

# **State of Alaska FY2022 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Health and Social Services Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs Component Budget Summary**

**Component: Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs**

**Contribution to Department's Mission**

**Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program (EI/ILP)** promotes access to a flexible array of quality services for Alaskan infants and toddlers with special developmental needs, and their families. The Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program provides early intervention services and support to families of children age birth to three who experience diagnosed conditions or significant developmental delay. Services are provided in a manner that respects families, communities, cultural differences, and promotes genuine partnerships in all aspects of service design and delivery. The program is administered in accordance with Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

**Core Services**

- Offer a Child Find system to ensure infants and toddlers with developmental delays are identified as early as possible through developmental screening and other outreach and public awareness activities.
- Ensure infants and toddlers who may have disabilities or developmental delays receive a comprehensive evaluation to identify the potential need for early intervention/infant learning services.
- Ensure that every child who is a victim of abuse or neglect is fully evaluated and offered enrollment in the early intervention program as appropriate.
- Provide family support services, developmental therapy, and coaching to optimize child development to all enrolled families.
- Assist enrolled infants and toddlers in "closing the developmental gap" with typically developing peers when possible.
- Advocate and work towards full inclusion for infants and toddlers in systems such as Child Care and Head Start.
- Ensure availability of comprehensive family support and parent education services that address the stressors impairing the ability of families to nurture and support the healthy development of their children.
- Provide Early Childhood Mental Health consultation to early care and learning programs, facilitating a learning network of professional development for professionals serving young children and their families

**Major Component Accomplishments in 2020**

- Re-examined and re-established targets for outcomes to align with federal objectives and statewide stakeholder feasibility.
- Creation of a new database progressed and the project was in the testing phase at the end of FY2020. The new database is currently in a review phase to include modifications to allow for new measures related to COVID-19.
- The Infant Learning Program continued to develop skills in local providers to ensure enrolled infants and toddlers have measurable gains in developmental/social-emotional skills and families have skills they feel they need to help their children grow and learn.
- Statewide, the number of referrals and enrollment remained steady. In FY2020, there were 3,431 referrals. Annual enrollment was 1,857 in FY2018, 1,913 in FY2019, and, in FY2020, enrollment was 1,858.
- The number of referrals from the Child Protection System or Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) referrals continued to be high. Referral numbers in 2017 = 619, 2018 = 849, 2019 = 824, and 2020 = 940.
- Families referred from child protection continue to be the most difficult to find and engage in services. Phone numbers, physical addresses, and home communities change without notice. Families are tentative about engaging with Infant Learning staff due to their association with child protection. It takes more time and effort to earn their trust and establish relationships that support effective services, prohibiting the program from meeting Federal timelines. Infant Learning Program staff continue to work hard to adjust their practice in order to meet the needs of these infants/toddlers and their families.
- Early Intervention programs across the state have been innovative and creative in delivering services through the coaching model, which guides and engages parents through a process to allow them to be their child's primary teacher.
- Due to COVID-19, local Early Intervention/Infant Learning providers moved all Child Find activities from

direct instruction to a distance platform. These temporary modifications are intended to allow for continuity of services and communication between Alaska families and their Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program.

### **Key Component Challenges**

- Providing a full array of services for children birth to three years old identified through either the child protective service system or from other community sources remains a challenge to the Infant Learning Program system. Specifically, the lack of early intervention staff who are considered highly qualified by Individuals with Disabilities Education Act standards remains a challenge for local agencies and teams. Additionally, where staff can be found, having sufficient funding to employ and retain highly qualified staff is a challenge for local programs. Infant Learning Program teams also struggle to engage families that are referred for service through the child welfare system.
- Federal reporting for program outcomes has been a significant challenge in terms of having providers familiar and educated about the federal outcome measures for the program. On the Federal level a new reporting system is being rolled out and may impact program response time.
- COVID-19 fundamentally impacted traditional service delivery models. Spending needed to be realigned to address platform changes and increased technology use. Minimal federal guidance was available for the program.

### **Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2022**

- Continued monitoring of providers to evaluate program quality as well as compliance with State and Federal regulations.
- A modernized database will allow for more accurate and comprehensive overview of data and submissions to Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) and other regulatory organizations are expected to reflect the more detailed data collection.
- Adjustment to all service delivery modes to ensure families are well supported during and post COVID-19.

