

King County Developmental Disabilities and Delays Legislative Forum 2025

Services for people with developmental delays and intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (I/DD) should be sustainable and promote equity, inclusion, and belonging. The priorities below support this vision and reflect input from King County communities. For more information about the legislative priorities, please contact Joe McDermott, State Relations Director, jmcdermott@kingcounty.gov or (206) 477-3917.



LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



LANGUAGE ACCESS

Promote language access for all children and individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities (I/DD) by providing funding to service providers for spoken and sign language supports.



SCHOOL TRANSITION

Maintain access to high school transition investments for students with I/DD by continuing funding to support employment and other essential services.



SPECIAL EDUCATION FUNDING

Improve access to early support for infants and toddlers (ESIT) ages 0-3 by re-aligning funding policies to ensure that rates for special education funding for ages 0-3 are increased to match the rates for ages 3-5 and increase whenever rates increase for ages 3-5.



EMPLOYMENT AND INCLUSION

Protect opportunities for employment and meaningful inclusion in the community through increasing provider payments to strengthen staffing that would help avoid delays or interruptions in service access.



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

Strengthen services and treatment for youth with behavioral health and I/DD in crisis by sustaining and expanding behavioral health support teams and growing short-term residential treatment capacity for youth.



HOUSING

Increase and maintain access to affordable housing and wraparound services. Invest in the Housing Trust Fund, including funding for repairs, and increase funding for operations and housing support services.