



Oregon PDG Birth to Five

Federal Fiscal Year 2025 Funds

DELC was awarded
\$7,355,305 for the
Preschool Development
Grant Birth to Five funding
opportunity.

Project Period:
January 1, 2026 – December 30, 2026





What is PDG B-5?

- PDG B-5 stands for the Preschool Development Grant: Birth through Five.
- This is a federal grant from the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for Children and Families. This is the same department that distributes Oregon's Child Care and Development Fund dollars.
- PDG B-5 is a systems-building grant intended to help states, territories, and Tribal Nations improve their early learning and child care infrastructure.
- Oregon has received PDG B-5 in fiscal years 2020 - 2023, funding activities such as:
 - Family Voices Strengths & Needs Assessments (2019, 2020, 2022, 2023)
 - Early Educator Voices Strengths & Needs Assessments (2019, 2020, 2022, 2023)
 - PDG COVID Provider Closure Survey (2022)
- This round of PDG opened November 18, 2025 with applications due December 1, 2025.
- The presidential budget proposed to cut PDG earlier this year, but it was protected through Continuing Resolution and Congress.
- Oregon received its approval notice on December 31, 2025 for \$124,000 less than originally requested. This occurred because another state was approved last minute, so the PDG program officers reduced already approved states' funding amounts by 1.66%.



Overview

DELC's PDG application proposed **7** activities and **28** sub-activities* to strengthen Oregon's early care and education system by making it more connected, efficient, and easier for families and early educators to navigate.

The Preschool Development Grant Birth to Five is a **systems-building** grant, which means that its goals center around helping states build and improve **infrastructure** to better serve families and providers.

Specifically, states were asked to speak to PDG B-5's main goals of:

1. Developing a shared, comprehensive statewide vision for early care and education,
2. Building a unified, coherent statewide early care and education system, and
3. Maximizing family choice for early care and education options.

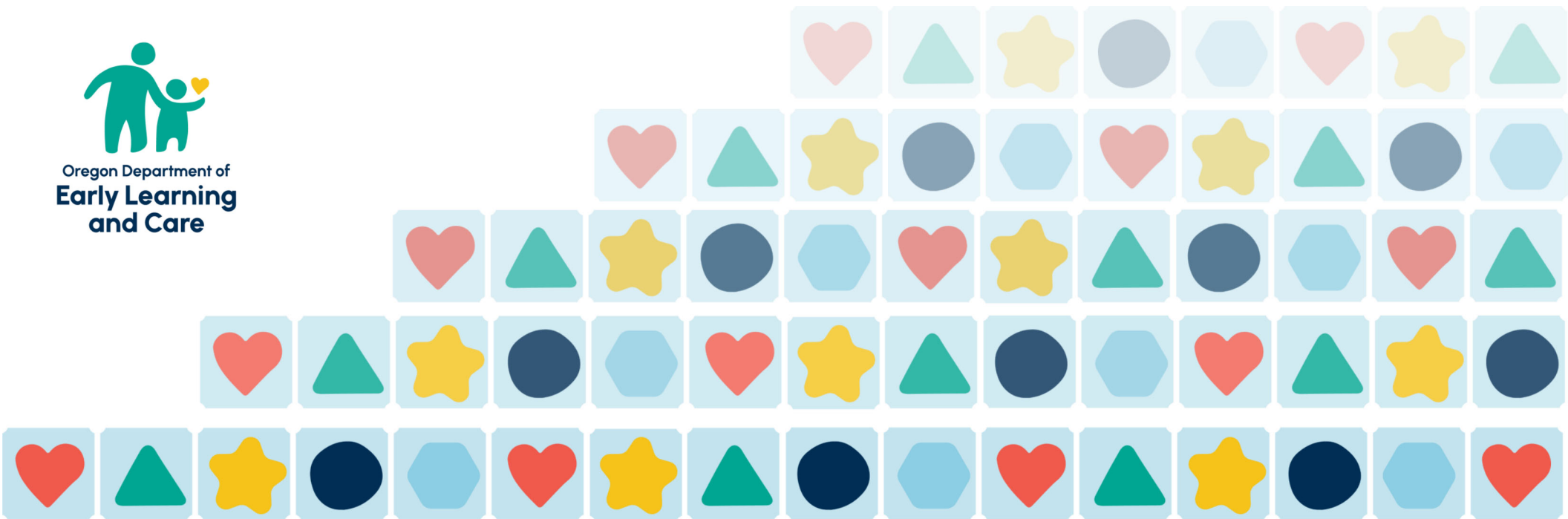
**Not including activity 3.1, a requirement of the grant to track project outcomes.*



