

The Student Success Act

Oregon's K-12 schools have been chronically underfunded for 30 years, leaving Oregon students and businesses feeling the impact. Large class sizes, low graduation rates, gaps in needed services, and too little instructional time reflect years of insufficient and unstable financial support.

In 2018, the Joint Committee on Student Success traveled almost 3,000 miles to 77 schools across the state, meeting with students, educators, parents, business leaders and other stakeholders about the challenges and opportunities in Oregon's public school system.

The Student Success Act is the product of this bipartisan year-long process to build a model public education system in Oregon through a dedicated, sustainable investment that ties funding to outcomes, requires ongoing accountability and closes the opportunity gaps for historically underserved students. The SSA will:

Create unprecedented investment in early childhood education

- Increase access to high quality preschool and early childhood programs.
- Fully fund Early Intervention and Early Childhood Special Education.
- Invest in professional development for early childhood educators.
- Expand access to relief nurseries, the Oregon Pre-K Program, Head Start and Preschool Promise.

Make accountable investments for all school districts

- Schools will have performance targets to increase: graduation rates; third grade reading levels; the rate of ninth grade students on track to graduate; and student attendance.
- Schools that don't meet targets will receive coaching from a team of highly qualified experts.
- Lowest performing schools will get additional funding and Student Success Teams will help redirect their investments toward proven strategies.
- These schools will be regularly audited to ensure strategic investments are going into the classroom and investment money is being spent to improve outcomes.

Build a more equitable education system

- Target new resources toward students living in poverty.
- Require schools to show how they will eliminate opportunity gaps for students of color, students with disabilities, ESL students, low-incomes students and students from tribal communities to receive funding.
- Create the Early Childhood Equity Fund to invest in a high quality and culturally specific workforce.

Provide additional services that students need to succeed

- Mental and behavioral health support
- Universal access to meals
- Increased learning time
- Smaller class sizes
- Fully funding career and technical education (Measure 98)
- More art, PE, music, libraries and additional extracurricular activities
- Bullying and suicide prevention
- Special education funding
- Reengagement programs for students who have dropped out
- Expanding summer learning programs

Student Success
(\$2 billion)

Early Childhood
(\$400 million)

- Fully fund Early Childhood Special Education
- Expand high quality preschool (e.g., Head Start)
- Equity fund - Funding for culturally specific early learning providers
- Wraparound family supports

School Improvement
(\$1 billion)

- Mental and behavioral health supports
- More school health professionals
- More learning time
- Smaller class sizes
- More art, music, and PE
- Summer Learning
- Before and After School Programs
- Trauma informed practices

Statewide Investments
(\$600 million)

- Universal meals
- Fully fund Measure 98
- Bullying and suicide prevention
- Drop-out prevention
- Student Success Teams & accountability measures
- Supports for students with disabilities