

Federal Early Education Policy Landscape

Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce
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Preschool California



Preschool California is a nonprofit advocacy organization working to increase access to high-quality preschool for all of California's children, starting with those who need it most

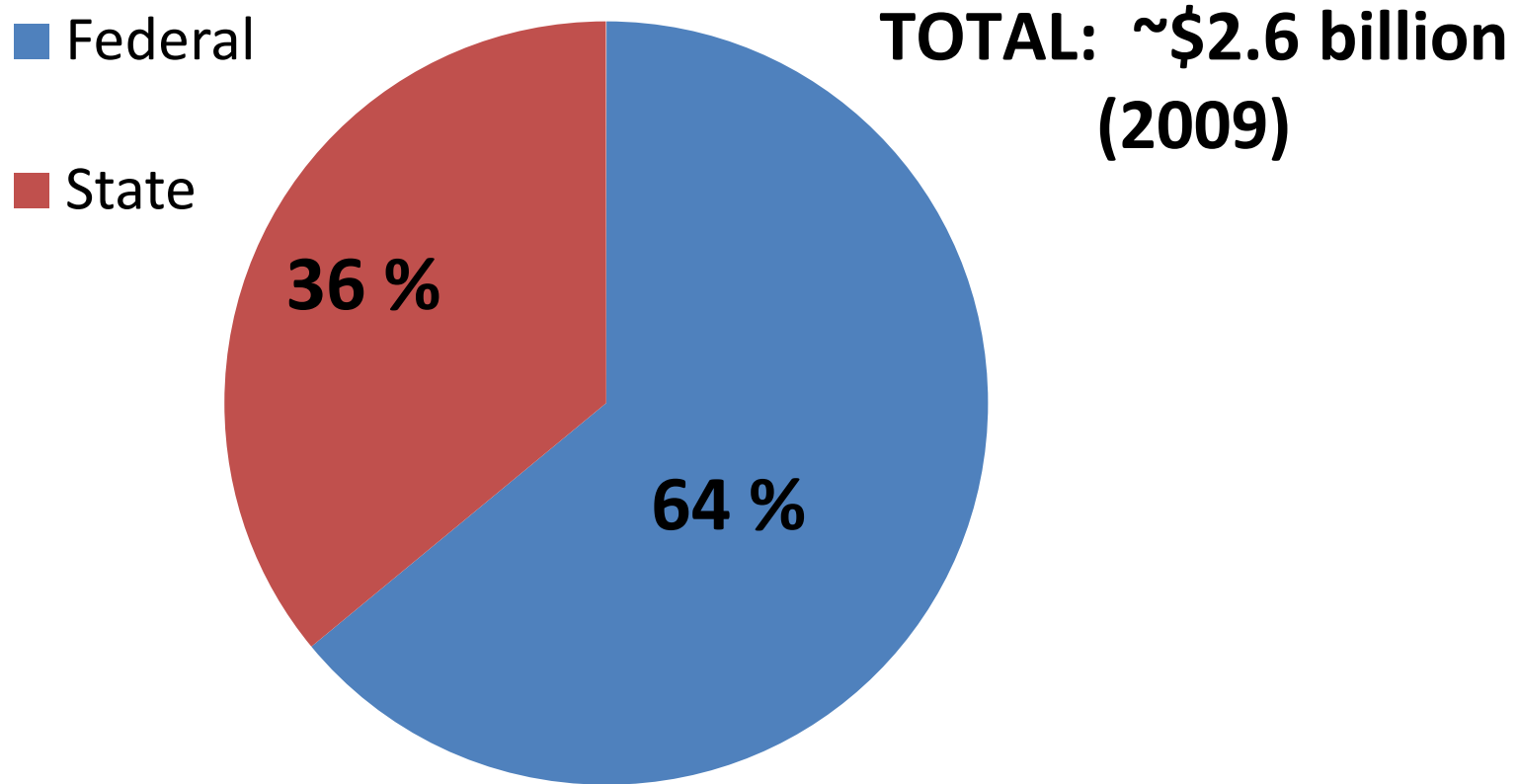


SNAPSHOT: Early Education in California

- Over 200,000 low-income children on the Waitlist
- Access gaps are higher in certain communities
- What groups of children are least likely to be in ***high-quality*** preschool?
 - 14% of Latino children
 - 13% of low-income children
 - 12% of children whose mothers have high school diploma or less
 - 5% of African American children
- Budget proposal: 42% cut since 2008, over 160,000 kids cut



Funding for ECE in California





FY 2012 Appropriations

In mid-December, House and Senate passed an omnibus spending bill for FY2012 which funds the federal government through September of this year.

