

ERDC & House Bill 3073

ERDC Eligibility Expansion and Migration to the
New Department of Early Learning & Care

What does House Bill 3073 do?

The Oregon Legislature passed House Bill 3073 in 2021, which included the establishment of a new early learning agency named the Department of Early Learning and Care (DELIC). On July 1, early learning & child care programs, including ERDC, will be run by DELIC. ***This will not change the way families get ERDC benefits. Families will continue to apply for and receive benefits through the Oregon Department of Human Services.***



Oregon Department
of Human Services



New Back Office
and Shared
Service Teams

(IT, Accounting,
Procurement, HR, PMO,
Data Analytics, etc.)



Department of
Early Learning
and Care
(DELIC)

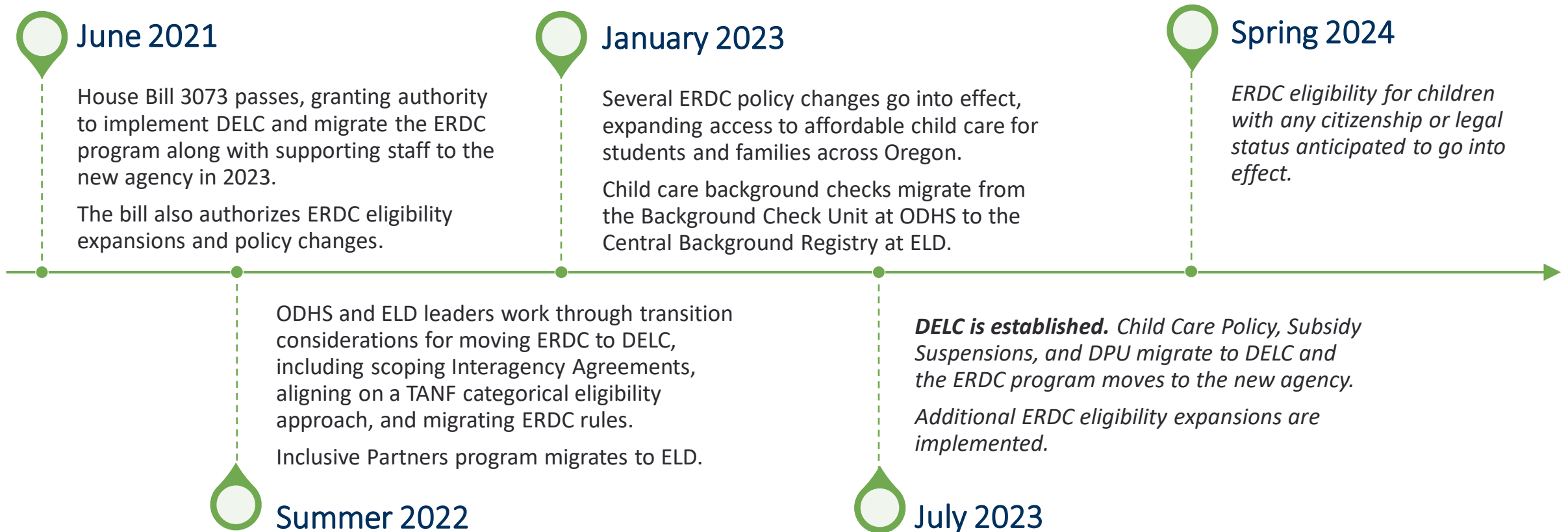
Launches July 1, 2023

- **ERDC Program (not eligibility)**
 - Child Care Policy Analysts
 - Subsidy Suspensions
 - Direct Pay Unit (DPU)
- **Inclusive Partners** (migrated 7/1/22)

Inclusive Partners is a CCDF funded team with responsibilities including assessing eligibility for the ERDC High Need Rate

ERDC Migration Timeline

For the last two years, cross-agency teams have collaborated to expand ERDC eligibility, migrate ERDC to DELC, and prevent any disruption of services to Oregonians.



