

# JUMP START KINDERGARTEN

\$11.2 million invested



## What is this initiative?

Jump Start Kindergarten (JSK) is an equity-driven kindergarten transition program that occurs in the summer before kindergarten starts. Families most impacted by the pandemic and furthest from opportunity are prioritized for enrollment. Jump Start Kindergarten serves as an important bridge for young children and families, building on their strengths and lived experiences. It also nurtures a culturally rich and inclusive environment, laying the foundation for lifelong learning and success.

## Goals

Jump Start Kindergarten will support a strong and connected start to school for children and families. While programs vary based on the unique needs of the school community, all Jump Start programs include these objectives:

- » **Student-Centered Goals:** A minimum of 30 hours in the classroom to increase student's social and emotional skills to gain confidence in school routines;
- » **Family-Centered Goals:** A minimum of 10 hours of family engagement activities to strengthen positive relationships among families and staff in inclusive, culturally aware environments and promote regular attendance and meaningful connections.
- » **Partnership Goals:** Planning and outreach with local providers to ensure efforts are culturally responsive and inclusive.



## Benefits

Regular attendance in kindergarten is one indicator that children and families are adjusting to the new school and routines. In addition, regular attendance is a strong predictor for reading by third grade and graduating from high school. "Regular attendance" is defined as attending school 90% of the time or more.

- » Jump Start Kindergarten has promising data on regular attendance rates. Based on summer 2022 data, on average, 61% of children who participated in Jump Start attended kindergarten during the school year regularly, as compared to 54% of children who did not participate in the program. This positive pattern, which holds for most race/ethnicity and focal groups, is encouraging.

For more information about the data, review the [JSK Data Brief 2022](#).



## Contact information

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[oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/transitioning-to-kindergarten/pages/esser3jumpstartk.aspx](https://oregon.gov/ode/students-and-family/transitioning-to-kindergarten/pages/esser3jumpstartk.aspx)



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