

Division: Preschool & Early Learning

Program Characteristics:

Program Description

Universal preschool can inadvertently hurt the stability of infant and toddler care. The cost of providing care for this younger age group is higher than for 3- and 4-year-olds, as it requires a greater number of early educators. This financial pressure can result in a decrease in available infant and toddler seats.

The Infant Toddler Stabilization Fund is created to help stabilize infant and toddler care at participating Preschool for All (PFA) sites as the initiative continues to expand—a strategy included in the original PFA planning. PFA achieves this by supporting pay equity, which allows providers to increase the wages and benefits of infant and toddler educators. This funding encourages the participation of infant and toddler programs and increases the overall stability of child care in Multnomah County.

Infant Toddler Stabilization provides funding to increase the wages and benefits of infant and toddler educators. The allocated amount for each contracted PFA site is determined by the total number of infant and toddler seats at that site. Sites receiving this funding must also meet the established wage requirements for preschool teachers and comply with specific limitations on how the stabilization funds can be used.

Equity Statement

Infant Toddler Stabilization Funds increase compensation for educators who care for infants and toddlers. This funding helps close wage gaps between early educators and supports consistent, high-quality care. By improving teacher pay and retention, the program ensures families have access to reliable infant and toddler care. These efforts create a more equitable and stable early learning system for children from birth through preschool.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	2026 General Fund	2026 Other Funds	2027 General Fund	2027 Other Funds
Contractual Services	\$0	\$14,434,444	\$0	\$19,820,620
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$14,434,444	\$0	\$19,820,620
Total Expenses:	\$14,434,444		\$19,820,620	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

Performance Measures

Performance Measure	FY25 Actual	FY26 Estimate	FY27 Target
Total number of Preschool for All locations that benefit from stabilization funding	74	145	195
Total number of infant/toddler educators benefiting from stabilization funding	251	525	550