

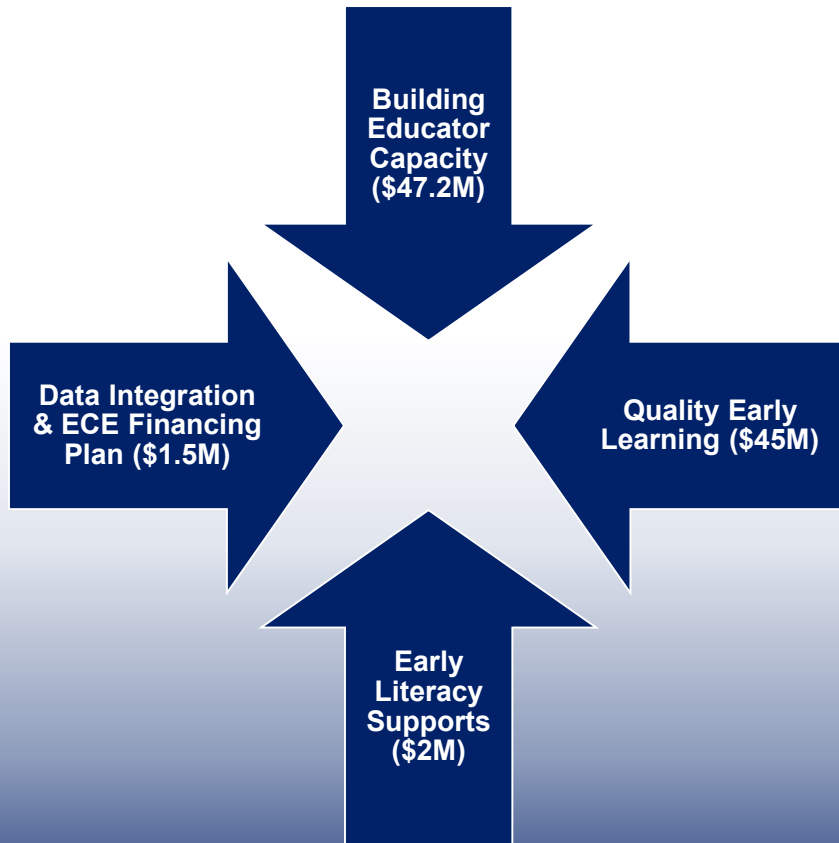


HSSCO Updates

August 2021

Early Childhood System Investments

Made possible through a partnership with DES- Child Care Administration



\$95.7 Million

CHILD CARE

THE MOST SWEEPING PLAN IN THE NATION

"Child care is one of the most important things we can focus on as we emerge from the pandemic. This year was tough on our kids and our hardworking parents. That's why we're directing our resources to help parents return to the workforce and get our kids the care they need."

GOVERNOR DUCEY

- **\$548.9 million** to stabilize and support child care providers through a grant program
- **\$134.8 million** to increase reimbursement rates for child care providers
- **\$73.4 million** to increase the number of quality child care settings around the state
- **\$47.2 million** to develop early literacy programs for children across the state
- **\$45 million** to increase funding for child care for Arizonans in need pursuing an undergraduate degree in teaching or nursing
- **\$45 million** to improve and expand preschool curriculum
- **\$39 million** to ensure there remains no waitlist for the child care subsidy for eligible families
- **\$30.2 million** to cover child care subsidies for unemployed Arizonans who return to the workforce
- **\$30 million** to increase funding for students in need pursuing an undergraduate degree that would raise their wages above the need for government assistance

The FY 2022 budget signed by Governor Ducey invests **\$1.2 billion** in child care, compared to **\$181 million** last year. This represents a five-fold increase in year-over-year child care spending.

