

# Early Childhood Family Education

Information compiled from Minnesota School Finance; A Guide for Legislators  
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Districts may establish early childhood family education programs (ECFE) for children from birth to kindergarten, for their parents, and for expectant parents. These programs include parent education to promote children's learning and development. All ECFE programming requires substantial parental involvement.

## Early Childhood Family Education Revenue

ECFE programs are funded through state aid, local levy, and participant fees. The formula for calculating ECFE revenue is based on the district's population of young children (under the age of five), not the number of children actually served.

ECFE revenue equals \$145.18 times the district's population of children under the age of five totaling \$53 million for FY 19. This revenue is provided through a mix of state aid (\$31 million) and local property taxes (\$22 million per year).

ECFE revenue also includes a home visiting revenue component equal to \$3.00 times the number of children under the age of five in the district.

## ECFE Expenditures

ECFE revenue must be kept in a reserved account and must be spent on activities related to early childhood development and parent education. ECFE Funding may be spent on:

- parent education concerning child development;
- structured learning activities between children and parents;
- structured activities for children promoting child development and peer interaction; and
- other activities and programs meeting the needs of parents and children as identified in the district's community needs assessment.

ECFE home visiting revenue must be spent on programs that:

- reach isolated or at-risk families;
- incorporate evidence-informed parenting education practices;
- encourage participation in ECFE site-based ECFE programs; and
- provide community based, accessible, culturally sensitive services.