- **Head Start** received an increase of \$424 million.
- **Child Care Development Block Grant (CCDBG)** received an increase of \$60 million.
- **RTT** renewed for \$550 million, not clear yet how distributed.
- **Title I** received an increase of \$60 million.



FY 2012 Appropriations

- Early childhood scored a big win compared to other programs.
- Current slots for Head Start and Early Head Start were maintained, **including** those created under ARRA.
- CCDBG increase was a surprise since both the House and Senate had previously proposed no increase.



Opportunity: Federal Legislation

- Recent Successes: Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC)
- On the Horizon:
 - Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) reauthorization/ No Child Left Behind
 - RTT-ELC made permanent?
 - Inclusion/Support for ECE
 - 41 Bills introduced last year on ECE in Congress
 - Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) reauthorization...
 - More focus on quality
 - Head Start reauthorization...



Recent Success: Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge

- Concept developed in 2009 by Rep. Miller (D-CA)
- Incentivize states to build high-quality early learning systems
- \$500 M of \$700 M for Race to the Top in FY11 deal reached in April for early learning challenge fund
- \$550 M for FY12
- CA won \$52.6 million grant!



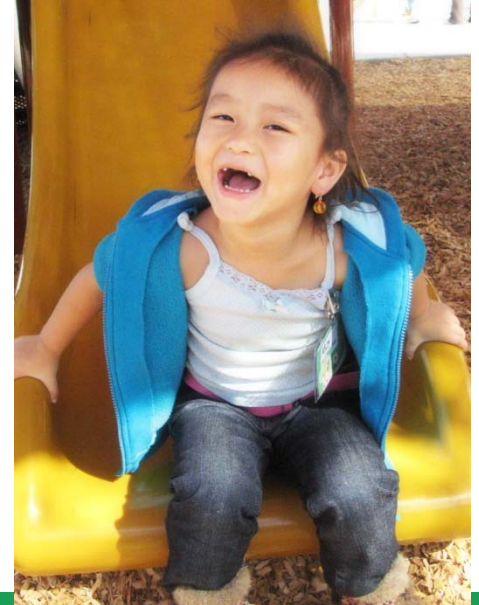
California's RTT-ELC Focus: Local Investment

- Regional approach to quality improvement, 16 consortia from 15 counties who have local Quality Rating Improvement Systems:

County	Regional Leadership Consortium Letter of Intent Received From:
Contra Costa	First 5 Contra Costa
El Dorado	First 5 El Dorado
Fresno	Fresno County Office of Education
Los Angeles	Office of Child Care, Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office
Los Angeles	Los Angeles Universal Preschool (LAUP)
Merced	Merced County Office of Education
Orange	Orange County Department of Education
Sacramento	Sacramento County Office of Education
San Diego	First 5 San Diego
San Francisco	First 5 San Francisco
San Joaquin	First 5 San Joaquin
Santa Barbara	First 5 Santa Barbara
Santa Clara	First 5 Santa Clara
Santa Cruz	First 5 Santa Cruz
Ventura	First 5 Ventura
Yolo	First 5 Yolo

Looking Forward: Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Reauthorization

- Up for reauthorization
- Potential for more:
 - Alignment with K-12
 - Professional development
 - Data connections
 - Support for early learning programs



Looking Forward: Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) Reauthorization

- ~\$550 M/year to California from Feds
- Funds go to:
 - all of our subsidized child care and preschool programs
 - Quality activities: Prof. development; resource and referral for families etc.
- Reauthorization:
 - Opportunity for more focus on quality and systems building
 - Focus on education AND work support
 - Hearings in the Senate; Not on the immediate horizon



Regulations and Administrative Opportunities: New Focus on Quality

- Office of Head Start
 - Performance standards
 - Re-competition (Los Angeles County Office of Ed)
- Office of Child Care
 - Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) Preprint requires more focus on quality and data tracking
- Dept of Ed, HHS, HUD Grant Opportunities
 - Neighborhood revitalization strategies (e.g. Harlem Children's Zone)
 - Striving Readers
 - Home Visiting



Conclusions...

- Need to ensure current investments are continued – keep parents earning and children learning
- Need to ensure alignment, quality and leveraging of other funds in all new bills
- Ensuring California's specific needs are met:
 - Increased access; support of increasing quality system; professional development; support for dual Language Learners





Thank you!

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