

Seattle City Council Select Budget Committee
 Councilmember Budget Proposals | Tuesday, October 28, 2025

Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL)

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2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

DEEL-001S-A

Request that DEEL report on Council priorities in the Implementation and Evaluation Plan

SPONSORS

Alexis Mercedes Rinck, Mark Solomon, Dan Strauss

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) requests that the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) incorporate Council priorities that have not already been incorporated in the list of items proposed to be included in the forthcoming Implementation and Evaluation (I&E) Plan for the Families, Education, Preschool, and Promise (FEPP) Levy. The SLI further requests that DEEL provide a thorough explanation of whether and to what extent these specific Council priorities are reflected in the I&E Plan, and how the department came to its decisions, including data analysis and community engagement conducted regarding Council priorities.

Background

Earlier this year, Council passed Ordinance 127238 (FEPP Levy Ordinance), which submitted a proposition to voters to renew and expand FEPP Levy investments, with a property tax levy generating approximately \$1.3 billion over six years. The Ordinance outlines four broad categories of education support services to be funded: early childhood; K-12 student supports; K-12 health and safety; and college and career supports. The FEPP Levy Ordinance also requires that all Levy funds be spent in accordance with the terms of an I&E Plan, anticipated to be transmitted to Council in March 2026.

The 2026 Proposed Budget proposes appropriations using the assumptions and cost estimates contained in Attachment A to this SLI. These assumptions and cost estimates will serve as the basis for the I&E Plan development, and represent an initial proposal as to what will be included in the forthcoming I&E Plan. During the I&E Plan development, community and partner stakeholders will be asked to speak to strategies, programs and activities regarding the line items in Attachment A.

Council recognizes that, consistent with the FEPP Levy Ordinance Section 2.A, proceeds from the FEPP Levy will be prioritized to invest in Seattle's children, youth, and families to increase affordability of and equitable access to: childcare and preschool; academic, health, and safety supports for K-12 students, including expanded learning opportunities; comprehensive support services; and college and career pathways.

In addition to the items currently listed in the I&E Plan cost assumptions, Council requests that DEEL incorporate the following into the development of the I&E Plan:

Early Childhood Supports

- A feasibility study to explore universal citywide preschool; and
- A pilot program to subsidize preschool costs for working families in neighborhoods where Seattle

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Preschool Program slots are not available.

K-12 Supports

- Safety investments that prioritize addressing the root causes of violence and nonpunitive approaches, including but not limited to restorative practices;
- Afterschool programming for at-risk youth; and
- Food assistance.

College and Career Supports

- Support for foster care youth transitioning to adulthood;
- Support for public sector careers, such as those with the Seattle Fire Department or Seattle Police Department; and
- Support for information technology careers that utilize in artificial intelligence (AI), coding, software engineering, and computer programming languages in high demand by major technology sector employers around the region.

These items listed above are not intended to be an exhaustive list of all Council priorities for the FEPP Levy, and the department should articulate how the priorities identified above fit within the context of other priorities expressed by stakeholders during the course of the I&E Plan development.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Libraries, Education & Neighborhoods

