

2026 Juvenile Justice Education Funding Report

Target Funding Level (TFL) for Juvenile Detention and Youth Corrections Education Programs

August 2026



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Executive Summary

Senate Bill 1552 (2024), codified as ORS 327.288, requires the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to develop a biennial Target Funding Level (TFL) for Oregon's Juvenile Detention Education Programs (JDEP) and Youth Corrections Education Programs (YCEP). The TFL provides a standardized, classroom-based methodology for estimating the resources necessary to ensure that justice-involved youth continue to receive equitable, high-quality educational services while placed in county juvenile detention facilities and Oregon Youth Authority correctional facilities.

For the 2027-2029 biennium, ODE estimates that 46 classrooms (18 JDEP classrooms and 28 YCEP classrooms) will be required statewide based on Average Daily Membership (ADM) from the 2025-2026 school year. Applying the statutory methodology established in ORS 327.288, the estimated TFL is **\$28.16 million** for the 2027-2029 biennium, representing the total funding necessary to support educational services, contractual obligations, and program operations.

The project amount available to the Juvenile Justice Education Fund (JJEF) from the State School Fund (SSF), General Fund (GF), and the ending fund balance from 2025-27 are not sufficient to fully fund the calculated TFL. After accounting for these available resources, ODE projects a funding shortfall of **\$5.19 million** that will require support from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account (SEIA) to fully fund the Juvenile Justice Education Fund (JJEF). The report outlines the methodology used to calculate the TFL, estimates anticipated amounts to be made available to the JJEF, and identifies the additional funding from the SEIA necessary to maintain program services throughout the biennium.

The TFL provides policymakers with a transparent, data-driven estimate of the resources required to maintain educational continuity for justice-involved youth. Adequate funding will enable JDEP and YCEP providers to continue delivering standards-aligned instruction, special education services, career and technical education, credit recovery, and transition planning that support improved educational outcomes, successful community reintegration, and reduced recidivism.

Program Overview

Oregon Juvenile Justice Education Programs provide educational services to youth who are involved in the juvenile justice system and are placed in county juvenile detention facilities and Oregon Youth Authority correctional facilities. These educational programs are designed to ensure that justice-involved youth continue to receive meaningful educational opportunities while addressing the unique academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs that may have contributed to their involvement in the juvenile justice system.

The juvenile justice education system is centered on collaboration among the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA), county juvenile departments, local education providers, and the Oregon court system. The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) aims to provide equitable access to education, help students earn academic credit toward graduation, and facilitate successful transitions back to their home schools, post-secondary education, employment, or other community-based opportunities. Rather than focusing solely on confinement, Oregon emphasizes evidence-based rehabilitation, individualized education, successful community reintegration, and workforce preparation programs.

Educational services are considered a critical component of rehabilitation and include core academic instruction aligned with Oregon academic standards, special education services, career and technical education opportunities, credit recovery, and transition planning. Programs also emphasize individualized support, recognizing that many students served have experienced disruptions in their education, trauma, behavioral health challenges, or other barriers to academic success.

Oregon's juvenile justice education programs aim to reduce recidivism and improve long-term outcomes by helping students develop the knowledge, skills, and support necessary to achieve educational success and become productive members of their communities. Through collaboration among educators, juvenile justice professionals, families, and community partners, Oregon's juvenile justice education programs seek to create pathways for youth to reengage in learning and successfully transition to positive futures. Programs are individualized based on each student's educational history, academic performance, disabilities, and career interests.

In 2024, SB 1552 (codified as ORS 327.288) directed that each even-numbered year, ODE shall prepare a Target Funding Level (TFL) for the Juvenile Justice Education Fund (JJEF) for the following biennium. The Legislature also directed ODE to submit to the Legislative Assembly and Office of the Governor a report that explains the TFL calculated by ODE. When applicable, the report is to include any determinations by ODE that the amounts available for the Juvenile Detention Education Program (JDEP) and the Youth Corrections Education Program (YCEP) will not be adequate to pay the costs of the Juvenile Justice Education Programs. ODE has prepared this report in response to this legislative directive.

Juvenile Detention Education Programs

The Juvenile Detention Education Program (JDEP) provides educational services to school-aged youth who are temporarily placed in county juvenile detention facilities while awaiting court proceedings or other legal determinations. The education program ensures that students continue to receive uninterrupted access to high-quality educational instruction during their period of detention, helping to minimize disruptions to their academic progress. JDEP programs offer 220 school days of instruction where academic credits are accepted and recognized by community K-12 high schools towards a high school diploma. ODE contracts with nine different School Districts (SD) and Education Service Districts (ESD) to provide educational services in eleven county juvenile detention facilities.

