



The **Oklahoma Early Childhood Program** (OECP) was created in 2006 to improve the quality of early education and expand capacity to serve children from birth through age three statewide.

The OECP provides the fiscal structure to align state and private resources to promote high-quality standards tied to minimum teacher qualifications, ongoing professional development, and parent supports designed to foster low-income families' independence and economic success. Public funding for the OECP flows through the Oklahoma State Department of Education as a match to private funds provided by philanthropists and corporations throughout the state. The OECP has been improved since inception to clarify the process for participating providers and incorporate the evolving best practices in early childhood education.

Funding and Budgets

In 2016-17, the Oklahoma Early Childhood Program funding was reduced by a total of \$5,454,990 from the original budget amount awarded in the prior year, representing an 18.6% decrease. As shown in the chart below, all participating providers had to make thoughtful choices in order to accommodate the reduction in funding, while trying to continue to serve as many clients as possible at the same level of care.

Below is an overview of the loss in funding:

	2015-2016 Original budget	2015-2016 1st Revised Budget	2015-2016 2nd Revised Budget	2016-2017 Original Budget	2016-2017 Revised 8th Modification
OSDE Grant Amount	\$10,487,197	\$10,172,581	\$9,294,614	\$8,000,000	\$8,441,063
GKFF Grant Match	15,730,796	15,258,872	15,730,796	12,000,000	12,661,595
Partner Match & Program Revenue	3,045,755	3,045,755	2,934,111	2,706,099	2,706,099
Total OECP Budget	\$29,263,748	\$28,477,208	\$27,959,521	\$22,706,099	\$23,808,758
Overall Change in \$					(\$5,454,990)

OECP Revenue & Expense 2015-2016

Revenue

Oklahoma Early Childhood Program	9,294,614
George Kaiser Family Foundation Match	15,730,796
Partners' Match	1,701,221
Program Revenue	1,217,208
Total Revenue	27,943,839

Expenses

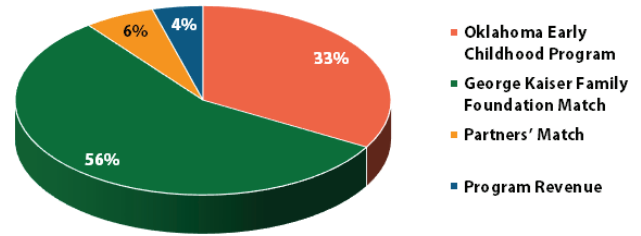
Administrative Expenses

AD-Wages and Benefits	200,869
AD-Miscellaneous	232
AD-Supplies	1,860
AD-Indirect Cost	2,363,482
Total Administrative Expenses	2,566,443

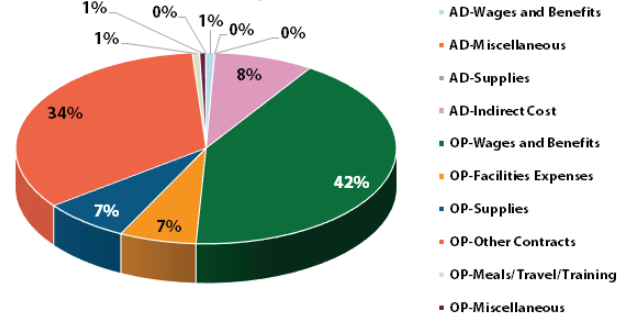
Operating Expenses

OP-Wages and Benefits	11,639,768
OP-Facilities Expenses	1,823,655
OP-Supplies	2,051,504
OP-Other Contracts	9,538,800
OP-Meals/Travel/Training	170,164
OP-Miscellaneous	144,667
OP-Capital & One-Time Expenses	8,838
Total Operating Expenses	25,377,395
Total Expenses	27,943,839

Total Revenue for 2015-2016



Total Expenses 2015-2016



OECP Revenue & Expense 2016-2017

Revenue

Oklahoma Early Childhood Program	8,441,063
George Kaiser Family Foundation Match	12,659,095
Potts Family Foundation Match	2,500
Partners' Match	1,347,646
Program Revenue	1,735,890
Total Revenue	24,186,194

