

Early Intervention Budget Review

What is it? Why is the State involved?

The Early Intervention programs provides funding to school districts and charter schools to support enhanced kindergarten programs. Most often, the enhanced kindergarten program provides additional instructional hours for students. The program was created by the Legislature and first funded in FY 2012 as a pilot program called Optional Extended-day Kindergarten.

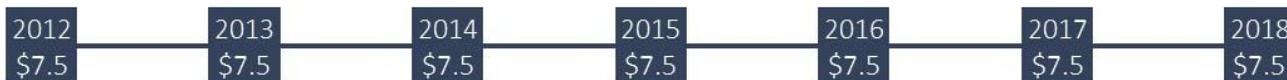
Enhanced programs must provide an academic focus on age-appropriate literacy and numeracy skills, use an evidence-based early intervention model, and targeted to at-risk students.

The program is optional to kindergarten students. The original pilot was designed to provide at least one enhanced kindergarten classroom in each school district.

The Legislature also funds an Early Intervention Reading Software program. This brief does not include the software program, a brief on this program was included in the July meeting of the subcommittee.

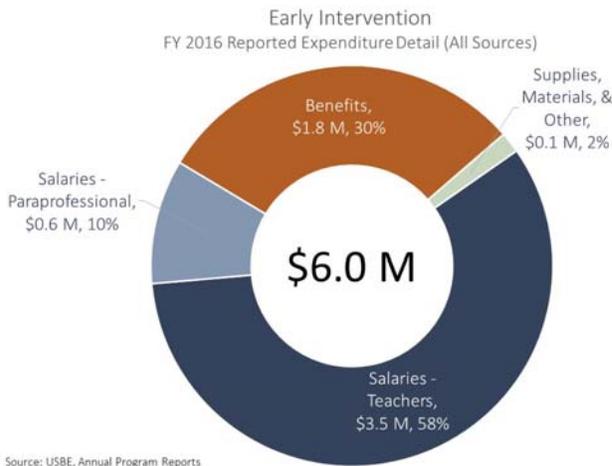
Minimum School Program - Early Intervention

Appropriation History | FY 2012 to FY 2018
In Millions



Funding Distribution

- The program appropriation is divided between school districts and charter schools in proportion to student enrollment in the prior school year.
- School districts receive a base amount equal to multiplying the WPU Value by 0.45 and then multiplying the result by 20. $(\$3,311 \times 0.45 = \$1,490) \times 20 = \$29,800$ Any remaining funding is distributed on a proportional basis using the number of students eligible to receive free school lunch.
- Certain charter schools receive funding based on those enrolling students with the greatest need as determined by the State Board of Education in consultation with the State Charter School Board.



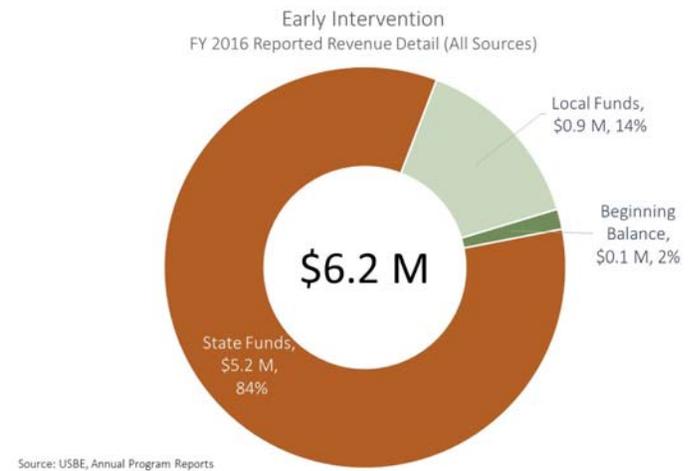
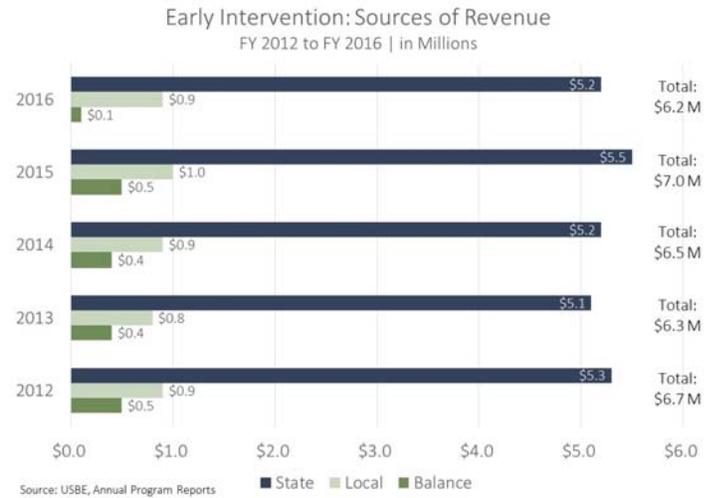
Early Intervention - Distributions to Local Education Agencies in FY 2018 (Beginning Estimates)