### **Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

AS 47.20.070-075	Services for Developmentally Delayed or Disabled Children
7 AAC 78-010-320	Grant Programs
7 AAC 23.010-100	Infant Learning Program
7 AAC 80.010-925	Fees for Department
Services Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, Part C	

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**Component Detail All Funds**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Component:** Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs (3118)  
**RDU:** Senior and Disabilities Services (487)

Non-Formula Component

	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 Conference Committee	FY2021 Authorized	FY2021 Management Plan	FY2022 Governor	FY2021 Management Plan vs FY2022 Governor	
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
73000 Services	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
74000 Commodities	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
75000 Capital Outlay	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
77000 Grants, Benefits	9,222.2	9,283.6	9,283.6	9,283.6	9,283.6	0.0	0.0%
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,222.2</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Fund Sources:</b>							
1002 Fed Rcpts (Fed)	1,838.5	1,859.1	1,859.1	1,859.1	1,859.1	0.0	0.0%
1037 GF/MH (UGF)	7,383.7	7,424.5	7,424.5	7,424.5	7,424.5	0.0	0.0%
<b>Unrestricted General (UGF)</b>	<b>7,383.7</b>	<b>7,424.5</b>	<b>7,424.5</b>	<b>7,424.5</b>	<b>7,424.5</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Designated General (DGF)</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Other Funds</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Federal Funds</b>	<b>1,838.5</b>	<b>1,859.1</b>	<b>1,859.1</b>	<b>1,859.1</b>	<b>1,859.1</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0%</b>
<b>Positions:</b>							
Permanent Full Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Permanent Part Time	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%
Non Permanent	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.0%

**Change Record Detail - Multiple Scenarios with Descriptions**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Component:** Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs (3118)  
**RDU:** Senior and Disabilities Services (487)

Scenario/Change Record Title	Trans Type	Totals	Personal Services	Travel	Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	Grants, Benefits	Miscellaneous	Positions		NP
										PFT	PPT	
***** Changes From FY2021 Conference Committee To FY2021 Authorized *****												
<b>Conference Committee</b>												
1002 Fed Rcpts	ConfCom	9,283.6	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9,283.6	0.0	0	0	0
1037 GF/MH		1,859.1										
		7,424.5										
	<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
***** Changes From FY2021 Management Plan To FY2022 Governor *****												
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**  
**Grants, Benefits**

**Component:** Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs (3118)

Line Number	Line Name	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 Management Plan	FY2022 Governor
7000	Grants, Benefits	9,222.2	9,283.6	9,283.6

Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 Management Plan	FY2022 Governor
<b>7000 Grants, Benefits Detail Totals</b>			<b>9,222.2</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>

7003	Sub-Recipient Pass-Through Grants	Infant Learning Program grants to provide home-based therapy and education services for children from birth to two years who have moderate to severe mental or physical handicaps or are at risk for such delays. Provide educational medically oriented learning program for infants and children not yet old enough for special education offered through their local school district. Professional infant learning teachers and therapists regularly instruct parents and other caregivers to be the primary facilitator in an infant's development. Grant Funding for early intervention with very young children (birth to six years of age) at risk of becoming youth experiencing serious emotional disturbance (SED). Managed by DHSS, DBH, these funds are disseminated to a single grantee, Juneau Youth Services. They utilize funds to visit daycare sites where young children attend. They work with providers there to assess youth, to develop productive ways of working with them to reduce the possibility that they will be expelled from the facility and to	9,222.2	9,283.6	9,283.6
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**Line Item Detail (1676)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**  
**Grants, Benefits**

**Component:** Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs (3118)

Object Class	Servicing Agency	Explanation	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 Management Plan	FY2022 Governor
		<b>7000 Grants, Benefits Detail Totals</b>	<b>9,222.2</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>	<b>9,283.6</b>
		prevent a serious emotional disturbance (SED). Behavior intervention and supports for the Early Childhood System is to gather information about the effectiveness of ongoing, statewide training in the use of positive behavioral supports (PBS) for direct service providers and families supporting individuals who experience developmental disabilities. This project targets children receiving early intervention services and early childhood special education. Grant funding for early intervention with very young children (birth to six years of age) at risk of becoming youth experiencing serious emotional disturbance (SED).			

**Revenue Detail (1681)**  
**Department of Health and Social Services**

**Component:** Early Intervention/Infant Learning Programs (3118)

Revenue Type (OMB Fund Code) Revenue Source	Component	Comment	FY2020 Actuals	FY2021 Management Plan	FY2022 Governor
<b>5002 Fed Rcpts (1002 Fed Rcpts)</b>			<b>1,838.5</b>	<b>1,859.1</b>	<b>1,859.1</b>
5006 Federal Health and Human Services - Title XIX Grants		Medicaid Administration	0.0	46.6	46.6
5007 Federal Health and Human Services - Miscellaneous Grants		Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP), Early Intervention/Infant Learning Program federal grants.	0.0	1,812.5	1,812.5
5019 Federal - Miscellaneous Grants			1,838.5	0.0	0.0
<b>6037 GF/MH (1037 GF/MH)</b>			<b>0.0</b>	<b>7,424.5</b>	<b>7,424.5</b>
6123 General Fund Mental Health - Miscellaneous		General Fund Mental Health authority required for Part C grants.	0.0	7,424.5	7,424.5