



Oregon
Tina Kotek, Governor

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Early Learning Higher Education Consortia Intergovernmental Agreement: Intent to Award Announcement

The Early Learning Division is pleased to announce the funding of Intergovernmental Agreements for the Early Learning Higher Education Consortia. This funding for exploration or implementation of a consortium will be provided to eight community colleges across Oregon and is available through **June 30, 2023**.

- Blue Mountain Community College
- Chemeketa Community College
- Clackamas Community College
- Columbia Gorge Community College
- Lane Community College
- Linn-Benton Community College
- Mount Hood Community College
- Portland Community College

The focus of the Early Learning Higher Education Consortia is removing barriers and opening access to early childhood education (ECE) certificate and degree completion. By establishing partnerships with universities, colleges, CCR&Rs, and other groups, the consortia may:

- Develop and provide higher education pathways; and
- Support ECE students in high school, college and/or university with obtaining college credentials, certificates and degrees through culturally and linguistically responsive practices, scholarships, and other innovative and responsive strategies.

The Higher Education ECE Consortia requirements align with the NAEYC's Increasing Qualifications, Centering Equity report. For more information, see pages 16 to 18 of the report: naeyc.org/sites/default/files/wysiwyg/user-74/increasing_qualifications_centering_equity.pdf.

These grants fund planning for future consortium services (funding dependent) as well as projects aimed at barrier reduction (e.g., curriculum alignment, expansion of remote and Spanish access, etc.).

Community college grantees will also partner with a variety of groups to support these efforts. **Partners include but are not limited to:**

- CAPACES Leadership Institute;
- Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agencies;
- Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) and Early Intervention (EI) programs;
- Early Learning Hubs;

- Education Service Districts;
- Family and Community Outreach;
- Head Start programs;
- High school partnerships;
- Multnomah County Preschool for All;
- Nonprofit and private child care programs;
- Oregon Child Development Coalition;
- Relief Nurseries;
- Tribal Head Start programs;
- Willamette Valley Wine Foundation;
- Workforce partnerships; and
- Yamhill Coordinated Care Organization.

A Request for Applications (RFA) process for the fiscal year 2023-2025 will open early April 2023 with applications due **May 8, 2023**. This RFA will be available to government agencies and private or public entities and non-profits. For more information and to view the RFA timeline, visit oregonearlylearning.com/administration/grant_oportunities/.

If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Ashley.Griffin@ode.oregon.gov.