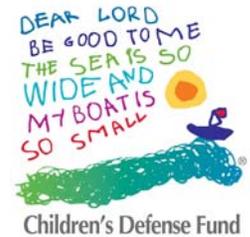


Children's Defense Fund

Full-Day Kindergarten in Oregon



January 2012

Full-day kindergarten (Full-Day K) is a necessary component of a comprehensive early learning continuum and boosts children's cognitive learning, creative problem-solving and social competence. However, Full-Day K is not part of the K-12 publicly funded school system in most states. Nationally, only 10 states and the District of Columbia require school districts to provide publicly funded Full-Day K through statute. Thirty-four states require school districts to provide at least half-day kindergarten and six have no requirement.

Are Oregon school districts required by statute to fund Full-Day K for all eligible students? ___ Yes X No

During the 2010-2011 school year, 40,656 children attended kindergarten in Oregonⁱⁱ, of which 14,650 students were enrolled in Full-Day K.ⁱⁱⁱ

Statutory Provisions

- Districts are required to provide at least half-day kindergarten in one school.^{iv}
- A child must be 5 by September 1st in order to attend kindergarten.^v
- The compulsory age of education is 7 years of age.^{vi}

Funding

- Districts may charge tuition for Full-Day K.^{vii}
- The current funding formula for Oregon only allows kindergarten to be funded a 0.5 Full-time Equivalent (FTE) weight.
- A Full-Day K committee convened in 2010 recommended that in the 2015-2016 school year Full-Day K be required in all school districts at no charge to parents^{viii} and that kindergarten students be given a 1.0 FTE weight.^{ix}

Standards

- The Common Core State Standards were adopted in October of 2010.^x
- The State Board of Education must develop standards for kindergarten and revise them as it sees fit.^{xi}

Assessment

- The Oregon Department of Education's planning document "Every Student, Every Day – A Success" for kindergarten gives guidance to schools in planning for kindergarten assessment by suggesting data collection on: student performance (test scores, work samples, readiness benchmarks), student behavior (socialization skills, attendance), and program impact (referrals to special education and other support programs).^{xii}
- There is currently no kindergarten assessment required by statute in Oregon.

ⁱ Free kindergarten facilities. *Oregon Revised Statutes* § 336.095

ⁱⁱ Oregon Department of Education. October 1 Enrollment Summary 2010-2011.

<http://www.ode.state.or.us/sfda/reports/r0073Select.asp>

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- iii Oregon Department of Education. Enrollment Trends Spreadsheet. FDK Enrollment.
<http://www.ode.state.or.us/sfda/reports/r0073Select.asp>
- iv Free kindergarten facilities. *Oregon Revised Statutes* § 336.095
- v Definitions. *Oregon Revised Statutes* § 336.092
- vi School attendance required; age limits. *Oregon Revised Statutes* § 339.010
- vii Ibid
- viii Recommendations Made by Full-Day Kindergarten Committee Appointed as required by Senate Bill 44
[http://www.ode.state.or.us/gradelevel/kindergarten/full-day-kindergarten-implementation-committee-report-september-2010-final-\(2\).pdf](http://www.ode.state.or.us/gradelevel/kindergarten/full-day-kindergarten-implementation-committee-report-september-2010-final-(2).pdf).
- ix Full-Day Kindergarten Implementation Committee. Results and Recommendations.
- x Common Core State Standards Initiative. "In the States" <http://www.corestandards.org/in-the-states>
- xi Board functions; rules. *Oregon Revised Statutes* § 326.051
- xii Oregon Department of Education. "**Full-Day and Extended-Day Kindergarten Programs.**"
<http://www.ode.state.or.us/superintendent/priorities/ready4school/finalkindergarten.pdf>