

## ACTION PLAN

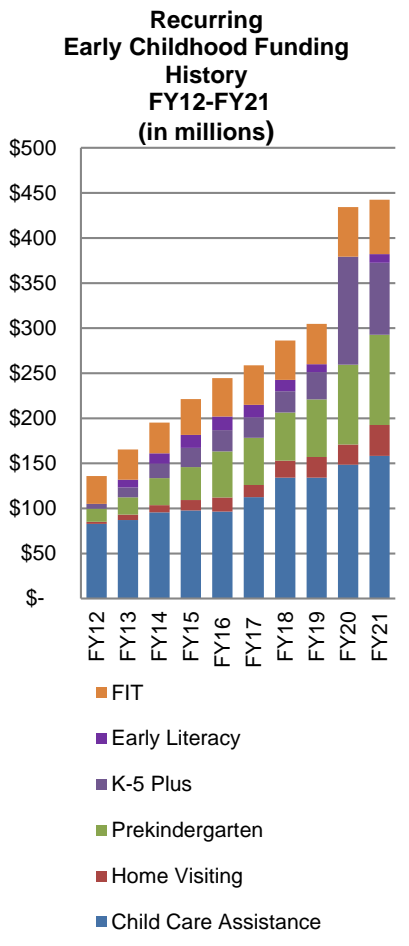
Submitted by agency?	Yes
Timeline assigned?	No
Responsibility assigned?	No

## Early Childhood Care and Education Department

The newly created Early Childhood Education and Care Department (ECECD) now primarily administers the state's early childhood care and education system. Primary programs include childcare assistance, home visiting, prekindergarten, and the Family, Infant, Toddler (FIT) program. However, some programs still considered part of the early care and education system will remain in other state agencies or are directly federally funded such as K-5 Plus, the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, and Head Start.

### Family Support and Intervention

The Family Support and Intervention Program is primarily comprised of the home visiting, Families First, and Family Infant Toddler (FIT) programs. The programs are considered the state's early childhood early intervention services. The program only has two performance measures for home visiting. Given the significant state investments in these early intervention programs additional performance measures are needed for policy makers to monitor performance. The program met targeted performance for both measures in the third quarter. In addition, system wide early childhood services enrollment has declined due to the Covid-19 pandemic including home visiting. In the closing month of FY21 the department transferred nearly \$700 thousand from home visiting to Jump Start for prekindergarten.



Note: Funding for the K-5 Plus Extended School-Year Program and Early Literacy are appropriated the Public Education Department.

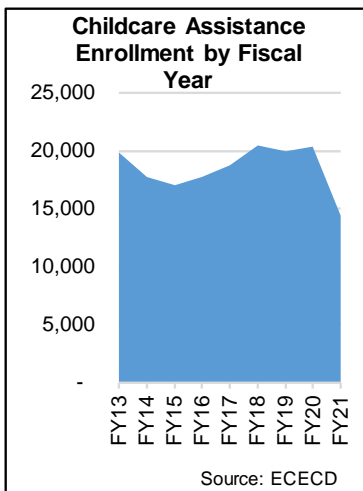
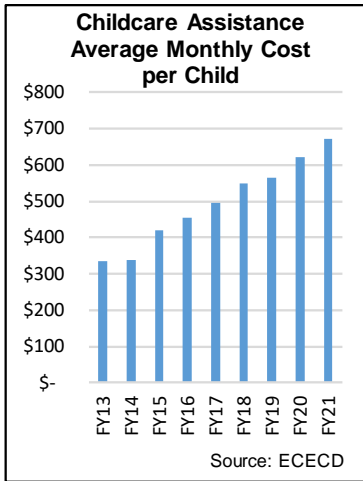
<b>Budget:</b> \$35,098.5	<b>FTE:</b> 46	<b>FY19 Actual</b>	<b>FY20 Actual</b>	<b>FY21 Target</b>	<b>FY21 Q1</b>	<b>FY21 Q2</b>	<b>FY21 Q3</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Percent of parents participating in home visiting who demonstrate progress in practicing positive parent-child interactions		45.5%	43.7%	50%	43%	73%	74%	<b>G</b>
Percent of families receiving home visiting services for at least six months that have one or more protective services-substantiated abuse or neglect referrals during the participating period		1.1%	0.9%	3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%	<b>G</b>
<b>Program Rating</b>		<b>Y</b>	<b>G</b>					<b>G</b>

### Early Education, Care and Nutrition

The Early Education, Care and Nutrition Program is primarily comprised of the private provider prekindergarten, childcare assistance, and the family nutrition bureau. The program met a majority of targeted performance measures. Again, given the significant state investments in these early care and education programs additional performance measures are needed for policy makers to monitor performance. Despite increased eligibility and prior to the pandemic, childcare assistance average monthly enrollment had been relatively flat ranging between 18 thousand and 20 thousand children a month. However, in the fall of 2020, enrollment began to decline significantly, to 15 thousand and continued to decline to 14 thousand in April. Over FY21, average monthly enrollment was 14.4 thousand as of April 2021. The average monthly cost per child, however, increased to \$672, or \$8,064 annually. The average annual cost per child has risen 8 percent in FY21 above the previous fiscal year despite the significant decline in

## PERFORMANCE REPORT CARD

### Early Childhood Care and Education Department Third Quarter, Fiscal Year 2021



enrollment. The increased cost has been primarily driven by the department covering parent co-payments and a \$200 per child differential payment to providers. Despite the increased cost per child, low enrollment will result in general fund reversions or significant federal revenue carry-forward. The department is unlikely to spend more than \$140 million of the \$158 million annual child care assistance budget in FY21. This estimate also does not include federal child care relief funding, of which New Mexico will receive \$432 million, most of which must be spent by 2023 or 2024.

Budget: \$329,628.9	FTE: 156	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Target	FY21 Q1	FY21 Q2	FY21 Q3	Rating
Percent of children in community-based pre-kindergarten funded by the Early Childhood and Education Department showing measurable progress		95%	93%	95%	Reported Annually			
Percent of licensed childcare providers participating in high-quality programs		43%	47%	43%	46.7%	47.2%	50.8%	G
Percent of children receiving subsidy in high quality programs		73%	71%	60%	69.2%	69.8%	71.7%	G
Percent of children receiving childcare assistance with substantiated abuse or neglect referrals during the childcare assistance participating period		1.3%	1.5%	1.3%	0.7%	0.9%	1.2%	Y
Percent of children in New Mexico childcare assistance who have attended four- or five- star programs for eight months or longer showing measurable progress on the school readiness fall preschool assessment		New	Not Reported	85%	Reported Annually			
Program Rating		Y	G					Y

### Public Prekindergarten

Funding for prekindergarten services delivered by public schools is transferred to the Public Education Department from ECECD and the performance measure is reported annually.

Budget: \$48,856.5	FTE: 0	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Target	FY21 Q1	FY21 Q2	FY21 Q3	Rating
Percent of children in community-based pre-kindergarten funded by the Early Childhood and Education Department showing measurable progress		95%	93%	95%	Reported Annually			
Program Rating								