Expenses

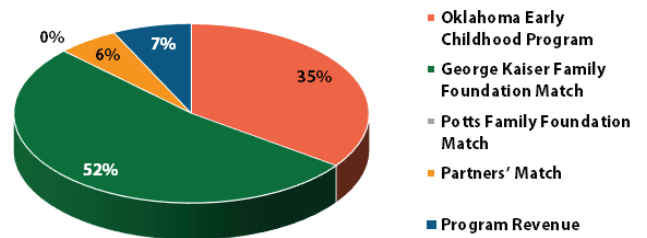
Administrative Expenses

AD-Wages and Benefits	173,605
AD-Miscellaneous	210
AD-Indirect Cost	2,994,836
Total Administrative Expenses	3,168,651

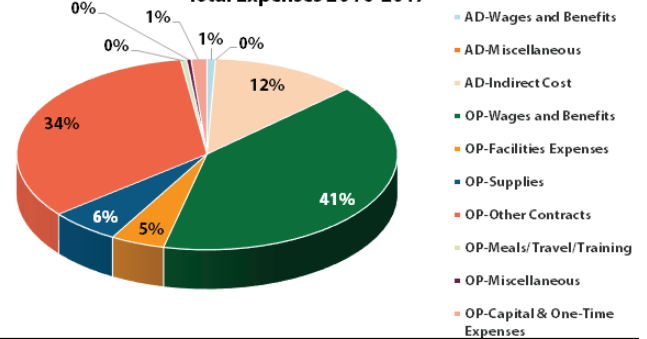
Operating Expenses

OP-Wages and Benefits	9,809,174
OP-Facilities Expenses	1,110,578
OP-Supplies	1,432,498
OP-Other Contracts	8,127,516
OP-Meals/Travel/Training	119,711
OP-Miscellaneous	91,678
OP-Capital & One-Time Expenses	326,388
Total Operating Expenses	21,017,543
Total Expenses	24,186,194

Total Revenue for 2016-2017

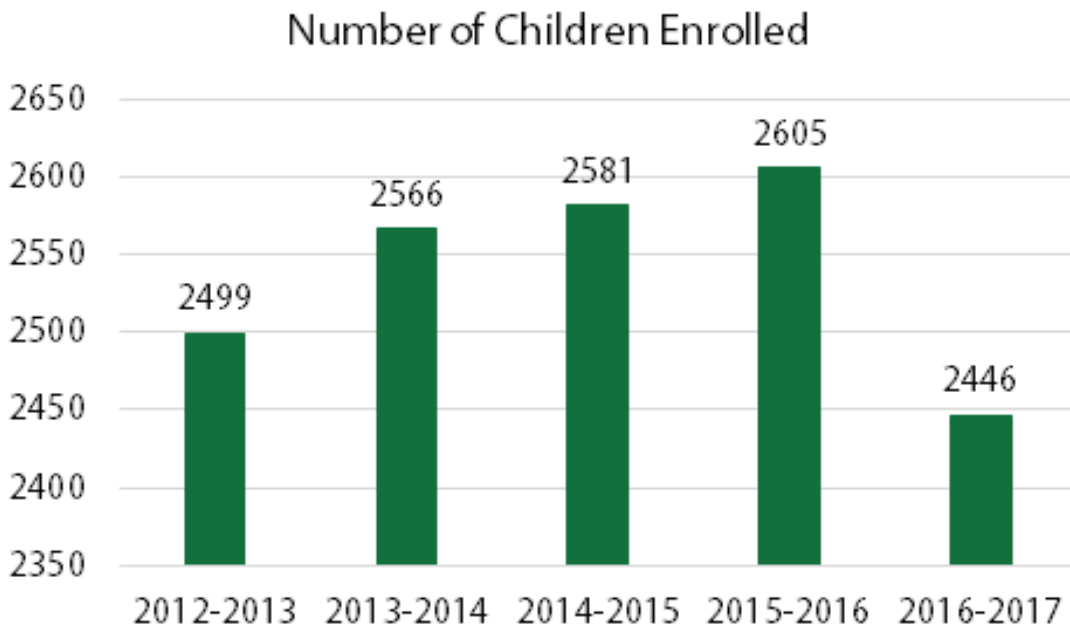
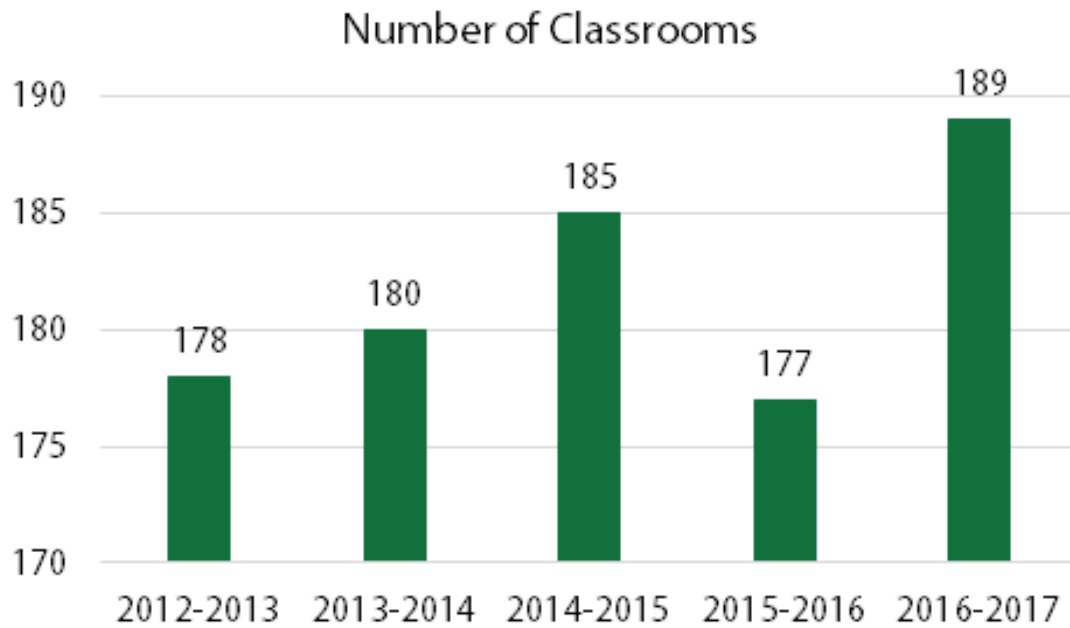


