**Division 800
Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program**

[**414-800-0005**](https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=103117)
**Definitions**

1. “Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program (KPI)” means the program established by [ORS 336.101](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors336.html).
2. “Division” means the Early Learning Division of the Oregon Department of Education.
3. “Early childhood services” means programs and services for children ages birth through five years of age that address: language and literacy development; cognition and general knowledge; learning approaches; physical health and well-being; motor development or social and emotional development. Providers of early childhood services include, but are not limited to, Early Learning Hubs, relief nurseries, home visiting programs, child care providers, preschools, Head Start, Oregon Prenatal to Kindergarten, Preschool Promise, and others who provide programs and services for children ages birth through five.
4. “Early Learning Hub” means an entity designated by regional partners to coordinate early learning services under [ORS 417.827.](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors417.html)
5. “Early Care & Education Sector Plan” means the community plan completed by Early Learning Hubs under [ORS 417.784](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors417.html).
6. “Inclusive” or “inclusion” means the principle of enabling all children, regardless of their diverse backgrounds or abilities.
7. “Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative Parenting Hub” or “OPEC Parenting Hub” means a regional entity in the State of Oregon that supports expanded access to best practice parenting education programs, with a focus on reaching parents of children prenatal to age six, as identified and funded through the Oregon Parenting Education Collaborative.
8. “Non-profit organization” means:
	* + - 1. An organization established as a nonprofit organization; and
				2. Qualifies as an exempt organization under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code as defined in [ORS 314.011](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors314.html).
9. “Postsecondary Institution” means a:

(a) A community college operated under ORS chapter 341.

(b) The following public universities within the Oregon University System:

(A) University of Oregon.

(B) Oregon State University.

(C) Portland State University.

(D) Oregon Institute of Technology.

(E) Western Oregon University.

(F) Southern Oregon University.

(G) Eastern Oregon University.

(c) Oregon Health and Science University.

(d) An Oregon-based, generally accredited, not-for-profit institution of higher education.

1. “State” means State of Oregon.

**Statutory/Other Authority:** ORS 336.101
**Statutes/Other Implemented:** ORS 336.104

[**414-800-0010**](https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=103119)
**Purpose**

(1) The Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation (KPI) Program is established. The KPI is designed to establish scalable and replicable models providing early childhood services for P-3 alignment at the local level, with a focus on funding shared professional development for early learning providers and kindergarten teachers; supporting successful transitions into kindergarten for all children; or engaging families as equal partners in children’s learning and development. KPI funding invests in in resources for priority populations, as identified in Early Care & Education Sector Plans developed by Early Learning Hubs, or other plans as approved by the Division.

(2) In addition to the criteria established in [ORS 336.101(2),](https://www.oregonlegislature.gov/bills_laws/ors/ors336.html) the purpose of KPI funding is to support children in successfully transitioning from early learning into kindergarten through:

(a) Building cross-sector system alignment between early learning and K-12, which includes, but is not limited to:

(A) Shared professional development for early childhood educators and K-12 educators;

(B) Developing shared understanding of inclusive, culturally relevant, and developmentally appropriate programming between early learning and K-12;

(C) Alignment of education standards between early education and K-12; or

(D) Alignment of teaching and guidance practices between early childhood educators and K-12 educators.

(b) KPI funding may be used to establish plans to provide early childhood services. Implementation outlines, established timelines, and evaluation models must be approved by the Early Learning Hub and outlined in agreements between fund recipients and Early Learning Hubs.

[**414-800-0015**](https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=103121)
**Early Learning Kindergarten Readiness Partnership and Innovation Program Application Process**

Early Learning Hubs recruit and select eligible entities pursuant to OAR 414-800-0020. Early Learning Hubs must enter into agreements with eligible entities to provide funding for KPI programming.

[**414-800-0020**](https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=103123)
**Eligibility**

(1) The following types of organizations may be eligible to receive funding from Early Learning Hubs for KPI programming:

* + - * 1. Education Service Districts;
				2. K-12 school districts;
				3. Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies;
				4. OPEC Parenting Hubs;
				5. Early childhood service providers;
				6. Non-profit organizations;
				7. Post-Secondary institutions.
			1. Organizations identified in (1) above may collaborate and submit a joint proposal to Early Learning Hubs for KPI funding.

[**414-800-0025**](https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=103125)
**Funding**

(1) The Early Learning Division shall determine for each fiscal year the portion of the funds available for the KPI fund.

(2) Funds received under this section must be separately accounted for by Early Learning Hubs and KPI funding recipients and may be used only to provide funding for the purposes described in OAR 414-800-0010.

(3) Funds may not be used to supplant available federal or state funds.

**414-800-0027 (NEW RULE)**

**Administration**

(1) The Division will administer agreements with Early Learning Hubs on how to allocate KPI funds and provide program guidelines.

(2) Funding recipients as identified in OAR 414-800-0020 must comply with the terms and conditions of the agreement with the Early Learning Hub. Funding recipients must cooperate with the Early Learning Hub and/or Division’s program monitoring, technical assistance, program evaluations, and reporting requirements.

(3) Noncompliance with program and agreement requirements may make the funding recipient ineligible for future funding opportunities.

[**414-800-0030**](https://secure.sos.state.or.us/oard/viewSingleRule.action?ruleVrsnRsn=103127)
**Reporting**

* + - 1. Recipients of KPI funding must report on their funded program outcomes and expenditures as determined by the agreement with the Early Learning Hub.
			2. Upon request by the Division, a recipient of KPI funding must make available to the Division information and data that the Division determines is necessary to monitor and evaluate the funded program.