Table 1. JDEP Sites and Locations

Contracted SD or ESD	JDEP Site Name	City
Bend-La Pine SD	COIC Skill Lab	Bend, OR
Douglas ESD	Mt Nebo Alt Ed	Roseburg, OR
Grants Pass SD #7	Josephine County Juvenile Justice	Grants Pass, OR
Klamath Falls City Schools	Klamath County Juvenile	Klamath Falls, OR
Lane ESD	Lane County Dept of Youth	Eugene, OR
Multnomah ESD	Donald E Long School	Portland, OR
Multnomah ESD	Ponderosa Creek School	Albany, OR
Multnomah ESD	Baker Creek School	McMinnville, OR
North Wasco SD #21	NORCOR	The Dalles, OR
Southern Oregon ESD	Jackson County Juvenile	Medford, OR
Willamette ESD	Mill Creek Academy	Salem, OR

Youth Corrections Education Programs

The Youth Corrections Education Program (YCEP) provides comprehensive educational services to youth who are committed to the custody of the Oregon Youth Authority (OYA) in Youth Correctional Facilities (YCF) and transitional camps. These programs ensure that students continue to receive high-quality, standards-aligned instruction while residing in youth correctional facilities and transitional camps, supporting both their academic achievement and personal development. The program operates with a 220-school day calendar for instruction where awarded academic credits are accepted and recognized by community K-12 high schools towards a high school diploma. ODE contracts with six SDs and ESDs to provide educational services in eight high schools across nine OYA facilities.

Table 2. YCEP Sites and Locations

YCEP SD/ESD	YCEP Site Name	OYA Facility	City
Grants Pass SD #7	Newbridge HS	Rogue Valley YCF	Grants Pass, OR
Harney SD #3	Monroe School	Eastern Oregon YCF	Burns, OR
Intermountain ESD	Riverbend HS	Camp Riverbend	La Grande, OR
Multnomah ESD	Ocean Dunes HS	Camp Florence	Florence, OR
Multnomah ESD	Riverside HS	Jackie Winters Transition Center	Albany, OR
Multnomah ESD	Three Lakes HS	Oak Creek YCF	Albany, OR
Tillamook SD	Trask River HS	Tillamook YCF and Camp Tillamook	Tillamook, OR
Willamette ESD	Lord HS	MacLaren YCF	Woodburn, OR

Target Funding Level

The Target Funding Level (TFL) is the estimated amount of funding needed to support Oregon's Youth Corrections Education Programs and Juvenile Detention Education Programs during each biennium. The TFL provides a standardized, classroom-based methodology for estimating the resources necessary to ensure that justice-involved youth continue to receive equitable, high-quality educational services while placed in county juvenile detention facilities and Oregon Youth Authority correctional facilities. Under ORS 327.288, the calculation is based on the average funding level per classroom and the projected number of classrooms expected to operate statewide during the upcoming biennium. TFL is calculated every even-numbered year to inform budget planning and assess whether available funding will adequately support program operations. If the amount to be made available in the Juvenile Justice Education Fund (JJEf) are insufficient to meet the TFL, ODE may use funds from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account (SEIA) and, if necessary, report funding shortages to the Legislative Assembly or the Emergency Board. This ensures educational services remain available to Oregon's justice-involved youth.

TFL Calculation Steps

ORS 327.288 laid out six steps to calculate the TFL and amount needed to fund the JJEf for the upcoming 2027-29 biennium.

Step 1 - Calculate the average funding level per JDEP and YCEP classroom for 2024-25 as the baseline.

Step 2 - Estimate the number of JDEP and YCEP classrooms for 2027-29.

Step 3 - Calculate the State School Fund (SSF) percent increase from the 2021-23 biennium to the 2025-27 biennium and apply the increase to baseline in Step 1.

Step 4 - Estimate the cost per classroom cost for the 2027-29 biennium by multiplying the estimated number of classrooms in Step 2 by the inflated average funding level in Step 3 and then multiply the amount by 2 years.

Step 5 - Estimate the amount to be made available in the JJEf for 2027-29 including the ending fund balance, SSF, and General Fund (GF) amounts.

