

FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
City Budget Office	Forrest Longman/684-0331	

Legislation Title:

AN ORDINANCE relating to the City’s support for education; abolishing the Office for Education and creating a Department of Education and Early Learning; repealing subchapter V of Chapter 3.20 and redesignating the subchapter titles; adding new sections 3.36.010, 3.36.020, 3.36.030, and 3.36.040; amending sections 3.35.010 and 3.35.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code; and creating a fund for education purposes.

Summary of the Legislation:

This ordinance creates the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL). In doing so, it abolishes the Office for Education and deems DEEL as its successor institution, establishes an Education Fund to act as the operating fund for the new department, and defines the duties and purpose of DEEL.

The mission of DEEL is to ensure that all Seattle children have the greatest opportunity to succeed in school and in life and to graduate from school ready for college or a career. DEEL will facilitate the City’s support for educational and developmental needs of children from birth to preschool, students in Seattle’s public schools, students in post-secondary programs, and their families, including:

- Administering the City’s early learning services.
- Acting as the liaison and lead collaborator with Seattle Public Schools.
- Acting as the liaison with the City’s higher education institutions.
- Embedding the City’s Race and Social Justice Initiative into the City’s education objectives.
- Administering the Families and Education Levy.

Background:

Last fall, the Council demonstrated its commitment to the education by unanimously approving a budget action requesting the Executive to develop a proposal that would “elevate the Office for Education to a separate Department...” (SLI 41-1-A-1). The Council’s primary motivation was to demonstrate the City’s strong commitment to education by focusing on the following objectives:

- Focus the efforts of the ...department with a specific mission, which is growing/expanding to:
 - Align the various [City] education and early learning programs and initiatives to provide the best learning outcomes for children

- Prepare for implementation of a voluntary, high-quality, universal preschool program for the city's three- and four-year-olds and
- Collaborate more closely with the Seattle School District to boost the academic achievement of students
- Improve direct access to key decision-makers (e.g. Mayor, Council, Superintendent, School Board) (SLI 41-1-A-1).

The current administration has embraced these goals and identified additional objectives for the creation of a unified Department of Education and Early Learning, including:

- Work with the school district to better address issues of shared interest including school safety, transportation, and planning for growth
- Embed the goals and principles of the City's *Race and Social Justice Initiative* into the day-to-day approach to advancing its mission related to education
- Develop a plan for how to address existing disparities in academic outcomes
- Develop and execute strategies for Seattle to become a 21st century model for excellence in public education, beginning with facilitation of an education summit to support an ongoing city-wide discussion of the state of education in our city.
- Enhance strategic partnerships with colleges and universities
- Streamline process for data-driven decision-making and program development

The creation of DEEL will allow for programmatic alignment, streamlined contracting, consistency of expectations and metrics used to evaluate provider performance, and the leveraging of programmatic investments for improved outcomes.

Currently the Office for Education administers the following programs that will be moved to DEEL:

- Early Learning (Preschool for 3- and 4-year-olds and Professional Development and Assessment)
- Elementary, Middle School, and High School programs that provide academic support, help with social/emotional development, extended learning opportunities including summer learning, college and career planning, sports, and transportation
- Health (School-Based Health Centers, Health Support Services (School Nursing), Mental Health Enhancement, Elementary Health, Oral Health)
- Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative
- Read and Rise (funded for 2015 only)

To achieve full integration of the City's education efforts, the following additional programs will be moved from HSD to the new Department of Education and Early Learning:

- Early Childhood Education and Assistance Program
- Comprehensive Child Care Program
- Child Care Assistance Program
- Nurse Family Partnership
- All Families and Education Levy Programs
 - Step Ahead

- Child Care Health Services
- Parent-Child Home Program

DEEL will be the City's one-stop-shop for all matters related to education, birth through college. This will provide greater clarity for community partners and more transparency for city taxpayers who want to know how city resources are being used to help children and families.

The overarching purpose of these changes will be to eradicate educational disparities and ensure that all Seattle children have equitable opportunities for success.

X This legislation does not have any financial implications.

Other Implications:

a) Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?

This ordinance creates a new department which will require additional funding and positions. These changes will be reflected in the 2015-16 Proposed Budget Ordinance. They include:

- Transfer of FTE and funds from the Human Services Department.
- Transfer of FTE and funds from the Department of Neighborhoods and Office for Education.

b) What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?

None.

c) Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?

Yes, the new department will include resources from the Human Services Department, the Department of Neighborhoods and the Office for Education. The directors of those departments have been notified of this ordinance.

d) What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?

No

e) Is a public hearing required for this legislation?

No

f) Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?

No

g) Does this legislation affect a piece of property?

No

h) Other Issues:

List attachments to the fiscal note below: