

Governor Brown signed the 2016/2017 budget on June 27—notably making a significant multiyear investment to increase early education opportunities and stabilize California’s early learning system for our young children and the adults who educate and care for them. This investment begins with an additional \$147 million in 2016-17 that is expected to grow to more than \$500 million in 2019-20.

Highlights from the budget include:

- Raising reimbursement rates for early childhood providers.
- Expanding access to full-day state preschool for nearly 3,000 additional eligible children this year. Over four years, the state will add nearly 9000 additional children.
- Requiring the California Department of Education to develop a new quality funding expenditure plan that shall prioritize activities that support the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS).
- Providing funds for the Los Angeles Trade-Tech Community College to offer job training, mentoring, and college courses through an early childhood apprenticeship program

Learn more about the budget by reading the [School Services Budget Memo](#).

[Thank the Governor and Legislators for investing in early learning and care.](#)

Other Highlights:

- **Transitional kindergarten (TK) remains law**
 - During the budget process, the Legislature rejected the proposal to merge early childhood funding and eliminate TK, a proven kindergarten readiness program.
- **Blue Ribbon Commission on Early Care and Education**
 - Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon created this Commission to map out how we can better serve our children from birth to age 5.
- **Important Bills with the Senate Appropriations Committee**
 - [AB 2150 \(Santiago and Weber\), the Child Care Protections for Working Families Act](#): Subsidized Child Care and Development Services: *12-month Eligibility Period* brings the state into compliance with the federally required 12-months of child care assistance by relaxing unrealistic reporting timelines. Hearing is scheduled on August 1.
 - [AB 1676 \(Campos\), Gender Pay Equity](#): works to address pay inequities among men and women.
- **Important Bills Held in Committee Under Submission** (*no action to move the bill out of committee*)
 - [AB 2660 \(McCarty\), Quality Early Education Act of 2016](#): ensures income eligible children have access to high quality prekindergarten a year before they enroll in kindergarten.

- [SB 878 \(Leyva\), Reliable Scheduling for California Workers](#): creates certainty for workers and employers by giving employees adequate advance notice of their schedule so they may better plan their lives.
- [SB1042 \(Hancock\), California State Preschool: Age Eligibility](#): ensures that the definition of “3-year-old children” as children who will have their 3rd birthday on or before December 1 of the fiscal year in which they are enrolled in a California state preschool program.