



In order to serve millions of children and families in California, we must stabilize, rebuild and strengthen our state's Early Care and Education system starting now. We must do so through a whole systems approach that recognizes that child care access and quality are built on the foundations of a well-compensated and supported workforce and delivered in quality settings that nurture the development of children while keeping them safe.

This is why the ECE Coalition urges California lawmakers and Governor Newsom to make the following whole systems investments. Without each of these critical investments, we risk securing successful lives for millions of children while undermining the livelihoods of those who care for them. The opportunity is now.

#### **Strengthening Access to Subsidized Early Care and Education**

- **\$3 billion** with a mix of one-time and ongoing funds to increase the number of **subsidized child care slots** across the mixed delivery system to be allocated over multiple years
- **\$325 million** to eliminate **family fees through September, 2024** to alleviate undue burdens of parents struggling to make ends meet
- **\$825 million** to build new or renovate existing child care facilities so children have safe places to grow and thrive

#### **Stabilizing and Strengthening Support for Early Care and Education Providers**

- **\$1 billion to update and increase provider rates** that critically support the ECE workforce by using the 2018 Regional Market Rate Survey for all providers at the 85% of state median income
- **\$2.3 billion** for provider stabilization grants and stipends that will help arrest the decimation of our system while providers continue to adjust and rebuild their programs and services for children
- **Extending the current hold harmless benefits** to ensure that providers and programs retain their capacity to serve children and families during and after the COVID-19 pandemic
- **\$275 million** for provider professional development and training for new Family Child Care Home providers to become a licensed provider

#### **Building Back California's Early Care and Education Better**

- **\$10 million** to waive child care provider licensing fees through June 30, 2022
- **\$30 million** to upgrade Alternative Payment Program technology systems
- **\$6 million** to establish direct deposits for providers
- **\$30 million** to provide COVID-19 aid for Resource & Referral Agencies to better serve families throughout California and **\$20 million** to increase R&R Network rates
- **\$10 million** to update local child care waiting lists to be able to accurately assess statewide need and eligibility for care
- **\$5 million** to begin the development of an equity index to ensure that resources are allocated to areas of highest need