Teams Supporting ERDC Migrate to DELC

Child Care Policy, Subsidy Suspensions, and DPU will migrate from ODHS to DELC with the ERDC program on July 1, 2023. Below is a description of what each team does to support ERDC:

- **Child Care Policy** helps develop and administer ERDC, as well as other eligibility-based child care contracts, and coordinates with state staff to align the ERDC program with state plan, federal regulations and other self-sufficiency programs. Child Care Policy will be a part of DELC's Programs Division.
- **Subsidy Suspensions** analyzes complaints and compliance matters related to listed ERDC providers. Subsidy Suspensions will be part of DELC's Policy & Research Division.
- **Direct Pay Unit** helps providers become approved to receive child care subsidy payments, processes billing forms, and offers customer service to providers and families who receives child care benefits. DPU will be a part of DELC's Operations Division.

Child Care Policy, Subsidy Suspensions, and DPU will play an active role in supporting ODHS staff as they process ERDC eligibility and implement ERDC eligibility changes. DPU's phone number will remain the same, and we will share updated email addresses for Child Care Policy, Subsidy Suspensions, and DPU in the coming weeks.

July 1 ERDC Eligibility Changes

12-Month Protected Eligibility for ERDC
and Categorical ERDC for TANF Families

Enhancing protected 12- month eligibility period by removing reasons cases close

Starting July 1, more families will be able to stay on ERDC for 12 months.

- Cases will no longer close if a family cannot find a provider within three months.
- ERDC benefits will continue if a caretaker loses their job or stops attending school.

Federal regulations require twelve-month eligibility for all families accessing CCDF subsidy. Currently, ERDC is approved for 12 months, but there are many reasons why a case might close during those 12 months.

Starting July 1, 2023, ERDC will only close a case within the 12-month period if:

- the family moved out of state,
- there are no eligible children in the home,
- the family requested benefits to be closed,
- benefits were determined in error, or
- the family's income exceeds exit income limits.*

**CCDF federal funding requirement*

Categorical ERDC for families receiving TANF

Starting July 1, 2023, families receiving Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) can get ERDC to help pay for child care. For the first time, families will be able to receive ERDC and TANF at the same time.

- **What this means for families currently receiving TANF:** Families can ask their family coach for ERDC to help pay for child care. This will not change the family's TANF benefit. The TANF child care program will end because ERDC will provide more flexible child care assistance.
- **What this means for families who currently participate in ERDC:** Families may be able to get TANF if they have a job loss, are on unpaid leave from work, or their income reduces. Child care assistance can continue while families receive TANF.
- **What this means for families new to benefits:** Families can apply for cash and child care assistance at the same time.

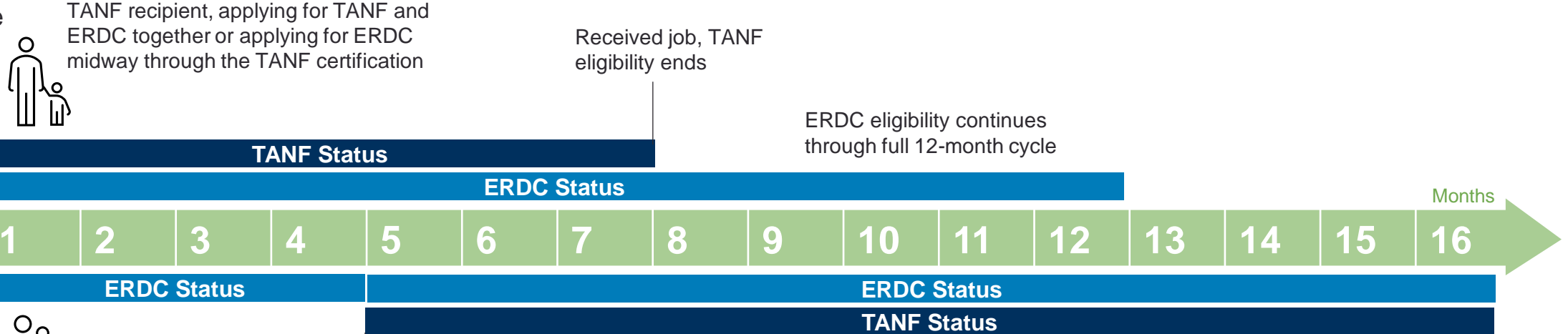
TANF families will be eligible* for part-time child care hours. TANF families who need more child care hours can request them.