Total Expenses 2016-2017



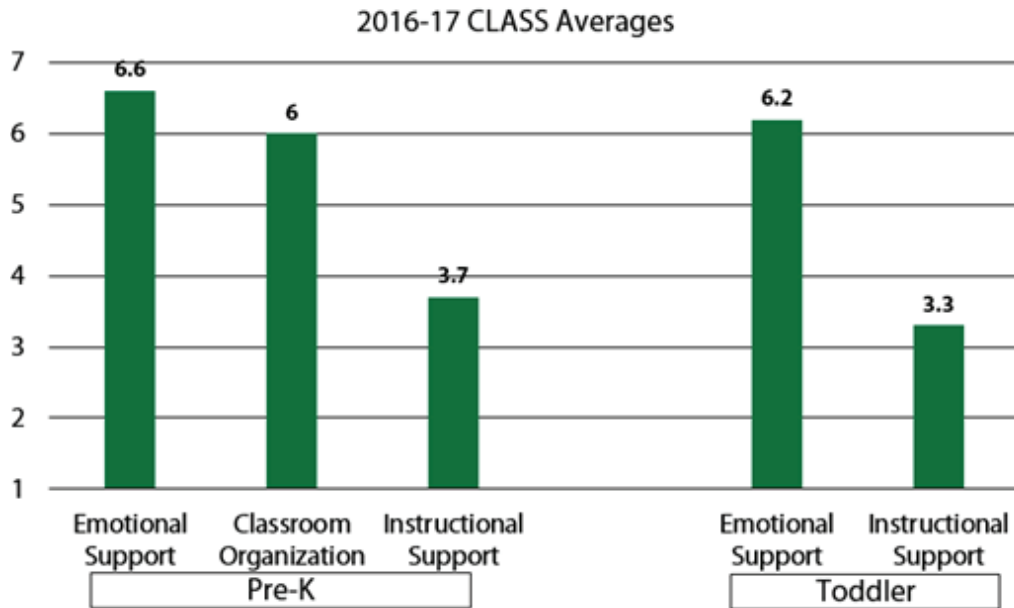
Enrollment

The Oklahoma Early Childhood Program’s enrollment and number of classrooms over the previous five years is reflected in the following charts:

