

Research and Policy Agenda and Growing Oregon Together Cross Walk



This document connects [DELIC's Research and Policy Agenda's](#) high-level research questions to the objectives laid out in [DELIC's Growing Oregon Together Strategic Plan](#). The Growing Oregon Together (GOT) objectives describe *how* DELIC does its work, and the Research and Policy Agenda connects to these objectives by describing how we *understand* DELIC's work. Understanding DELIC's work supports continuous improvement towards high-quality early learning and care system outcomes.

These two Growing Oregon Together objectives are uniquely aligned with the purpose and goals of the Research and Policy Agenda. In contrast to other objectives that are aligned with only one or some Research and Policy Agenda goals, these are cross walked with every high-level research question:

- 5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELIC's policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
- 6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.

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R&P Priority 1 – Understand and Improve How Oregon’s Early Learning and Care System Meets Family and Community Needs

Research Questions	Growing Oregon Together Objectives
<p>How well does Oregon’s early learning and care system meet Oregon’s families’ and communities’ needs?</p>	1.6 Availability of early learning and care is increased and strengthened.
	2.2 Historical harm is acknowledged, current harm caused by the State of Oregon is reduced, and trust is built by establishing positive relationships.
	3.1 Access to infant and toddler early learning and care programs that honor the unique needs of families is increased.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.
<p>What additional resources (finances, policies, learnings, investments, people, partnerships) are needed for DELC to fulfill Oregon’s early learning and care needs?</p>	1.3 Communities have the infrastructure they need to mitigate suspension and expulsion activities in early learning and care settings.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	5.2 Cross-sector partnerships in support of aligned service delivery and collaboration are strengthened with other state agencies.
	5.3 Collaboration is supported between DELC and early learning initiatives in county, city, and Tribal governments.
	6.4 Initiatives are consistently identified and launched that provide better service to Oregon residents and increase accountability to partners.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.

R&P Priority 2 – Evaluate Access, Implementation, and Effectiveness of DELC Programming

Research Questions	Growing Oregon Together Objectives
<p>To what extent do children, families, and communities access DELC programs?</p>	1.1 Core programs within DELC are expanded and enhanced to meet the needs of and support families.
	2.3 Implement funding models and programs that are designed to ensure equitable resources to support and enhance the capacity of Tribal early learning and child care programs.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC's policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.
<p>How effectively are DELC programs implemented to create high-quality early learning environments that meet the needs of children, families, and providers?</p>	1.1 Core programs within DELC are expanded and enhanced to meet the needs of and support families.
	1.2 Core programs are expanded for families to secure access to high-quality early learning and care.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC's policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.
<p>What outcomes do DELC programs produce for children, families, and providers?</p>	1.1 Core programs within DELC are expanded and enhanced to meet the needs of and support families.
	1.2 Core programs are expanded for families to secure access to high-quality early learning and care.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC's policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.

R&P Priority 3 – Improve and Foster Quality Care for Publicly Funded Programs

Research Questions	Growing Oregon Together Objectives
<p>How can DELC leverage national and local research and initiatives to foster high-quality environments that meet the needs of all Oregon’s children, families and communities?</p>	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.4 Initiatives are consistently identified and launched that provide better service to Oregon residents and increase accountability to partners.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.
<p>What training and technical supports are essential to ensure programs can offer high-quality environments?</p>	1.4 Licensing provides foundational support for programs, and is clear, accessible, culturally relevant, honoring diversity, equity and inclusion for Oregon children and families.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	5.4 DELC’s communications are accessible, inclusive, and tailored to the unique needs of DELC’s customers.
<p>What state-level supports are necessary to develop and maintain a Quality Recognition and Improvement System that helps programs build high-quality environments and foster improved outcomes for the children and families that they are serving?</p>	1.2 Core programs are expanded for families to secure access to high-quality early learning and care.
	3.1 Access to infant and toddler early learning and care programs that honor the unique needs of families is increased.
	3.3 Supports for infants and toddlers experiencing developmental delays and disabilities are increased.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.

R&P Priority 4 – Measuring Effectiveness of Workforce Investments

Research Questions	Growing Oregon Together Objectives
<p>What are the impacts of system-wide workforce initiatives, like Child Care Resource & Referrals and Every Child Belongs, on Oregon’s early learning and care system?</p>	4.1 Multiple accessible pathways exist to enter and grow within the early learning and child care workforce.
	4.2 The early learning and child care workforce is recognized and compensated as professionals.
	4.3 All early learning and child care programs have access to professional learning supports.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.
<p>How do DELC’s current investments support our ability to prepare, grow, strengthen, and retain our workforce?</p>	3.2 Infant toddler provider and partner support, technical assistance, professional development, and compensation are increased.
	4.1 Multiple accessible pathways exist to enter and grow within the early learning and child care workforce.
	4.2 The early learning and child care workforce is recognized and compensated as professionals.
	4.3 All early learning and child care programs have access to professional learning supports.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.	
<p>What opportunities exist to improve current DELC workforce investments?</p>	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.4 Initiatives are consistently identified and launched that provide better service to Oregon residents and increase accountability to partners.

6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.

R&P Priority 5 – Identify DELC’s Critical Operational Success Factors

Research Questions	Growing Oregon Together Objectives
<p>Which metrics are necessary for DELC to develop to effectively determine if the agency is reaching its goal of ensuring children, families, early learning and care professionals, and communities are supported and empowered to thrive?</p>	1.5 DELC’s administration of programs is flexible, accessible, and not administratively burdensome.
	2.1 Staff have the information and tools they need to support authentic Tribal consultation.
	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	5.4 DELC’s communications are accessible, inclusive, and tailored to the unique needs of DELC’s customers
	6.1 DELC has the structures, systems, and processes to collaborate and operate effectively.
	6.3 DELC staff have the information and tools they need to provide exceptional service to DELC customers.
	6.4 Initiatives are consistently identified and launched that provide better service to Oregon residents and increase accountability to partners.
<p>What are the impacts of DELC’s financial investments on Oregon’s early learning and care system?</p>	5.1 Community voice is embedded in DELC’s policy, implementation, and budget decisions.
	6.1 DELC has the structures, systems, and processes to collaborate and operate effectively.
	6.5 Data is used to inform decisions and high-quality data and research is shared with the public.