



**UTAH
FULL DAY
KINDERGARTEN
NOW**

H.B. 193: Full-Day Kindergarten-Representative Waldrip



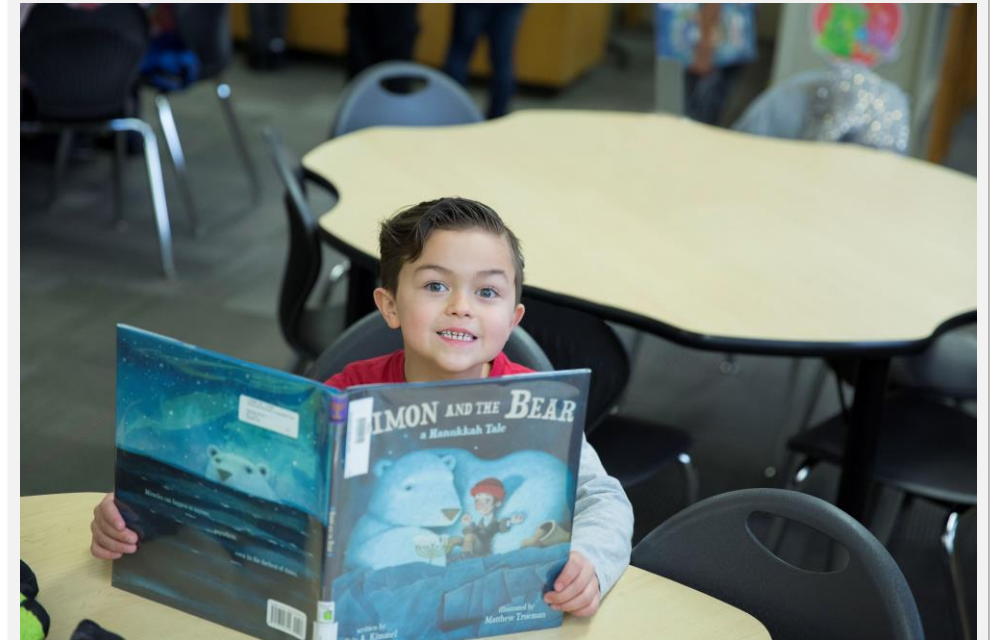
Full-Day Kindergarten (FDK) – \$22,780,500 Ongoing



<p align="center">Historical Funding Levels and Purpose</p> <p>Current (SFY 2022) funding level: \$24,455,000</p> <p>Funding Level in SFY 2021: \$17,500,000</p> <p>Purpose of the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides all Utah families access to equitable, optional, full-day kindergarten • Phases funding in over three years to give LEAs time to recruit/hire high-quality teachers, find space, and improve the quality of instruction 	<p align="center">Problems to Address</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and families face inequitable access to FDK • With half-day kindergarten, there is not sufficient time to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach and master all of Utah’s kindergarten standards • Ensure deep student learning • LEAs lack stable funding to provide FDK to all students
<p align="center">Projected Outcomes/Results</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statewide access to full-day kindergarten • Improved literacy and numeracy outcomes • Higher long-term student achievement • Less student retention in the early grades 	<p align="center">Impact if not Funded</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inequitable access to optional, FDK across the state • More interventions needed for students • Lower student outcomes <p>Can this funding be scaled? Lower funding levels prevent equitable access to FDK for all kindergarten age students.</p>
<p align="center">Impact on LEA Reporting Requirements</p> <p>At full implementation, this should decrease reporting.</p>	<p align="center">Can Federal or Carry-Forward Funds Be Utilized?</p> <p>No. One-time funds should not be used for this need.</p>

Full-Day Kindergarten Bill (FDK)

- Expands equitable access to optional full-day kindergarten as a choice for all students
- Scales up over 3 years to provide
 - Time to recruit and hire high-quality teachers
 - Find space
 - Improve the quality of instruction
- Year 3, funding will shift to a full Weighted Pupil Unit (WPU) and Optional Enhanced Kindergarten (OEK) will be repealed



Expanding optional full-day kindergarten access across the state:

- Allows for **equitable access to full-day kindergarten for any family** regardless of where they live.
- Provides **sufficient time for teachers** to ensure quality, deep learning of all 196 kindergarten state standards, and allows for **adequate time for kindergarten students** to master these standards.
- Provides all students access to **2 healthy meals per day**.
- **Supports parental choice and local control**, while providing a **stable funding source** for districts and charters.

- State data shows **increased outcomes for students who attend full-day kindergarten**
 - **4 times greater** outcomes prior to COVID-19 learning disruptions
 - **2 times greater** even with COVID-19 learning disruptions



National Full-Day Kindergarten Studies



- Full-day kindergarten...
 - Reduced the achievement gap
 - Showed greater outcomes (reading and math)
 - Showed higher and faster growth rates (reading and math)
 - Reduced the need for retention, remediation, and special education referrals

WASHINGTON COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT



- Recently expanded their full-day classrooms using ESSER funds. They opened 778 seats of full-day kindergarten and when **given the option to enroll, 96% families opted in. Their data show excellent outcomes including:**
 - Last year's Acadience Reading data for middle of year was 64% at/above benchmark and 57% growth, this year with FDK, it has reached 79% at/above benchmark and 74% growth.
 - Last year in March, only 60% of K students knew all their letters and sounds. With FDK this year, as of Nov. 1, it is 90%.



- **Thirty-eight states provide full-day kindergarten** as an option for 100% of kindergarten students.
- The remaining **12 states offer full day as an option to 75%-97%** of kindergarten students, except for UT. **UT is the only state that offers FDK to only 30%.**



Return on Investment

- The return on investment in full-day kindergarten is between \$3.00 and \$7.00 for every dollar spent (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2012).
- The full impact scenario shows a return for the society of 4.8 dollars for every dollar invested and the return to taxpayers is 3.4 dollars (Wilder Research, 2012).
- Full-day kindergarten is cost-effective. The savings that it yields (via reduced grade retention, etc.) help offset the cost of providing it (Weiss & Offenburg, 2002).



Support for FDK

- Utah State Board of Education (USBE)
- State Charter School Board (SCSB)
- The Governors 2023 Budget Recommendations
- Joint Legislative Committee (JLC)
- United Way
- Voices for Utah Children
- Utah Education Association (UEA)
- Utah Parent Teacher Association (PTA)

