

Office of Early Childhood SFY26 Spending Plan for the Early Childhood Education Endowment					
Expansion Costs	September 2025 Proposed Expenses	January 2026 Proposed Expenses	April 2026 Proposed Expenses	Actuals as of April 6, 2026	Description
Smart Start Expansion - Operations Funds	\$ 2,025,000	\$ 1,425,000	\$ 1,425,000		Expanding public school preschools by approximately 11 classrooms
Smart Start Expansion - Capital Improvements	\$ 1,570,000	\$ 1,445,000	\$ 1,445,000	\$ 436,467	Support facility expansions for next school year for additional Smart Start classrooms
Early Start CT Expansion	\$ 19,774,264	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 6,000,000		Increasing child care access by approximately 1,050 spaces
Early Start CT Rate Increases		\$ 5,254,994	\$ 5,236,563	\$ 2,356,854	Up to 8% rate increase per space
Administrative Costs					Description
Agency Administrative Costs	\$ 2,816,166	\$ 2,350,811	\$ 865,362	\$ 91,701	OEC Agency capacity and staffing, IT and Data system improvements and planning
Programmatic Costs					Description
Special Education Supports	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000		Contracting to provide training and assistance
Enrollment Campaign/Communication	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 450,000	\$ 30,822	Supports communication with the field and public listening sessions.
Registry/Scholarships	\$ 1,150,000	\$ 1,450,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 737,083	Increase in funding for expansion of the Registry and scholarship funding
Quality Enhancement/Improvement	\$ 350,000	\$ 571,588	\$ 571,588	\$ -	Workforce landscape planning, including pay parity and compensation schedule.
Local Governance Partners (LGPs)	\$ 4,700,000	\$ 2,680,000	\$ 2,500,500	\$ -	Support for the Local Needs Assessment, Stipends for Parent Ambassadors, Quality Enhancement Funding, Incentives for regional LGP expansion, and match funds for every community LGP
Health Insurance	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 50,000	\$ -	Funds to conduct a study on the need of a health insurance subsidy for the employees of early childhood programs. In accordance with P.A. 25-93, Sec. 15 (b)
Stabilization Grants	\$ -	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 10,700,000	\$ -	One time child care provider stabilization grants support the financial sustainability of licensed providers by offsetting rising operational costs and preventing program closures.
Total Proposed Endowment Fund Costs	\$ 32,935,430	\$ 32,027,393	\$ 30,544,013	\$ 3,652,926	