

**Oregon Early Learning Division and
Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care
Partnership Grant: HHS-2015-ACF-OHS-HP-0814**

Thank you for applying for Early Head Start Child Care Partnership resources to support Oregon's earliest learners. To ensure that we achieve the best possible outcomes for as many children as possible in Oregon, we encourage you to align and coordinate with state early learning systems. This document is designed to support your efforts and has three sections:

- **FOA Overview:** General information from the FOA that is the basis for linking to state efforts.
- **Guidance:** More specific analysis of the FOA linking review criteria to opportunities for alignment and coordination with state systems. This section also includes links and resources
- **Letter of Support Request Form:** A table that can be cut and pasted into a new document to submit to ELD as a request for a letter of support. Please also submit any additional information you think would be helpful to us in preparing a letter of support for your work. We will consider draft letters for signature and do our best to respond with a customized letter of support.

Funding Opportunity Announcement Overview

State Allocation

Oregon \$5,368,436

Plus an additional 2.5% (\$134,211) for T&TA

Goals

- Enhance and support early learning settings to provide full-day, full-year comprehensive services that meet the needs of low income working families.
- Enhance access to high quality, full-time child care
- Support the development of infants and toddlers through strong relationship-based experiences;
- Prepare infants and toddlers for the transition into preschool

Three ways to apply

1. EHS CC Partnerships
2. Non-Partnership Early Head Start Expansion
 - a. See Section V.1.(1.1)
 - i. *If the applicant is proposing only Non-Partnership Expansion, does the applicant present a reasonable justification for why an EHS-CC Partnership is not an option for the area they are proposing services?*
3. A mix of both EHS-CC Partnerships and Expansion.

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Utilization of CCDF Funds

Grantees are required to leverage current investments through the CCDF or other sources to improve the quality of infant-toddler child care.

- The EHS-CC Partnership grantee must ensure that **at least 25% of the total** numbers of slots being filled by the Early Head Start eligible children in the partnership sites are also funded with a child care subsidy.

Birth to Five Continuum

“All applicants must consider the Birth-to-Five Continuum of care and education in developing their proposals. Grantees are expected to leverage resources from existing community agencies that provide early learning services –including early intervention, home visiting and preschool programs- and will support children from birth through kindergarten entry. Applicants must consider how they will ensure smooth and seamless transitions for children and families, particularly as toddlers transition to preschool services. Grantees are required to plan for transitions for children out of Early Head Start including assisting families with subsidized preschool options for children after their program ends through agreements with publicly funded head start, prekindergarten and child care programs. Grantees should also work with home visiting programs to ensure that children can transition into their programs after receiving home visiting services”

Guidance for Aligning and Coordinating with Oregon Early Learning System

Oregon’s Early Learning Division is positioned to offer letters of support to EHS/CC Partnership grant applicants who demonstrate alignment and coordination with the following early learning systems:

- Early Learning Hubs
- Oregon’s Quality Rating and Improvement System
- Oregon’s Professional Development Registry
- Oregon’s Child Care and Development Subsidy program(s)
- Early Intervention for Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities

Guidance for linking applications to Oregon’s early learning systems has been developed using [Section V: Application Review Information](#) of the Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) **Early Head Start Expansion and EHS-Child Care Partnership Grants HHS-2015-ACF-OHS-HP-0814**.

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Understanding the Guidance table:

- The **right** column is aligned to Section V of the FOA and represents area(s) where an applicant could link to state systems.
- The **middle** column outlines what the state will look for as a pre-requisite for obtaining a letter of support.
- The **left** column identifies hyperlinked resources and contacts to support applicants in successfully coordinating applications and Oregon’s early learning systems.

Guidance Table: Linking to State Early Learning Systems		
Community Need and Objectives		
From FOA: Review Section, Question #1	Oregon ELD’s Interest in EHS/CC Partnership	Coordinating Resources
<p><i>1.3 Does the applicant identify existing child care services in the geographic area to be served by the proposed project and describe their current level of quality? Does the applicant demonstrate that meeting EHS quality standards will require significant improvements in their partners current level of quality?</i></p>	<p>How the applicant demonstrates connection with Oregon’s Quality Rating and Improvement System for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical Assistance • Coordination and leveraging of resources for T& TA • Assistance in describing current level of quality in existing child care services • Demonstrating understanding of the improvements required for child care services to meet EHS quality Standards <p>How the applicant demonstrates connection with Oregon’s Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) System at a local or Central Coordination level for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Partner selection • Technical assistance coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Links: Western Oregon University, Center on Early Learning: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oregon Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Central Coordination of Child Care Resource and Referral • Contact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tom Udell udellt@wou.edu 503-838-8785 Center on Early Learning The Teaching Research Institute Western Oregon University