PDG B-5 Activities at a Glance

Activity Number	Activity Title	Description	Offices Involved
1.1	Update ECE Needs Assessment	Oregon will update its statewide Early Care and Education Needs Assessment to reflect major changes in the early learning landscape since 2019, including the creation of DELC, shifting family needs, and evolving program delivery.	RAD, PGAD
1.2	Update Raise Up Oregon	Oregon launched the second edition of Raise Up Oregon in 2024, a cross-agency strategic plan to build a unified early childhood system, and seeks PDG B-5 support for its BUILD Initiative partnership to ensure coordinated implementation.	PGAD
2.1.1	Strengthening Grant-in-Aid Administration	DELC will begin developing a Program and Fiscal Integrity System in 2026 to streamline administration of its \$1.3 billion in early learning grants, reduce inefficiencies, and improve oversight and customer service across programs.	Operations & Programs
2.1.2	Maximizing Family Choice Across Program Options Through Consumer Education and Marketing	DELC is implementing a coordinated strategy to improve consumer education, navigation support, and enrollment processes so families can easily access early care and education programs that meet their needs.	PDAO, PGAD, PLSO, IT, CCLD, CSO, Comms Office
2.1.3	Optimizing Licensing Infrastructure to Support Provider Success and Safe, High-Quality Care	DELC will invest in modernizing Oregon's licensing and subsidy systems through a three-part strategy—training, provider onboarding, and infrastructure development—to streamline entry into the child care field and expand family access.	CCLD, PLSO, PGAD
2.2	Exploration of Technological Solutions for Enrollment and Business Sustainability	DELC will explore implementing Child Care Management Systems (CCMS) to streamline enrollment, reduce administrative burden, and improve real-time data use through a phased approach tailored to Oregon's mixed delivery system.	IT, PLSO, PGAD, RAD
2.3	Building a Unified Early Learning Data System to Improve Coordination and Decision-Making	DELC will implement a strategic data integration initiative using Snowflake to modernize infrastructure, governance, and analytic capacity, creating a more connected and transparent early learning system for effective coordination and decision-making.	RAD, IT
3.1	Tracking Project Impact	DELC will contract for project management support to align PDG B-5 activities with Raise Up Oregon goals, develop charters and logic models, and track progress through narrative updates and quantitative metrics.	PMC, RAD, PGAD





Detailed Activities for PDG B-5

Critical Element 1: Statewide ECE Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan

This section of the proposal includes:

- Activity 1.1: Update Needs Assessment to Understand Shifts in Oregon's ECE System
 - Sub-Activity 1.1.1: Update Statewide Household Survey
 - Sub-Activity 1.1.2: Update and Improve the Early Learning Map of Oregon (ELMO)
- Activity 1.2: Develop a Shared, Comprehensive Vision for Early Care and Education by Updating Existing Strategic Plan (Raise Up Oregon)





Critical Element 2: Outcome Strategies to Advance Program Priorities

This section of the proposal includes three categories:

Category 1: Reconcile Fragmented Elements into a Unified System

Category 2: Expand Program Availability and Sustainability

Category 3: Align or Share Information and Data Systems

Category 1: Reconcile Fragmented Elements into a Unified System

Activity 2.1.1: Strengthening DELC's Grant-in-Aid Administration to Build a More Unified Early Learning System

DELC administers over \$1.3 billion in Grant-in-Aid funding each biennium to support Oregon's early learning system. To reduce inefficiencies and improve service delivery, DELC is developing a streamlined Program and Fiscal Integrity System, launching in 2026. This system will enhance oversight, simplify grant administration, and better support providers and families.