DUE DATE: March 16, 2026

DEEL 2026 Proposed Budget and FEPP Summary

Investment	Program	Activity	Dept	2025 Adopted Budget (All Funds - Less Grants)	2026 Proposed Budget (Less Grants) ¹	Estimated FEPP Year 1 (26-27 SY)	Estimated FEPP 6-Year Total	Est. # Served 26-27 SY ²	Notes/Comments
Early Childhood	Childcare	Childcare Assistance Program	DEEL	\$5,506,913	\$9,993,799	\$15,786,679	\$91,258,381	1,400	
		Childcare Health Consultation	DEEL	\$1,043,436	\$1,840,452	\$1,243,436	\$8,043,054	150	Sites. See also Childcare Health Consultation under SPP
		Homeless Childcare Subsidies	DEEL	\$400,000	\$449,994	\$499,988	\$3,234,126	250	Monthly Vouchers
		Program Labor	DEEL	\$3,251,817	\$2,670,459	\$3,416,327	\$18,467,782	N/A	
	Childcare Workers	Childcare Worker Supports	DEEL	\$0	\$2,750,000	\$2,750,000	\$18,471,452	5,000	
	Prenatal-to-3	Developmental Bridge	DEEL	\$523,400	\$614,844	\$614,844	\$3,977,063	150	
		Nurse Family Partnership	DEEL	\$2,735,504	\$2,902,096	\$2,902,096	\$18,771,946	400	
		PN-3 Community Grants	DEEL	\$1,500,000	\$0				SBT-funded, never FEPP; 2025 budget funds grants through 2027
		ParentChild+	DEEL	\$1,527,805	\$1,475,326	\$1,475,326	\$9,543,013	230	
	Seattle Preschool Program (SPP)	Childcare Health Consultation	DEEL	\$2,029,513	\$1,505,298	\$2,103,489	\$14,763,281	110	Sites. See also Childcare Health Consultation under Childcare
		Program Labor	DEEL	\$7,687,613	\$8,834,535	\$8,395,067	\$56,388,752	N/A	
		Classrooms and Supports	DEEL	\$43,373,133	\$50,055,949	\$54,600,661	\$382,008,016	2,600	Includes all program models (incl. summer and extended day)
		SPP Dual Language	DEEL	\$220,475	\$276,838	\$336,789	\$3,959,304	486	Included in 2,600 served
		SPP Evaluation	DEEL	\$1,236,277	\$629,406				
		SPP Quality Teaching	DEEL	\$3,638,034	\$2,559,560	\$2,320,983	\$15,013,068	160	Classrooms
	Reserve	Cost and Risk Reserve	DEEL		\$1,002,237	\$2,004,475	\$14,345,287	N/A	
Early Childhood Total				\$74,673,919	\$87,560,793	\$98,450,160	\$658,244,525		
	Health Centers	Health Centers & Expansion	DEEL	\$9,603,480	\$9,891,585	\$10,037,765	\$83,716,716	17,750	
		Labor & Evaluation for Mental Health	DEEL	\$380,000	\$420,000	\$630,934	\$2,985,832	N/A	
		Mental Health Staffing Supports	DEEL	\$5,200,000	\$5,900,000	\$8,863,119	\$41,125,237	2,200	

DEEL 2026 Proposed Budget and FEPP Summary

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K-12 Health & Safety	Mental Health	In-Person: Community Hub	DEEL	\$2,400,000	\$2,400,000	\$3,605,337	\$16,729,021	TBD	Summer/Fall 2025 pilot in progress
		Universal Screening	DEEL	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$2,253,335	\$10,455,950	3,600	
		Reach Out - Awareness & Outreach	DEEL	\$560,000	\$528,121	\$841,245	\$3,903,055	N/A	
		Telehealth	DEEL	\$3,860,000	\$3,620,000	\$5,342,272	\$24,788,266	4,580	
	Safety	HSD School Safety	HSD	\$4,250,000	\$2,338,704	\$4,677,408	\$30,339,827	HSD	See also HSD School Safety under K-12 Youth Supports
		School Safety in or around schools	DEEL		\$1,213,273	\$2,426,545	\$16,298,841	Pending I&E Plan	
	Reserve	Cost and Risk Reserve	DEEL		\$384,520	\$769,040	\$4,751,510	N/A	
K-12 Health and Safety Total				\$27,753,480	\$28,196,203	\$39,447,000	\$235,094,255		

DEEL 2026 Proposed Budget and FEPP Summary

Investment	Program	Activity	Dept	2025 Adopted Budget (All Funds - Less Grants)	2026 Proposed Budget (Less Grants) ¹	Estimated FEPP Year 1 (26-27 SY)	Estimated FEPP 6-Year Total	Est. # Served 26-27 SY ²	Notes/Comments
K-12 Youth Supports	Expand. Learning Opp	Expanded Learning Opportunities	DEEL	\$29,013,962	\$31,850,291	\$31,483,107	\$204,452,993	19,000	
		Educator Pathways	DEEL	\$1,101,886	\$405,893				
	HSD Programs	Afterschool & Summer Meals	HSD	\$99,119	\$102,185	\$102,185	\$659,908	HSD	
		Funding for Community Based Organizations (CBOs)	HSD	\$1,121,656	\$1,156,346	\$1,156,346	\$7,467,654	HSD	
		Supporting Youth for Success	HSD	\$3,723,569	\$4,228,945	\$4,228,946	\$26,354,037	HSD	2026 budget includes \$208K for contract inflation
		HSD School Safety ²	HSD		\$1,911,297	\$1,911,297	\$1,911,297	HSD	See also HSD School Safety under K-12 Health & Safety
		Behavioral Health Services	HSD	\$1,913,503	\$1,384,636	\$1,384,636	\$12,151,491	HSD	
	Parks Programs	Community Learning Centers	SPR	\$690,000	\$721,000	\$721,000	\$4,665,000	Parks	
		Environmental Learning for Youth	SPR		\$1,090,000	\$1,090,000	\$6,718,000	Parks	includes \$679K/year Council add
		Red Barn Ranch Outdoor Nature Program	SPR	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$600,000	\$3,883,000	Parks	
	Reserve	Cost and Risk Reserve	DEEL		\$821,226	\$1,355,881	\$7,371,823	Pending I&E Plan	
K-12 Youth Supports Total				\$38,263,695	\$44,271,819	\$44,033,398	\$275,635,203		

