



Oregon

Tina Kotek, Governor



Oregon Department of
**Early Learning
and Care**

Department of Early Learning and Care: Response to the Joint Ways & Means Subcommittee on Education, February 27 – March 1, 2023

Monday, February 27, 2023

Sen. Frederick – How many tribal children are involved in the tribal access programs?

Tribe	OPK 0-3 yr. olds	OPK Preschool aged	Federal Early Head Start 0-3 yr. olds	Federal Head Start Preschool aged	Early Childhood Equity Fund	Preschool Promise
Confederated Tribes of the Grand Ronde	9		44	20	24	20
Cow Creek Band of the Umpqua Tribe of Indians					45	13
The Klamath Tribes						10
Coquille Indian Tribe				20		
Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs			22	126	119	
Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians				112		
Burns Paiute Tribe						4 <i>Grant not yet executed</i>
**NAYA Family Center (serving Native children)					90	

Rep. McIntire – Additional information/context surrounding staffing and operational costs

Answer – As mentioned in Monday's hearing, staffing costs cover both years of the biennia. The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) sets the rates and classifications for each position.

Given the nature of our work, nearly 93% of our positions require professional level experience or additional education as defined by DAS. We have few entry level positions, which makes our staffing costs appear higher. One of the things we prioritized in 2022 was to design and organization with more entry- and mid-level positions to both drive down operating costs and create pathways for professional growth. We would like positions in DELC to be available for early childhood educators who wish to work on systems-level and policy work, similar to the professional growth opportunities that ODE provides to K-12 educators.

In addition to salaries and benefits as defined by DAS we estimate services and supply costs for staff, including equipment (phones, computers, etc.) and travel. Travel costs are higher for the Office of Child Care Staff who have travel throughout the day to conduct licensing, monitoring, and investigations visits in each of the five regions across the state.

In addition to staffing costs, our operations budget also includes other expenses incurred while doing business. Some examples of these costs are:

- State Government Service Charges for shared services provided by DAS;
- Child Care Background checks to ensure background checks are free for all subject individuals providing child care;
- IT costs for grant management and provider payments (leveraging \$15.5M in one-time ARPA funds).

The Agency is looking for potential cost savings through more efficient IT systems, as well as through potential leasing agreements for our child care licensing field offices.

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

Sen. Weber – What were the previous co-pays for ERDC?

In September 2018, the average co-pay for families was \$260 per month, compared to the average co-pay of \$14.51 per month under the current co-pay structure resulting from HB 3073 (2021). The current maximum co-pay for a family is \$130 per month. Prior to the co-pay reform, co-pays could go as high as \$2,109 a month for a family of 5.