This includes the following sub-activities:

- Establish a Grant-in-Aid Advisory Group
- Develop Universal Monitoring Tools
- Streamline Data Collection and Evaluation
- Align Statutes, Rules, and Policies
- Clarify Roles and Standardize Workflows
- Launch On-Site Monitoring and Support
- Build a Grantee Training Program



Category 1: Reconcile Fragmented Elements into a Unified System

Activity 2.1.2: Maximizing Parent Choice Across Program Options Through Consumer Education and Marketing

To ensure families in Oregon can easily understand, navigate, and access early care and education programs that meet their needs, DELC is implementing a coordinated strategy to improve consumer education, navigation support, and enrollment processes. This work directly responds to gaps identified in Oregon's ECE needs assessment and reflects priorities outlined in the state's ECE strategic plan.

Over the PDG B-5 project period, DELC will contract to implement a multi-faceted strategy that includes the following sub-activities:

- Community Engagement and Human-Centered Design
- Development of an ECE Resource Page & Self-Screening Eligibility Tool
- Child Care Awareness Campaign
- Advancing a Family-Centered System of Early Learning Supports for Providers
- Reducing Local Zoning and Planning Obstacles to Develop Child Care Across Oregon
- Recruiting Business Leaders in Local Strategies Developing Child Care
- Updating Oregon's Cost Estimation Model and Study
- A Comparative Study of Oregon's Child Care Landscape 2019 to Present (following up on House Bill 2346)



Category 1: Reconcile Fragmented Elements into a Unified System

Activity 2.1.3: Optimizing Infrastructure to Support Provider Success, Build Supply, and Expand Parent Choice

To promote safe, high-quality early care and education environments and expand access for families, DELC is investing in the modernization of Oregon's licensing and subsidy support systems. This strategy responds to gaps identified in Oregon's ECE needs assessment and supports key goals in the state's ECE strategic plan.

DELC will contract to implement a three part strategy in 2026 focused on training modernization, provider onboarding, and infrastructure development to reduce difficulties and create a shared step-by-step process that will assist individuals to more quickly enter the child care field.

Sub-activities include:

- Business Start-Up Training Modules
- Modernization of Child Care Provider Introduction Trainings
- Laying the Groundwork for a New Learning Management System (LMS)
- Evaluating and Strengthening Early Learning Program Access in Rural Oregon



Category 2: Expand Program Availability and Sustainability

Activity 2.2: Using Technology to Improve Enrollment and Support Child Care Businesses

Oregon's recent ECE needs assessment identified several persistent challenges that make it harder for families to find care and for providers to run sustainable businesses. Families often struggle to find available child care, navigate long waitlists, or spend time visiting programs only to learn there are no openings. At the same time, providers report that managing enrollment, billing, and staffing is time-consuming and difficult. Both families and providers also face outdated, paper-heavy processes that slow things down and create frustration.

To address these issues, DELC will explore how technology - specifically Child Care Management Systems (CCMS) - can help streamline enrollment, reduce administrative burden, and improve utilization of real-time data. Rather than committing to a single solution upfront, DELC will take a thoughtful, phased approach to assess what works best for Oregon's mixed delivery system.

Sub-activities include:

- Assessing CCMS Options and Designing a Statewide Strategy
- Piloting CCMS with a Select Group of Providers



Category 3: Align or Share Information and Data Systems

Activity 2.3: Building a Unified Early Learning Data System to Improve Coordination and Decision-Making

Oregon's most recent ECE needs assessment identified fragmented data systems and limited analytic capacity as major obstacles to effective service coordination, accountability, and decision-making. These challenges limit the state's ability to understand how children and families interact with services, evaluate program performance, and respond to emerging needs.

To address these challenges, DELC will implement a strategic data integration initiative that strengthens the infrastructure, governance, and capacity needed to support a more connected and transparent early learning system. This work will be supported by the expansion of Snowflake, a secure, cloud-based data platform that enables scalable data storage, integration, and analysis. Snowflake is one part of a larger effort to modernize DELC's use of data to support operational and policy goals.

Sub-activities include:

- Integrating and Aligning Data Across Programs
- Building Capacity for Data Use and Governance
- Developing Tools for Real-Time and Longitudinal Analysis



Critical Element 3: Tracking Project Impact

This section of the proposal includes the following activity:

- Documenting Project Progress, Results, and Outcomes





Questions?

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