** TANF families must request child care benefits to get ERDC. This could be at TANF application or during their TANF certification period. Certain federal requirements still apply, such as immunizations.*

ERDC Cat. Eligibility Examples for TANF Families

Expected July 1, families receiving TANF who apply for child care benefits will be eligible for ERDC with a \$0 copay for 12-months, regardless of whether their TANF status changes. Any families who receive ERDC that experience a change in work or school which renders them eligible for TANF will receive an ERDC extension for an additional 12-months with no copayments.

Example One



Example Two

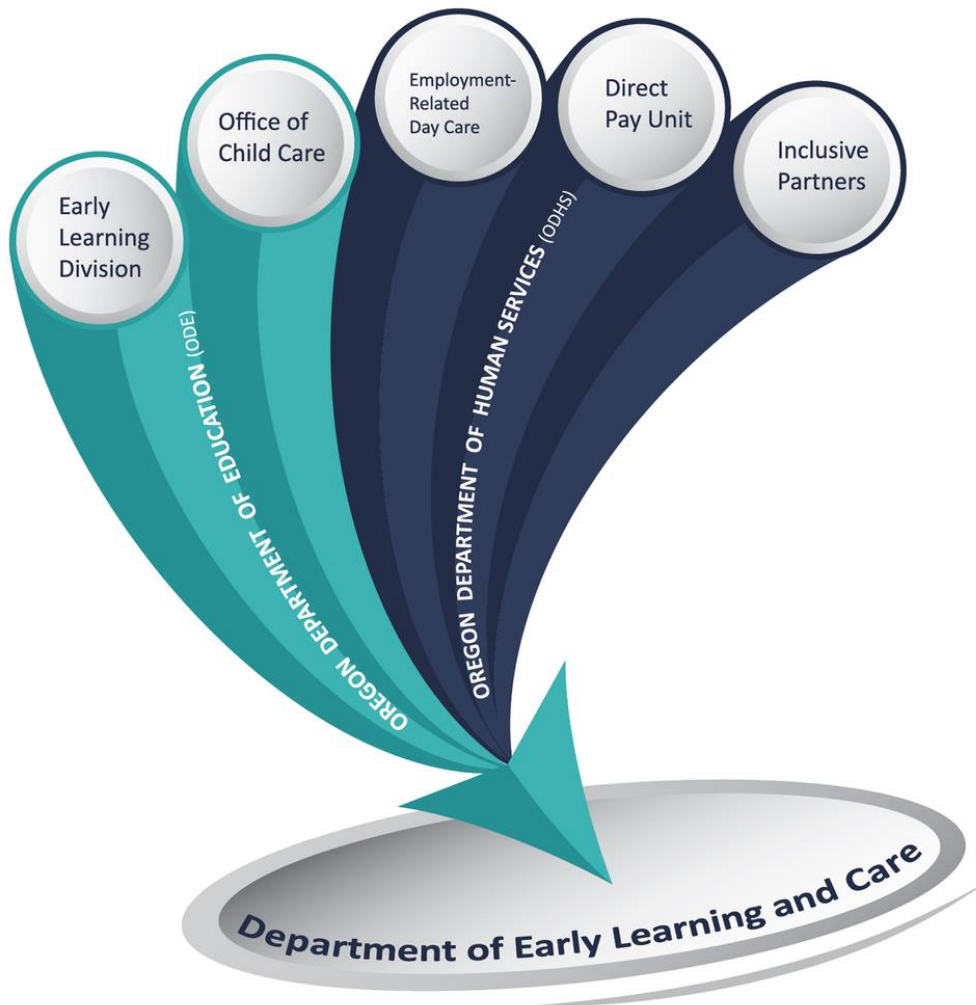




Additional Resources

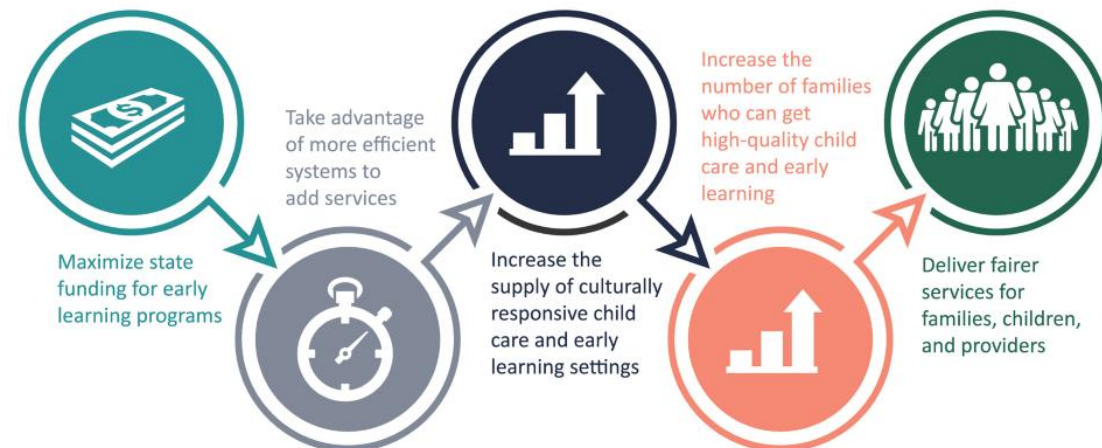
DELC One-Pagers

What is DELC?



DELC will consolidate all child care and early learning programs under one state agency.

The creation of DELC allows us to expand and strengthen early learning systems to better serve Oregon's children, families, and providers. The agency aims to deliver a unified early education and child care system in diverse settings.



Why are we creating the Department of Early Learning and Care?

Simply put, House Bill 3073 requires this change. But the real answer is that creation of DELC allows us to expand and strengthen early learning systems to better serve Oregon's children and families.



PROVIDERS

