

INADEQUATE FUNDING FOR ECE, ARE SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULAS A SOLUTION?

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This presentation draws on the paper by W. Steven Barnett and R. Kasmin (2016) "Funding Landscape for Preschool with a Highly Qualified Workforce", commissioned by Board on Children, Youth and Families. Retrieved from http://sites.nationalacademies.org/DBASSE/BCYF/Funding_Landscape_for_Preschool/i ndex.htm

Funding Landscape: Early Care and Education Sector



Government Spending: @\$38 B, All Sources



K-12 Compared to Pre-K Revenue



How State Pre-K Programs Are Funded

| | # States | Amount (millions) | Share of Total | |
|---------------------------------|----------|-------------------|----------------|--|
| Discretionary Grants | 31 | \$3,161 | 46.6% | |
| School Funding Formula | 10 | \$1,798 | 26.5% | |
| Discretionary Formula Grants | 14 | \$1,736 | 25.6% | |
| Scholarships | 1 | \$41 | 0.6% | |
| Tax Credits | 2 | \$34 | 0.5% | |
| SIBs | 2 | \$20 | 0.3% | |
| sum | | \$6,783 | 100% | |

Funding Mechanisms

School Funding Formula

- Cost-based formula. Generally takes into account student and district variables.
- Generally a significant reliance on residential taxes, which provides a steady funding stream.
- It would yield more funding per pupil and more pupils covered.
 - K-12 p.p. average = 11k; Pre-K p.p. average is $\frac{1}{2}$ that.
 - Assume covering 50% of 3- and 4-year old population
 - Would increase state and local bill by around \$30bn (currently around \$14bn).

Pre-K SFF Programs

| State | Pre-K Spending per Pupil, Adjusted for Relative Prices | Spending per Pupil Ratio: Pre-K/K-12 | Hours/Day | Prorated Spending per Pupil Ratio: Pre-K/K- 12 | Enrollment 4s, % population |
|----------------------|--|---|-----------|--|--------------------------------|
| Colorado | \$3,745 | 0.47 | min 2.0 | 0.95 | 23.3% |
| District of Columbia | \$14,876 | 0.80 | 6.5 | 0.80 | 86.3% |
| Iowa SVPP | \$3,186 | 0.31 | 3 | 0.62 | 57.1% |
| Kentucky | \$8,619 | 1.04 | min 2.5 | 1.04 | 25.8% |
| Maine | \$6,106 | 0.52 | min 2.0 | 1.04 | 36.2% |
| Oklahoma | \$8,656 | 0.97 | 6 | 1.22 | 74.8% |
| Texas | \$3,764 | 0.49 | 3 | 0.98 | 47.8% |
| Vermont Act 62 | \$7,036 | 0.51 | 2 | 1.03 | 68.8% |
| West Virginia | \$11,197 | 0.93 | min 3.0 | 0.99 | 68.0% |
| Wisconsin 4K | \$6,457 | 0.65 | 2.5 | 1.30 | 62.6% |

School funding formula does not mean well funded Can still be targeted, capped



Pre-K Real Spending Growth





School Funding Provides Base/Some Stability but Additional Resources Needed to Adequately Fund Quality/Access

- WV- school funding + blend other sources
- Boston (District) School Funding + blend other sources
- Denver CPP School Funding + DPP tax credit/other sources

Thank you!

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