

Wins for Early Childhood Education

2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RECAP

READY LOUISIANA
INVEST IN EARLY EDUCATION

Maintain Funding for Early Childhood Education in the State Budget

The legislature passed HB 1, by Rep. McFarland, the state budget bill for the next fiscal year, which includes a \$78 million appropriation for the Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) to maintain last year's funding level.

The legislature passed HB 313, by Rep. McFarland, the supplemental budget bill for this fiscal year, which includes some provisions from SB 445, by Sen. Pressly, which would have codified additional revenue streams into the Early Childhood Education Fund. The amendment to HB 313 added language directing any unspent funds from LDOE's budget in FY2025-26 to be deposited into the ECE Fund.

Create an Integrated, Unique ECE Identifier to Strengthen Transparency and Accountability in Louisiana's ECE System

The legislature passed HB 992, by Rep. Freiberg, which creates a unique student identifier for children enrolled in publicly funded early childhood education programs. This will enable the state to measure long-term outcomes of public investments.