DEEL 2026 Proposed Budget and FEPP Summary

Investment	Program	Activity	Dept	2025 Adopted Budget (All Funds - Less Grants)	2026 Proposed Budget (Less Grants) ¹	Estimated FEPP Year 1 (26-27 SY)	Estimated FEPP 6-Year Total	Est. # Served 26-27 SY ²	Notes/Comments
College & Career	Seattle Promise	Path to Trades	DEEL		\$924,976	\$1,849,952	\$14,000,000	Pending I&E Plan	
		Path to UW	DEEL		\$167,503	\$335,006	\$2,198,917	105	
		Program Labor	DEEL	\$780,129	\$872,013	\$851,920	\$5,722,259	N/A	
		Core Components	DEEL	\$2,753,644	\$4,847,152	\$4,782,265	\$30,933,649	1,475	includes recipients of tuition and equity scholarships
		Equity Scholarships	DEEL	\$1,107,175	\$1,423,626	\$872,239	\$5,641,997		
		Student Tuition	DEEL	\$1,844,046	\$3,169,370	\$3,049,272	\$19,723,941		
	SYEP	Internships	DEEL		\$409,000	\$409,000	\$2,645,580	105	
	Reserve	Cost and Risk Reserve	DEEL		\$116,138	\$232,277	\$1,572,605	N/A	
College & Career Total				\$6,484,994	\$11,929,779	\$12,381,931	\$82,438,948		
Leadership & Admin	Central Rates	Central Rates	DEEL	\$2,403,814	\$2,569,361	\$2,704,210	\$19,343,997	N/A	
	Evaluation	Evaluation	DEEL	\$210,000	\$754,980	\$1,189,961	\$7,697,153	N/A	
	Admin Costs	DEEL Administrative Costs	DEEL	\$280,426	\$424,001	\$291,600	\$1,886,187	N/A	
	Staff Labor	Program Labor	DEEL	\$6,315,159	\$7,533,635	\$7,134,655	\$47,922,703	N/A	
	Reserve	Cost and Risk Reserve	DEEL		\$137,988	\$237,509	\$1,990,076	N/A	
Leadership & Administration Total				\$9,209,399	\$11,419,965	\$11,557,935	\$78,840,116		
Grand Total (w/Parks and HSD)				\$156,385,486	\$183,378,558	\$205,870,424	\$1,330,253,047		
Grand Total (DEEL Only)				\$143,987,639	\$169,845,445	\$189,998,606	\$1,236,102,833		

Notes

1. The 2026 Proposed includes a mixture of SY and CY investments; SY investments receive only 6 months of funding whereas CY investments receive 12 months.
2. Some students are counted in more than one category when receiving multiple services.
3. Due to a technical error, HSD School Safety is budgeted in both Health and Safety and Youth Supports in order to stay within the limits of the Fiscal Note.

2026 STATEMENT OF LEGISLATIVE INTENT

V1

DEEL-002S-A

Request that DEEL develop and report on specific, measurable data and outcomes for programs as part of the Implementation and Evaluation Plan

SPONSORS

Maritza Rivera, Rob Saka, Robert Kettle

CENTRAL STAFF SUMMARY

This Statement of Legislative Intent (SLI) would request the Department of Education and Early Learning (DEEL) to develop specific, measurable data and outcomes for programs as part of the Families, Education, Preschool, and Promise (FEPP) Levy Implementation and Evaluation (I&E) Plan. These include:

1. Data on childcare and preschool programs.
2. Expanded data and outcomes within the K-12 academic programs, school-based health centers, and mental health supports.
3. Data on the Seattle Promise Program – including, but not limited to, participation and graduation rates, and including Path to UW and Path to Trades.

The Council also requests quarterly reports regarding activities and outcomes related to FEPP investments to the Chair of the Council Committee overseeing DEEL.

Responsible Council Committee(s): Libraries, Education & Neighborhoods

DUE DATE: March 2, 2026