



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

FEPP Levy Implementation & Evaluation Plan Policy Considerations

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SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE FAMILIES, EDUCATION, PRESCHOOL, AND PROMISE (FEPP) LEVY 6-YR.
IMPLEMENTATION AND EVALUATION PLAN

JUNE 30, 2026

Background

- In June 2025, the Council approved [Ordinance 127238](#) submitting a proposition to voters to fund education support services with a property tax levy generating approximately \$1.3 billion over a six-year period. The proposition was subsequently approved in November 2025.
- Proceeds must be spent in accordance with an Implementation & Evaluation (I&E) Plan approved by ordinance, which is required to include:
 - Priority criteria, including type of educational support;
 - Methodology and process by which levy-funded strategies will be selected;
 - The procedure for regularly monitoring and evaluating overall impacts and outcomes of each of the individual investments; and
 - A summary of stakeholders consulted.
- In addition to these required elements, the Plan also includes responses to two SLIs adopted by Council: 1) requesting how Council priorities listed in the SLI would be incorporated into the I&E Plan; and 2) requesting DEEL to provide quarterly reports regarding specific, measurable data and outcomes to Council.

Council Bill 121240, as transmitted

The Plan maintains the investment areas approved in the levy and adopted in the 2026 Budget, renamed as “domains.” Spending has shifted slightly from the cost estimates provided during budget deliberations, primarily due to the following:

- Risk Reserve changes to accommodate the universal school meals proposal;
- Shifting certain HSD programs from K-12 to College and Career;
- Shifting some labor costs from specific domains to Operations;
- Reduction in total spending projections due to minor adjustments in labor

Fall 2025 Spending Plan Estimates		Proposed FEPP I&E Plan	
Investment Area	6-Year Total	Domain	6-Year Total
Early Childhood	\$658,244,525	Ready to Start	\$656,779,835
K-12 Health & Safety, K-12 Youth Supports	\$510,729,458	Ready to Learn	\$478,052,730
College and Career	\$82,438,948	Ready to Launch	\$113,042,670
Leadership and Administration	\$78,840,116	Operations	\$82,157,909
Total	\$1,330,253,047		\$1,330,033,144

Council Bill 121240, as transmitted

The I&E spending plan also reflects some changes within each domain regarding specific programs that were outlined in the Fall 2025 budget process. These changes include, but are not limited to:

- Addition of Seattle Preschool Program (SPP) Waitlist Voucher Pilot and Opportunity-Based Mentoring Program;
- Expanded Learning Opportunities splitting into “School-Based Investments” and “Community-Based Investments,” with specific requirements regarding the types of support provided;
- Some mental health staffing supports shifting to the School-Based Health Center program; and
- Reallocation of proposed additional Seattle Youth Employment Program funding to Police and Fire Career programs and “Path to Tech” program.

Council Bill 121240, as introduced

The introduced version will include significant changes to address clarity, funding details, and Council's role. These changes include but are not limited to the following:

1. Clarification Edits – Adds more detailed descriptions of funded programs and additional reporting indicators, clarity on implementation timelines and evaluations.
2. Funding Details - Provides line item break down for every funded program and more details on spending for Council priorities, such as youth mental health.
3. Modifications to the Plan – Limits DEEL's authority to modify plan except for specific policies - all other policy and funding modifications require Council approval.
4. Underspend – Requires Council approval of underspend allocation, prioritizes funding for evidence-based services supporting levy goals, and may only be used to fund new or expanded programming if it can be sustained for the remaining life of the levy.

Policy Considerations (1/2)

- 1. New Programs to be Developed** – Two new programs being designed for implementation in 2027-2028 school year - SPP Waitlist Voucher Pilot and Opportunity-Based Mentoring – with limited details available, including how recipients for services will be chosen or prioritized.
- 2. Universal School Meals Program** – New program provides two years of funding for free meals at 53 schools for students not otherwise supported by Federal free and reduced-price meal program. Reduces Cost and Risk Reserve Funds to support this program. Assumes State Millionaire’s Tax will fund program after first two years.
- 3. HSD Programs and Alignment with FEPP** – HSD programs previously funded with other sources now FEPP supported were not developed in alignment with FEPP Levy goals. Programs will be re-bid at end of funding cycle and provide opportunity to better align with FEPP goals and outcomes.

Policy Considerations (2/2)

4. **Program Outcomes** - The FEPP Levy Ordinance states a key implementation principle is to “achieve levy outcomes that advance educational equity.” Goals and desired outcomes in each domain in the I&E Plan do not reference closing opportunity gaps for populations furthest from educational milestones, as a measure of success for the levy.
5. **Path to Trades Priorities** – I&E Plan includes funding for Path to Trade programs that create career awareness and provide exploration and preparation support for Seattle youth interested in careers such as the trades and public service, including (but not prioritizing) City jobs for which there is a demand for workers and available apprenticeship programs.
6. **School Safety Investments** – The I&E Plan includes funding for several programs that will serve students involved in, or at elevated risk of, criminal justice system involvement. It also includes funding for existing HSD investments in School-Based Safety that have historically been supported by General Fund dollars. It is likely some overlap in terms of services offered, individuals served, and desired outcomes exists with these programs.

Contextual Policy Consideration

- 7. K-12 School-Based Investments** - The Executive is implementing a new evidence-based approach to funding School-Based Investments and services beginning in the 2027-2028 school year. The current model has shown mixed results and made it difficult to track which types of interventions are working. New Request for Proposal process will be conducted in 2026. There is no guarantee that programs and services receiving funding under the current program will be awarded funding under this new model.

Next Steps

July 2nd at Noon

- Amendment proposals due to Central Staff

July 8th at 9:30 a.m.

- Discussion and possible vote on amendments, final Select Committee vote on FEPP Levy I&E Plan

July 22 at 9:30 am. (If necessary)

- Discussion and vote on amendments, final Select Committee vote on FEPP Levy I&E Plan

Questions?