Step 6 - Calculate the amount necessary to be transferred from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account (SEIA) to make up the difference between the total cost per classroom plus estimated operational costs and the amount to be made available in the JJEf if the amount does is not sufficient to fund the programs.

Target Funding Level (TFL) Calculation for the 2027-2029 Biennium

The 2027-29 TFL is \$28,155,836.60 to fund the Juvenile Justice Education Fund (JJEF).

Step 1 - Calculate the average per funding level JDEP and YCEP classroom for 2024-25 as the baseline.

- The average funding level for JDEP and YCEP classrooms in 2024-25 is calculated at \$243,334.06 from a total of \$12,410,037 divided by 51 classrooms.

Step 2 - Estimate the number of JDEP and YCEP classrooms for 2027-28.

- Using the total JDEP and YCEP ADM from July 2025 through June 2026, it is estimated that the total classrooms for both programs in the 2027-29 biennium will be 46 classrooms. JDEP will have 18 classrooms and YCEP will have 28 classrooms.

Step 3 - Calculate the State School Fund (SSF) increase from the 2021-23 biennium to the 2025-27 biennium.

- For the 2021-23 biennium, the SSF was \$9,296,000,000. For the 2025-27 biennium, the SSF is \$11,359,400,000, which is an increase of 22.196643%. As stated in ORS 327.288, after applying the 22.196643% increase to the 2024-25 baseline average funding level per classroom of \$243,334.06, the per classroom amount for the 2027-29 biennium is \$297,346.05 per classroom.

Step 4 - Estimate the total cost per classroom for the 2027-29 biennium by multiplying the estimated number of classrooms in Step 2 by the inflated average funding level in Step 3 and then multiply the amount by 2 years.

- To arrive at the cost per classroom, \$297,346.05 per classroom is multiplied by 46 classrooms equaling \$13,677,918.30 for a single year. To arrive at a biennium amount, \$13,677,918.30 is multiplied by two years equaling a total of \$27,355,836.60.

Step 5 - Estimate the amount to be made available in the JJEF for 2027-29 including the ending fund balance, SSF, and General Fund (GF) amounts.

- The anticipated total amount to be made available in the JJEF is estimated at \$22,970,244.66.
 - The SSF estimate is \$13,858,513.66 for the two years of the 2027-29 biennium.
 - The GF estimate is \$9,111,731 for the 2027-29 biennium.
 - ODE does not anticipate ending the biennium with more than a minimal fund balance in the JJEF from interest revenue. Funds remaining in the JJEF at the end of a biennium may reduce the amount needed in Step 6.

Step 6 - Calculate the amount necessary to be transferred from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account (SEIA) to make up the difference between the total cost per classroom plus estimated operational costs and the amount to be made available in the JJEF if the amount does is not sufficient to fund the programs.

- For the 2027-29 biennium, the TFL is calculated to be \$28,155,836.60. This is the total cost per classroom of \$27,355,836.60 and the estimated program operational cost of \$800,000. The total expected amount to from SSF and GF in the JJEF is \$22,970,244.66. There is a difference of \$5,185,591.94 which is the amount necessary to be transferred from Statewide Education Initiatives Account (SEIA) to the JJEF.

Estimated Classrooms for 2027-2029 Biennium

The number of classrooms calculated for each site for the purpose of estimating the amount to be made available in the JJEF for the upcoming biennium is determined using the site's Average Daily Membership (ADM) from the previous fiscal year (July through June). The annual ADM is divided by eight to calculate the number of funded classrooms assigned to the site per OAR 581-015-2940(6). When the resulting calculation includes a fractional classroom, ODE rounds up to the next whole classroom.

Juvenile Detention Education Program

Table 3. JDEP Classroom Estimates Used for TFL Calculation

SD/ESD	School	July25-June26 ADM	# of classrooms by ADM (8 per classroom)
Bend-LaPine SD	COIC Skill Lab	2.5	1.0
Douglas ESD	Mt Nebo Alt Ed	4.0	1.0
Grants Pass SD	Josephine County Juvenile	1.9	1.0
Klamath Falls City Schools	Klamath County Juvenile	4.4	1.0
Lane ESD	Lane County Dept of Youth	6.8	1.0
Multnomah ESD	Ponderosa Creek School	7.6	1.0
Multnomah ESD	Donald E Long School	21.8	3.0
Multnomah ESD	Baker Creek School	5.9	1.0
North Wasco SD	NORCOR	10.4	2.0
Southern Oregon ESD	Jackson County Juvenile	11.9	2.0
Willamette ESD	Mill Creek Academy	24.3	4.0
	Total	101.5	18.00

