

thread's State Policy Agenda

thread connecting early care & education to alaska

2025

CHILD CARE IS CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE:

HELP BUILD A STRONGER FUTURE FOR ALASKA

Child Care Policy Priorities

1. Reintroduce and pass HB89 (2024 session) as intended and previously enacted.
2. Support prompt payment parity to ensure timely payments of grants and contracts.
3. Implement and fund the Governor's Child Care Task Force recommendations.

thread recommends prioritizing high quality elements:

- Recognize and adopt the Learn & Grow quality standards as Alaska's Early Childhood Quality Recognition and Improvement System (QRIS).
- Support categorical eligibility to allow the children of early educators to qualify for the state's child care subsidy.

Child Care Operating Budget Priorities

CHILD CARE SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORTS



EARLY EDUCATORS/WORKFORCE

\$7.5M*

continue the recent Child Care Grant program to support stable operations

\$7.5M*

continue the successful ROOTS Awards retention stipend

\$2.5M

new business recruitment & startup support

\$3M

expand and scale the Learn & Grow Quality Standards

\$650K

professional development training & support

\$350K

expand early educator wellness & health benefit

This is the minimum investment needed to stabilize child care.

*Previously funded by legislature and approved by Governor at this amount.