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Project Design and Approach		
From FOA: Review Section, Question #2	Oregon ELD's Interest in EHS/CC Partnership	Coordinating Resources
<p>2.4 <i>Does the applicant propose to partner with other providers in meeting the needs for comprehensive services to prevent the duplication of services?</i></p>	<p>How the applicant demonstrates a Birth to Five continuum model including :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participation in an Early Learning Hub strategy for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➢ Supporting kindergarten readiness through strategies that represent the birth to school-entry continuum. ➢ Comprehensive service delivery and the prevention of service duplication ➢ Connection to developmental screening efforts in the community. <p>With specific focus on the following :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How the applicant participates with Early Intervention entities to ensure services for children with disabilities • How the applicant utilizes QRIS for connection to developmental screening efforts built into QRIS Standards • How the applicant demonstrates connection to Home Visiting Services 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link: Early Learning Hubs at Oregon Early Learning Division • Contact: Megan Irwin megan.irwin@state.or.us (503) 507-9462 Christa Rude christa.rude@state.or.us (971) 273-3838 • Link: Oregon Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting • Contact: Benjamin Hazelton benjamin.hazelton@state.or.us (971) 673-1494 • Link: Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education • Contact: Nancy Johnson-Dorn Nancy.JOHNSON-DORN@ode.state.or.us (503) 947-5703
<p>2.5 <i>Does the applicant document a plan to develop a birth-to-school-entry continuum of care and education through linkages with Head Start and other preschool programs?</i></p>		
<p>2.7 <i>Does the applicant ensure that all children enrolled in the program will be screened and receive necessary referrals and follow-ups for developmental, sensory, and behavioral services.</i></p>		

Staffing		
From FOA: Review Section, Question #4	Oregon ELD's Interest in EHS/CC Partnership	Coordinating Resources
<p>4.3 <i>Does the applicant plan to use a variety of professional development approaches to address specific staff needs.</i></p>	<p>To what degree is the applicant coordinating with the Oregon Registry and PD efforts?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared Training with Child Care sites • CCR&R partnerships 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link: Race to the Top Scholarships • Link: Participation in Oregon Registry • Contact: Pamela Deardorff, Director Oregon Center for Career Development in Childhood Care and Education Portland State University 503-725-8527 deardops@pdx.edu

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Project Budget and Budget Justification		
From FOA: Review Section, Question #7	Oregon Interest in EHS/CC Partnership	Coordinating Resources
<p>7.2 <i>Has the applicant discussed how it will use a combination of federal EHS-CC Partnership funds as well as resources from other early childhood programs of funding streams, including state, local and private sector funding for child care, pre-kindergarten, and special education services? This criterion is not applicable for applicants proposing only Non-Partnership Expansions.</i></p>	<p>To what degree has the applicant utilized state and state directed funding to maximize service delivery:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCDF • OPK (B-5 continuum) • Home-visiting • State EHS (where applicable) • Early Literacy Grants <p><u>NOTE:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The ELD will be offering NEW infant and toddler contracted slots to child care programs who are participating in QRIS and partnering with successful recipients of the EHS/CCP grant. • The ELD can create NEW infant and toddler contracted slots with child care providers for up to 25% of the total federally awarded EHS/CCP slots in Oregon. • This Funding is in <i>addition</i> to building on <u>existing contracted slots</u> and ERDC vouchers and is intended to maximize the reach of federal EHS/CCP investments in Oregon and assist grantees in meeting or <i>exceeding</i> the 25% child care subsidy requirement. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link: Oregon Department of Human Services/ERDC • Please use the following <u>monthly</u> budget equations for fiscal planning around NEW contracted slots (as described in the column to the left): <p style="text-align: center;">Registered Family # of proposed EHS/CCP slots x .25 x \$600*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Certified Family # of proposed EHS/CCP slots x .25 \$900*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Certified Center</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Infant</u> # of proposed EHS/CCP slots x .25 x \$1,130*</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Toddler</u> # of proposed EHS/CCP slots x.25 x \$1,037*</p> <p style="text-align: center;">*these are estimates for planning purposes; please contact DHS for additional support</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact: Rhonda Prodzinski rhonda.prodzinski@state.or.us us (503) 945-6108

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Letter of Support Request Form

Please respond in the light blue sections:

Requesting Organization (Applicant)
Contact Name
Contact Email & Phone Number
Type of Application (choose all that apply) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><input type="checkbox"/> EHS CC Partnerships<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Partnership Early Head Start Expansion<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ <i>If the applicant is proposing only Non-Partnership Expansion, does the applicant present a reasonable justification for why an EHS-CC Partnership is not an option for the area they are proposing services?</i><input type="checkbox"/> A mix of both EHS-CC Partnerships and Expansion
Please briefly describe the applications program design:
How many slots are you applying for? (please include total budget amount)
How does your application demonstrate connection with Oregon's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS)?
How does your application demonstrate participation and coordination with Early Learning Hubs?
How does your application encourage coordination with the Oregon Registry?
How does your application utilize existing funding to maximize service delivery (including the use of CCDF resources if you are applying for partnership award)?
How has the applicant demonstrated coordination with Early Intervention Services for children with disabilities?
Is there anything specific you would like to have referenced in the letter of support?

Please submit this completed form by August 1, 2014 to:

Christa Rude
Oregon Head Start Collaboration Director, Early Learning Division
christa.rude@state.or.us
(971) 273-3838