Literacy Investments

Executive Budget and Legislation



Executive Budget & Legislation (SB1572)

\$6.9 Million

**Literacy Coaching
(\$3.1M)**

**Kindergarten Entry
Evaluation (\$1.5M)**

**Dyslexia Training
(\$1.3M)**

**Educator Reading
Exam (\$1.0)**

• Early Literacy Investments

Az's Early Literacy Policy Framework



Early Literacy Policy Framework- Specific to Birth through age 5 with DES funds and SB1572 B-3rd grade

- 1. Educator Capacity and New Teacher Prep.** A key focus of Mississippi's strategy was dramatically increasing the knowledge of educators and practitioners in the science of reading. Arizona has secured funding to take this crucial strategy to greater scale through the federal Comprehensive Literacy State Development (CLSD) grant — totaling \$20M over five years — to strengthen teacher preparation and provide professional development to schools with the highest percentage of disadvantaged struggling readers. Additional funding for Acceleration Academies — which leverage critical Governor's Emergency Education Relief Funds — targets schools most impacted by COVID-19 to minimize learning loss.

	Implementation	Schools Served	Annual Budget
Year 1	CLSD Grant	180+	\$4M secured
	AZ Cares/Acceleration Academies		up to \$4.625M secured
Years 2-5	CLSD Grant	15-25 subgrants	\$4M secured

- 2. "Swarm" Literacy Coaching.** Mississippi deployed master literacy coaches to their lowest-performing schools to provide PK-3 schools with intensive technical assistance to support, improve, and sustain effective teaching and literacy practices. Schools that received these intensive interventions demonstrated significant progress by the third year. To help close Arizona's achievement gap among key student subgroups, additional funding is needed to deploy 75 regional literacy coaches — coordinated by ADE — to provide ongoing, evidence-based technical assistance in effective reading instruction at the lowest-performing schools (the bottom 10%, as identified by third-grade ELA assessment data, having a below-proficiency rate of 77% or higher.)

	Regional Coaches	Schools Served	Students Served	Annual Budget
Year 1	25	50	20,000	\$3.1M
Year 2	50	100	40,000	\$5.6M
Years 3-5	75	150	60,000	\$8.1M

- 3. High-Quality Early Learning.** Mississippi's Early Learning Collaboratives Act expanded high-quality early childhood education programs in high-need areas and monitored progress with a standardized state kindergarten entry assessment to demonstrate school readiness for young learners receiving early literacy supports. Currently only 22% of Arizona's 3- and 4-year-olds are in a quality early learning setting. Additional funding for access to high-quality early learning opportunities in high-need areas of Arizona is a critical driver for more children being ready to learn to read as they enter kindergarten and improving third-grade reading outcomes.

	Children Served	Annual Budget
AZ Early Childhood Block Grant	2,000 additional	\$20M ADE request
State Kindergarten Entry Assessment	80,000+	\$1.5M <i>fully funded by 2024</i>

• Professional Learning

Social and Emotional



- **Tuesday, Oct 19, 10:00am-12:00pm ACEs Module 1: Understanding Adverse Childhood Experiences (2-hr)**

Participants will learn to identify examples and categories of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs), explain the significance of the ACEs Study, understand how a high ACE score might be a strong predictor of later health problems in adults, and understand the story of ACEs told through national and Arizona data.

- **Wednesday, Nov 3, 2:00pm-4:00pm Strengthening Families™: Protective Factors - Parenting & Child Development Course (2-hr)**

This course is on the Strengthening Families™ Protective Factors Framework with a focus on the protective factor: Knowledge of Parenting & Child Development. Participants will identify everyday strategies to help increase understanding of child development and strengthen parenting among families that they work with.

- **Tuesday, Dec 14, 10:00am-12:00pm ACEs Module 2: Toxic Stress and Trauma Informed Care (2-hr)**

This session will help participants understand different types of normal and toxic stress and the effects on development and behavior. Participants will also understand the impact of toxic stress using the lens of NEAR science. We will also define trauma and discuss the connections between risky behaviors, coping mechanisms, and unresolved trauma, as well as learn practical strategies for support.