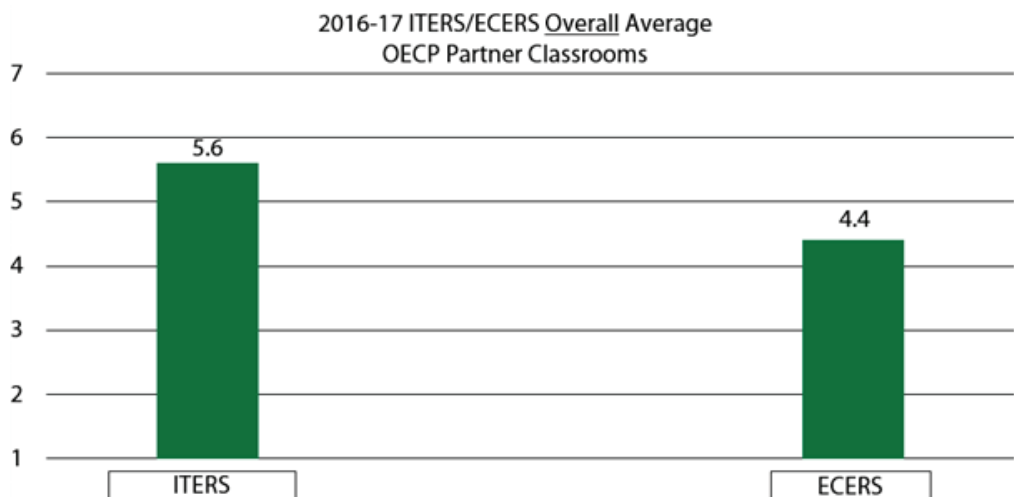


Ongoing Quality Assessment

The Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) measures the quality of teacher-child interactions. The instrument is assessed using a seven-point scale. A score of 1 or 2 is considered Low-Range; a score of 3, 4, or 5 is considered Mid-Range; and a score of 6 or 7 is considered to be in the High-Range.



The Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale (ITERS) and the Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (ECERS) measure the quality and environment within early childhood programs. The instrument is assessed on a seven-point scale. A score of 1 or 2 is considered Inadequate; a score of 3 or 4 is Minimal; a score of 5 or 6 is considered Good; and a score of 7 is Excellent.



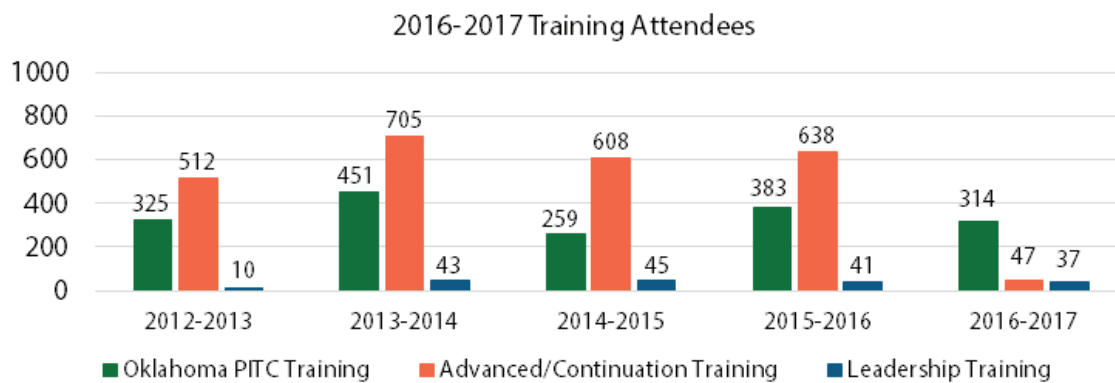
Technical Assistance and Trainings

The OECP Professional Development Specialists had ongoing contact with participating providers and each worked collaboratively to identify any concerns and/or needs during the program year. Because all of the participating providers have unique strengths and obstacles, this approach allowed the team to work with each provider individually at the appropriate level, and to focus on key components for improving quality.

