



2018 Legislative Agenda

Every child deserves the opportunity to succeed in school and in life, whatever their race, ethnicity, geography, ability, or family income. A great start for children promises more successful schools, stronger families, and a healthier economy for all of us. Preserve Washington's commitment to high-quality early learning, a strategy proven to help kids thrive.

Ensure continued access to affordable, high-quality child care.

The Early Start Act offered a commitment to delivering better outcomes for kids through high-quality early learning opportunities. Child care providers have readily applied resources made available through the Act, working hard to improve quality to serve kids and families better, and meet new accountability standards.

- Restore Early Achievers quality improvement resources cut in 2017.
- Increase payments for Working Connections Child Care so hard-working, high-quality providers can cover current costs.

Improve access to high-quality prekindergarten (ECEAP).

ECEAP is proven to help kids thrive by providing high-quality pre-K, and tools to support family success to kids and families facing barriers. Ensure that more young learners benefit from ECEAP and arrive at Kindergarten ready to succeed. Fund early learning facilities and expand eligibility.

Strengthen families and support parents – a child's first teachers.

- Sustain and expand access to home visiting, a proven program which pairs families seeking support and mentoring with professionals trained to equip families in laying a strong foundation for their children.
- Eliminate work requirements for college students using Working Connections Child Care so that parents can complete education and training and better support their families.

Raise Revenue

New revenue is necessary to ensure a great start for our kids. New revenue for education should include new investments in early learning.

The Early Learning Action Alliance is convened by the Children's Alliance.

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