Youth Corrections Education Program

Table 4. YCEP Classroom Estimates Used for TFL Calculation

SD/ESD	School	July25-June26 ADM	# of classrooms by ADM (8 per classroom)
Grant Pass SD	Newbridge HS	35.2	5.0
Harney SD #3	Monroe School	13.4	2.0
Inter-Mountain ESD	Riverbend HS	1.6	1.0
Multnomah ESD	Ocean Dunes HS	4.2	1.0
Multnomah ESD	Riverside HS	6.4	1.0
Multnomah ESD	Three Lakes HS	36.7	5.0
Tillamook SD	Trask River HS	18.7	3.0
Willamette ESD	Lord HS	77.4	10.0
	Total	193.6	28.00

Estimated Funding Needed for 2027-29

State School Fund

The State School Fund (SSF) provides a standard per-student funding amount that is allocated to all public schools in Oregon. Under Oregon law, SSF allocations for JDEP are weighted at 1.5 times the standard per-ADM amount, while allocations for YCEP are weighted at 2.0 times the standard per-ADM amount. These weighted funding factors recognize the additional resources required to provide educational services in juvenile detention and youth correctional settings.

Table 5. State School Fund Estimate for 2027-29

	ADM	Multiplier*	Annual SSF
Juvenile Detention Education Program	101.5	\$11,635.00 x 1.5	\$1,771,428.75
Youth Corrections Education Program	193.6	\$11,635.00 x 2.0	\$4,505,072.00
Total Single-Year SSF			\$6,276,500.75
SSF x 2 years x 10.4% projected increase to SSF for 2027-29			\$13,858,513.66

*The SSF YCEP/JDEP amount per ADMw is \$11,635.00 as of June 15, 2026.

General Fund

The General Fund (GF) allocation is supplemental funding appropriated by the Legislature to help fund the Juvenile Justice Education Programs. This funding is provided in addition to the SSF to support program requirements that exceed available SSF resources. GF dollars are appropriated as a fixed amount for each biennium and are distributed to support eligible program activities.

Table 6. General Fund Estimate for 2027-29

Estimated 2027-29 GF	\$9,111,731.00
Estimated 2027-29 SSF	\$13,858,513.66
Total Estimated 2027-29 GF & SSF	\$22,970,244.66

Program Operational Costs

Historically ODE's operational costs to administer the Juvenile Justice Education Program have come from the overall appropriation for the programs and was authorized under a general expenditure limitation authority granted to ODE by the Legislature in its overall budget. The Legislative Fiscal report from SB 1552 (2024) does not indicate an intent to change the funding for operations for this program.

Table 7. Program Operational Estimate for 2027-29

Estimated 2027-29 Program Operations	\$800,000.00
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Statewide Education Initiatives Account

The Statewide Education Initiatives Account (SEIA) funding is used to address any projected program funding shortfalls during the biennium after SSF and GF resources have been applied and ending fund balance is accounted for in the TFL. For the 2027–2029 biennium, the program is projected to have a funding shortfall of **\$5,185,591.94**, requiring SEIA funding to adequately meet anticipated funding needs.

Table 8. Statewide Education Initiatives Account Estimated Request for 2027-29

Target Funding Level (TFL)	\$28,155,836.60
Estimated 2027-29 GF & SSF	\$22,970,244.66
Amount Requested from SEIA	\$5,185,591.94

To ensure the Juvenile Justice Education Programs are adequately funded in the 2027-29 biennium, ODE will request \$5,185,591.94 be transferred to the JJEF from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account (SEIA) according to ORS 327.288(3).

Conclusion

The Oregon Department of Education (ODE) has calculated the Target Funding Level (TFL) and estimated the amount to be made available for the Juvenile Justice Education Fund (JJEF) for the 2027-29 biennium. The 2027-29 TFL is \$28,155,836.60, with \$9,111,731.00 funded from the General Fund (GF) and \$13,858,513.66 funded from the State School Fund (SSF). The 2027-29 Program Operational Costs are estimated at \$800,000.00. Therefore, the balance necessary to be funded is \$5,185,591.94. This amount may be transferred to the JJEF from the Statewide Education Initiatives Account (SEIA) according to ORS 327.288(3).