OECP Professional Development Specialists provided multiple opportunities for Program for Infant/Toddler Care (PITC) trainings during the 2016-17 school year as well as provided several training topics for teachers attending continuation training. The trainers also provided individualized trainings at each partner site.

Also, during the 2016-2017 school year, more time was focused on providing technical assistance to each of the partner locations as well as providing training over the required four PITC modules to keep staff in compliance with OECP resulting in less advanced/continuation training.

Below is a chart depicting the number of training attendees who took part in courses offered by the OECP Professional Development Specialist during the year:



Family Support

A unique feature of the Oklahoma Early Childhood Program is the focus on Family Support—the provision of staff and critical wrap around services for parents and caretakers. In building family partnerships and ensuring that enrolled families have access to community resources that will meet their needs, providers work collaboratively with families to identify and access, directly or through referrals, services and resources that are responsive to each family’s interest and goals, including but not limited to:

- Emergency assistance in areas such as food, housing, clothing, and transportation
- Education and other appropriate interventions, including opportunities for parents to participate in counseling programs or to receive information about mental health issues that place families at risk, such as substance abuse, child abuse and neglect, and domestic violence
- Opportunities for continuing education and employment training and other employment services through formal and informal networks within the community

The number of family support referrals for the past three years across all participating providers is reflected in the following numbers:

Annual Number of Family Support Referrals	
2014-2015	13,967
2015-2016	20,251
2016-2017	19,277

Success stories provided by Family Support Specialists

A family of an enrolled child expressed extreme gratitude toward the Raising a Reader program. The family considers the quality time the program requires as a true blessing. The mother said she loves the books and genuinely looks forward to each week’s distribution. The Raising a Reader program not only benefits her enrolled child, but also all the children in the family get to listen to the books being read. This promotes quality interactions between the entire family.

—**Little Dixie Community Action Agency (Antlers)**

For our latest event, we held a bingo night. During each round, a family was given a new bingo sheet that consisted of letters, numbers, animals, spring items, and fall items. Children and parents worked together to find the picture that was being called out during the event. One mom told me after the event that she had no idea that her daughter knew so many of the items on the bingo sheet. Mom said she really loved the event, and her daughter had a great time. She also said she plans on doing this activity at home with her daughter.

—**W.L. Hutcherson Family YMCA**

My success story is about a family who has shown great and intense resilience recently. The mom just gave birth to her second child and worked at a hospital cleaning right up until the day the baby came. At the same time last year, this mom was actually homeless, living in a hotel. Now she has her own place and has her own transportation. She is on an attendance plan because she was often late or absent, but her child’s attendance has been at or above standards now. Her son used to be absent and I would not know why. This week her son got sick and she called in to let me know she would be taking him to the doctor. She also brought her son to school after being absent so that he could participate in the holiday production that his class was putting on, and she came early to see the production. This mom is my success story of the year!

—**Tulsa Educare II (Hawthorne)**

One of the families was having a hard financial time and they were behind on their utility bills, especially the electricity. It was cut off and the grandmother informed the Family Support Specialist who then contacted the mother. She said they did not have money to pay the bill. Family Support referred them to Upward Transitions and they paid the bill and the service was reinstalled immediately. No electricity was a big concern because there are four little ones in the home. The mother called back to Family Support and thanked them for the support and the referral. Family Support informed her that was part of our job and also informed her if there is something else we could help with, she should let us know. She said she felt embarrassed to ask for help and the Family Support Specialist reassured her that sometimes there are difficult times for everyone in different ways and we are here to support.

—**Tony Reyes Bilingual Child Development Center (Sunbeam Family Services)**

Community Involvement

Throughout 2016-2017, the OECP Professional Development Specialists and OECP Manager contributed to a number of community opportunities across the state. Below, some of the services and contributions are described and broken into two categories:

