This document identifies selected resources on financing early care and education. Click on the topic in the table of contents to go directly to that section of the selected resources.

Financial Policy
Calculating Costs
Financing Strategies

**Financing Policy**

**Improving Public Financing for Early Learning Programs**

This 2011 NIEER policy brief reviews sources and models of public financing for early education. Recommendations to improve current funding to remove barriers for increasing program access and quality are identified.

**Increasing the Effectiveness and Efficiency of Existing Public Investments in Early Childhood Education**

This report outlines challenges in early education funding such as standards, assessments, data tracking/evaluation and disability services and offer suggestions for advancing and improving funding for early education programs. Often funding is coming from so many options that states don’t know how to use them all together.
**Smarter Reform: Moving Beyond Single-Program Solutions to an Early Care and Education System**

While many states focus on funding one aspect of preschool, the authors of this report argue that instead a range of investment strategies should be used by states as a commitment to high quality well rounded early childhood education systems.

**Calculating Costs**
*Finding the Bottom Line: Considerations in Applying Benefit-Cost Analysis*

How can we increase comparability of benefit-cost analysis to aid decision making in the case of preventative programs for families and children? Increased time to applying cost benefit analysis to decision making on early childhood could help improve decision making skills on the subject.

**Meaningful Investments in Pre-K: Estimating the Per-Child Costs of Quality Programs**

This brief provides national estimates of per child costs of pre-K in certain settings and with varying degrees of quality. Provides information on per child/ per/hour and per/year estimates for a high quality program.

**Financing Strategies**
*Blending and Braiding Early Childhood Program Funding Streams Toolkit*

Approaches to blending and braiding funding at the program level so service providers can use multiple funding sources to expand services for children. The toolkit identifies strategies used by Illinois,
Early Care and Education Compensation and Policy Options for Louisiana

This report compares wages and benefits across market-based child care, school-based pre-k and Head Start programs in Louisiana. A range of policy options to help narrow the wage gap are discussed. Appendix A includes a summary of ECE compensation issues in other states.

Inspiring Innovation: Creative State Financing Structures for Infant-Toddler Services

Innovative financing reforms in Illinois, Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma designed to leverage public and private funding to increase access to high quality services for infants and toddlers.

Pay for Success Financing for Early Childhood Programs: A Path Forward

This report analyses the feasibility of a pay for success model of financing early education and how it might affect early childhood interventions.

Shared Services: A Support Strategy for Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge

Shared Service Alliances are networks of small early childhood education centers within a community that share costs to provide more high quality services. They offer many kinds of services to members and improve the business and management side of early childhood which has implications for state efforts to increase access to quality.
Social Impact Bonds: Overview and Considerations

Describes how social impact bonds and “pay for success” methods may be the new way to fund pre-K. The bonds must impact the program so that the programs meet specific targets and eventually private investors get a return on their investment by the government. This increases investments in prevention and has the potential of saving money.

Tax Credits for Early Care and Education: Funding Strategy in a New Economy

Tax credits can be used to raise the quality of ECE services by using dollar for dollar reductions in tax liabilities owed by taxpayers. By linking these to quality improvement efforts and refund plans states can successfully fund ECE. See examples in Louisiana, Colorado, Oregon, and Pennsylvania.
ABOUT CEELO:
One of 22 Comprehensive Centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes (CEELO) will strengthen the capacity of State Education Agencies (SEAs) to lead sustained improvements in early learning opportunities and outcomes. CEELO will work in partnership with SEAs, state and local early childhood leaders, and other federal and national technical assistance (TA) providers to promote innovation and accountability.


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