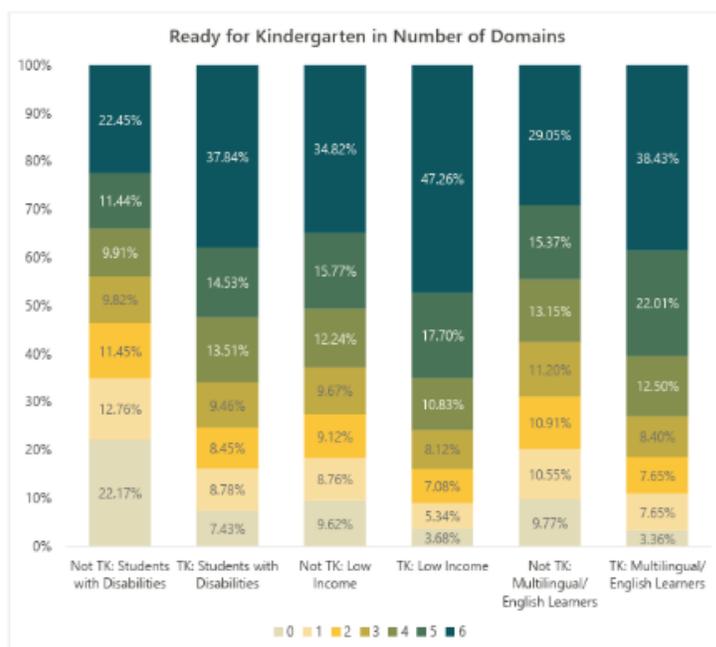


February 17, 2026

Honorable Members of the Legislature:

Washington's young learners need your support to be ready for Kindergarten. We're writing to ask you to maintain funding for Transition to Kindergarten (TTK).

As school districts, educators, and public school families across the state, we know the importance of a strong start to school. TTK fills a unique need that gives four and five year-olds a readiness boost that ensures a successful, strong start as they enter into Kindergarten.



TTK is in high demand: Virtually all of last year's 7,800 statewide slots for TTK students are filled. Families have determined TTK is what they want for their children and have shared their satisfaction with the program, which provides learning and supports unavailable in other non-TTK programs.

TTK is effective: In the fall of 2025, kindergarten students who had participated in TTK the year prior outperformed their non-TTK peers on the WaKIDS assessment in all six domains.

An OSPI study in 2022 found that:

- Students who were kindergarten-ready in literacy and math were **more than 1.5 times as likely to meet proficiency standards** on ELA and math assessments in 3rd grade.
- Students who participate in TTK **show longer term impacts with positive student performance as they progress** through the public school careers.
- **64.5% of students who participated in TTK were kindergarten-ready** in all six domains **vs. 54.5%** of those who didn't participate in TTK.

TTK classrooms are taught by certificated teachers who use age-appropriate curricula and adhere to state learning standards. [OSPI data](#) has demonstrated the efficacy of the TTK program.

Last session, the legislature capped the number of students who could receive TTK options, limiting the number of districts able to operate TTK classrooms. Given its efficacy and popularity, we ask that you reject the Governor's proposed 25% reduction to TTK slots. By maintaining or improving funding for this program, the legislature can close equity gaps and ensure a bright future for all students.

Thank you for your leadership in ensuring Washington's children can succeed and thrive.

Sincerely,

Washington Education Association (WEA)	Easton School District
Association of Educational Service Districts	Eatonville School District
Association of Washington School Principals (AWSP)	Endicott School District
Central Washington Schools Coalition	Entiat School District
League of Education Voters	Evaline School District
Rural Education Center	Federal Way Public Schools
Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA)	Ferndale School District
Washington Association of School Business Officials (WASBO)	Fife School District
Washington State Parent Teacher Association (WSPTA)	Freeman School District
Washington State School Directors' Association (WSSDA)	Great Northern School District
Asotin-Anatone School District	Harrington School District
Bellevue School District	Kittitas School District
Bethel School District	LaCrosse School District
Blaine School District	Lake Chelan School District
Bremerton School District	Liberty School District
Brewster School District	Lind-Ritzville School District
Bridgeport School District	Loon Lake School District
Brinnon School District	Lyle School District
Carbonado School District	Lynden School District
Centerville School District	Manson School District
Central Kitsap School District	Mary M. Knight School District
Chewelah School District	Mead School District
Chimacum School District	Medical Lake School District
Clarkston School District	Meridian School District
Cle Elum-Roslyn School District	Methow Valley School District
Clover Park School District	Morton School District
Colfax School District	Mossyrock School District
Colton School District	Naches Valley School District
Columbia School District	Naselle-Grays River Valley School District
Colville School District	Nine Mile Falls School District
Concrete School District	Nooksack School District
Davenport School District	North Central ESD 171
Dieringer School District	Oak Harbor School District

Oakesdale School District
Oakville School District
Odessa School District
Onion Creek School District
Orient School District
Orting School District
Palisades School District
Palouse School District
Paterson School District
Pe Ell School District
Peninsula School District
Pullman School District
Quilcene School District
Quincy School District
Reardan-Edwall School District
Rosalia School District
San Juan School District
Selkirk School District
Soap Lake School District
Spokane Public Schools
Sprague School District
Steilacoom School District
Steptoe School District
Sumner / Bonney Lake School District
Tacoma School District
Tekoa School District
Tukwila School District
University Place School District
Valley School District
Vancouver Public Schools
Wahkiakum School District
Walla Walla Public Schools
Washougal School District
West Valley School District (Yakima)
White River School District
Wilbur Creston School District
Wilson Creek School District
Wishram School District