Statewide Level

- Tulsa Early Childhood Association Past President and Secretary, Executive Board Members
- Volunteer for Week of the Young Child at Tulsa Community College
- Spoke to parents at Birthright
- Volunteer for Child Care Resource Center Top of the Town
- Institute for Building Early Relationships Kick Off for Infant Mental Health
- Taught classes at Tulsa Community College representing CAP's work with children who exhibit challenging behaviors
- Guest lectures through Tulsa Technology CareerAdvance Program
- Attended Infant, Toddler and Early Childhood Committee meetings
- Attended Brown Bag series lectures by OK-AIMH
- Presented at Muscogee (Creek) Nation Head Start Conference (*Okmulgee, OK*)
- Members of the Oklahoma Association for Infant Mental Health (*Oklahoma City, OK*)
- Supported new Early Head Start teachers in collaboration with Child Care Resource Center (*Northeast, OK*)
- Early Childhood Association of Oklahoma Conference planning committee (*Oklahoma City, OK*)
- Presented at Oklahoma Association for the Education of Young Children (*Oklahoma City, OK*)

National Level

- Article written for Voices of Urban Education
- International Leader for Childcare Exchange including collaborating on many projects through this group
- Submitted book ideas for Infant and Toddler programming upon request from Readleaf Press
- Presented at International Infant and Toddler Conference

Provider Overview

2016-2017 Provider Overview					
Provider	Slots by Location	Total Slots	County	Rural	Time in Program
Community Action Project of Tulsa County	Tulsa: 1,183 Sand Springs: 147 PAT: 184	1,514	Tulsa Osage Tulsa		2006-2017 11 years
Cherokee Nation Child Development Center	Tahlequah: 24	24	Cherokee	x	2007-2017 10 years
Crosstown Learning Center	Tulsa: 33	33	Tulsa		2009-2017 6 years
Little Dixie Community Action Agency	Idabel: 12 Hugo: 12 Antlers: 32	56	McCurtain Choctaw Pushmataha	x x x	2006-2017 11 years
Sunbeam Family Services	Oklahoma City: 164	164	Oklahoma		2006-2017 11 years
Tri County Technology Center Child Development Center	Bartlesville: 20	20	Washington	x	2007-2017 10 years
Tulsa Educare, Inc.	Tulsa: 414	414	Tulsa		2009-2017 7 years
Union Public Schools Rosa Parks Early Childhood Education Center	Tulsa: 176	176	Tulsa		2008-2017 8 years
WL Hutcherson Family YMCA	Tulsa: 45	45	Tulsa		2007-2017 10 years
Total Slots		2,446			

2016-2017 Program Quality Standards

- Maintain Oklahoma State Department of Human Services' licensure
- Offer care and education services 44 weeks of the year, operating at least eight hours per day
- Meet specified program requirements (which are based on selected Early Head Start Performance Standards)
- Be NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children) accredited, or begin the accreditation process
- Staff Bachelor (BA) degreed teacher for every two classrooms
- Staff each classroom with two staff members at all times, one having a minimum of a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential
- Ensure additional classroom staff have, at a minimum, a CDA credential
- Provide services of a BA degreed Family Support Specialist
- Use Teaching Strategies GOLD to gather and track child data and to report assessments
- Participate in management and supervisory training
- First year teaching staff are required to attend WestEd-based PITC training, comprised of Program for Infant/Toddler Care (PITC) Modules I, II, III, & IV
- Teaching staff that completed the four modules of WestEd-based PITC training are then required to complete continuation training

OECP Administrative Staff

Amy Fain, OECP and Partner Schools Manager

Carol Rowland, OECP Professional Development Specialist

Rebecca Taylor, OECP Professional Development Specialist

Sarah Score, OECP Compliance Specialist

2016-2017 Partner Site Directors

Deanna Grossarth, Cherokee Nation Development Center

Deborah Guilfoyle, Crosstown Learning Center

Dawn McDaniel, Little Dixie Community Action Agency Inc.

Alycia Pennington, Rosa Parks Early Childhood Education Center

Natasha Terry, Sunbeam OKC Educare

Miranda Earnest, Sunbeam Tony Reyes Bilingual Child Development Center

Heather Pollock, Tri County Technology Center Child Development Center

Nicole Kirkland, Tulsa Educare I—Kendall Whittier

Jennifer Ladner, Tulsa Educare II—Hawthorne

Chris Amirault, Tulsa Educare III—MacArthur

Cicely Wilson, W.L. Hutcherson Family YMCA

For more information on the Oklahoma Early Childhood Program, please contact oe cpdepartment@captulsa.org