LEA	Amount	LEA	Amount	LEA	Amount	LEA	Amount
Alpine	\$454,100	Granite	\$1,042,400	Piute	\$35,400	Wayne	\$36,100
Beaver	49,100	Iron	137,800	Rich	34,900	Weber	305,400
Box Elder	142,400	Jordan	356,300	San Juan	106,600	Salt Lake	404,600
Cache	178,300	Juab	53,000	Sevier	89,700	Ogden	277,200
Carbon	71,300	Kane	44,600	South Sanpete	73,000	Provo	207,300
Daggett	31,100	Millard	68,400	South Summit	39,200	Logan	122,400
Davis	427,500	Morgan	40,900	Tintic	32,700	Murray	89,400
Duchesne	83,300	Nebo	319,000	Tooele	174,400	Canyons	284,600
Emery	56,500	North Sanpete	63,500	Uintah	119,600	Charter Schools	0
Garfield	41,200	North Summit	40,200	Wasatch	85,800	Unallocated	830,800
Grand	49,300	Park City	57,500	Washington	343,200	Total	\$7,500,000

Early Intervention Budget Review - Continued

Discussion Items

- State funding for the program has remained at the original \$7.5 million ongoing appropriation, this may result in the amount of state funding available per student decreasing as enrollment increases.
- The base funding for school districts is tied to the WPU Value, but program funding is not adjusted each year with the changes in the WPU Value approved by the Legislature. Over-time, this may reduce the amount of funding distributed using the free lunch factor.
- A cursory review of financial reporting in FY 2016 shows that only school districts reported revenue and expenditure details. As a result, the pie charts in this brief only show a total of \$6.0 million in expenditures and \$6.2 million in revenue.
- In fall 2016, charter school enrollment was 11% of total state wide enrollment (71,494 of 644,476). As a result, charter schools receive approximately 11%, or \$825,000, of the program appropriation under statute. Charter schools enroll approximately 13.6% of Kindergarten students. This differential results in the following:
 - School districts currently receive approximately \$160 per Kindergarten student where charter schools receive \$126.
 - Adjusting the statutory formula to base the distribution of funding on Kindergarten enrollments, charter schools would receive approximately \$1.0 million, resulting in \$155 per student enrolled in kindergarten for both school districts and charter schools.
 - Without an increased appropriation, adjusting the allocation formula to use Kindergarten enrollments would cause a funding shift between school districts and charter schools.



Recommended Legislative Action

The Legislature may wish to consider the following:

- Determine if the Early Intervention program should continue as a categorical program, be moved to a block-grant program, or funding moved into the WPU Value. The Public Education Appropriations Funding Decision Tree may be useful in this process.
- If the program remains a categorical program, the Legislature may wish to address some of the “Discussion Items” detailed above, namely:
 - Evaluate the impact of not adjusting program funding for changes in enrollment.
 - Direct the State Board of Education to develop program specific student achievement goals and performance metrics to facilitate program evaluation in the future.
 - Direct the State Board of Education to work with charter schools to ensure proper reporting of program revenues and expenditures.
 - Amend statute to base the allocation of program funding between school districts and charter schools on the proportion of Kindergarten enrollment as opposed to total enrollment.