DELC will be better for all types of providers, including license-exempt providers. The new agency will mean more training sessions for license-exempt providers as well as access to other supports. Plus, these changes will expand the types of providers and programs under the agency's umbrella while also prioritizing mixed-delivery of early care and education.

HOW DOES THIS AFFECT...?

Programs such as Preschool Promise or Baby Promise

The move to DELC does not change the way publicly funded early care and education programs such as Preschool Promise or Oregon Pre-Kindergarten are administered.

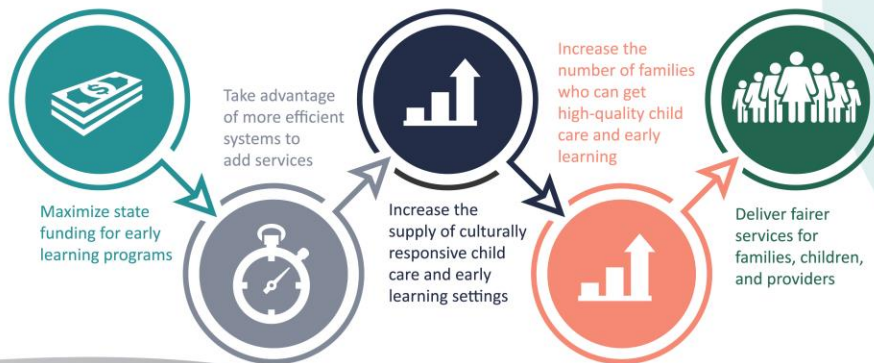


CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

By organizing early learning and child care services under one agency, families will have an easier time searching for and finding high-quality and affordable early care and education.

WHY IS DELC THE BETTER OPTION?

Bringing these five groups into one agency lets us:



EMPLOYMENT RELATED DAY CARE (ERDC)

Oregon will have a central agency for early care and education policy and program administration.

- Basic eligibility will expand, and 12-month program eligibility would be guaranteed
- Family copayments will be no more than 7% of family income (in effect 10-1-22)
- More financial incentives for providers to offer special service
- DELC will use the "true cost of care" rate to set provider reimbursement
- Providers will be reimbursed based on enrollment, not attendance (in effect 10-1-22)

QUESTIONS or COMMENTS?
DELC.Info@ode.oregon.gov

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT DELC?
OregonEarlyLearning.com/HB3073

