool expansions in communities outside Multnomah County have led to decreases in the availability of infant and toddler care. The cost of caring for babies and toddlers is much higher than providing care for 3- and 4-year olds. This is because the required ratio of teachers to children is higher for younger age groups. This higher cost can incentivize child care providers to reduce their infant and toddler seat numbers. Multnomah County is already considered a child care desert for infants and toddlers because there are more than three children for every infant and toddler child care seat.¹ Mitigating the potential negative impacts of preschool expansion was included in the original Preschool for All (PFA) planning.

PROGRAM GOAL: PFA will promote pay equity at participating sites with infant and toddler stabilization funding. With these dollars, providers are able to increase the wages and benefits of educators who work with infants and toddlers. This will increase stability across Multnomah County’s early childhood landscape as PFA scales to full universality in 2030.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY: The Infant Toddler Stabilization Fund gives PFA providers additional funding to increase and support their infant/toddler educator wages and benefits. The allocated amount for each preschool provider is determined by their total number of infant and toddler seats. This funding is only available for contracted PFA sites. Sites must also meet wage requirements for preschool teachers and assistants, and they have specific limitations on how the stabilization funding can be used.

PROGRAM OUTPUTS:

- Funds PFA pilot sites to increase infant/toddler educator wages.
- Fosters the retention of infant/toddler seats at PFA Sites.

¹Oregon Child Care Research Partnership, Oregon State University.

Performance Measures

Measure Type	Performance Measure	FY24 Actual	FY25 Budgeted	FY25 Estimate	FY26 Target
Output	Total number of Preschool for All locations that offer infant/toddler care	N/A	66	78	110
Output	Total number of infant/toddler seats at Preschool for All locations ¹	N/A	N/A	813	1,400

Performance Measures Descriptions

¹This is a new performance measure for FY 2026.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Department Requested General Fund	Department Requested Other Funds
Program Expenses	2025	2025	2026	2026
Contractual Services	\$0	\$6,034,236	\$0	\$14,392,732
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$6,034,236	\$0	\$14,392,732
Program Total:	\$6,034,236		\$14,392,732	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Explanation of Revenues

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was: FY 2025: 25207 PEL - Preschool for All Infant Toddler Stabilization

Increased funding based on growth of preschool providers and locations.