



**PRESCHOOL
FOR ALL**
MULTNOMAH COUNTY

THE PRESCHOOL FOR ALL PLAN

Every child in our community deserves the opportunity to succeed. The Preschool for All coalition is working to give every 3 and 4-year-old in Multnomah County access to tuition-free, high-quality preschool programs that are right for them and at no cost to any family. We envision a program that:"

ACCESSIBLE & EQUITABLE

- Serves all 3 and 4-year-olds.
- Prioritizes access to early slots for families below Multnomah County's Self-Sufficiency Standard, children of color, children who speak languages other than English, and children with developmental delays and disabilities.
- Offers a mixed delivery model with a range of options to meet family needs: in-home programs and center-based care; full-day, part-day, and extended-day programs; and school-year and year-round options will all be available, as well as multi-generational and culturally specific early learning programs.
- Promotes inclusive environments by prohibiting suspensions and expulsions.

SUPPORTIVE & SUSTAINABLE

- Adds capacity as quickly as possible, while maintaining program quality and a commitment to equity. The plan includes strategies to grow the program to full capacity at a sustainable pace, while acknowledging existing system capacity constraints and avoiding unintended consequences for existing preschool and childcare providers—particularly small community-based providers and providers of color.
- Offers a living wage for providers – teachers on par with kindergarten teachers; assistants minimum \$18/hr.
- Aligns learning and development standards with Oregon Early Learning through Kindergarten Framework; focused on whole child.
- Invests in workforce development including coaching, professional development, and equity-focused pathways to higher education and community training.
- Preserves and increases the diversity of the workforce through credential requirements that allow for training in both higher education and community-based environments.

SMART & ACCOUNTABLE

- Invests in infrastructure through funds that support providers to meet regulatory requirements (licensing, fire code, etc) and upgrade facilities to improve quality.
- Ensures community-based oversight and accountability to voters through advisory board that includes parents and providers.



WHAT SETS THE PRESCHOOL FOR ALL PLAN APART?

Preschool for All's goal is to give every 3- and 4-year-old in Multnomah County the opportunity to attend a high-quality preschool program as quickly as possible, while maintaining quality and a commitment to equity. That means growing significant capacity across providers of all types and sizes.

Doing this well—so our children, families, and providers thrive—means it will take more than five years to achieve fully universal preschool in Multnomah County, even if a program were fully funded today.

The Preschool for All plan includes strategies to **grow sustainably and intentionally, while maintaining program quality and a commitment to equity.** That means avoiding unintended consequences for existing preschool and childcare providers—particularly small community-based providers, providers of color, and infant-toddler providers.

Currently, Preschool for All is finalizing implementation planning and cost modeling to inform the expected timeline to full program capacity. This planning and modeling is **based on best practices and lessons learned from early childhood education experts and jurisdictions who have created similar programs.**

With this **focus on high-quality programs, responsible implementation, and fiscal accountability,** Preschool for All believes Multnomah County voters will be willing to make an initial investment and authorize additional investments until full capacity is achieved. This is similar to preschool initiatives in Seattle and Denver where voters made an initial investment, and strongly supported later expansion.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR PRESCHOOL FOR ALL?

Preschool for All is working to **finalize a proposed ballot measure for November 2020** aligned with the Multnomah County Preschool for All Task Force's recommendations, and informed by the current implementation planning, cost modeling, and additional research and community engagement.

In May, Preschool for All will share details of the proposed measure, including:

- Estimated cost for the initial phase of Preschool for All
- Proposed funding mechanism details, ie, the income threshold and rate for a high-income earner income tax

SUPPORT PRESCHOOL FOR ALL TODAY

Preschool for All is entering a critical phase as the proposal moves closer to a potential referral. We invite organizations and individuals to sign on as supporters of the Preschool for All Plan today, as we build a coalition focused on giving every child in our community the opportunity to succeed.

Sign on: www.PreschoolforAll.org/support