

2009 GUIDE FOR EARLY EDUCATION ADVOCATES Fiscal Year 2010 (FY10) Budget & Advocacy Timeline

INVEST IN EARLY EDUCATION

FY10

Ensure all children get the start they deserve.

In order to be an effective early education advocate, it is important to understand the state budget cycle how to best impact the budget process. The Massachusetts budget runs on a fiscal year cycle that begins July 1 and ends June 31.

JANUARY 2009 Governor Deval Patrick submits his FY10 budget recommendations, known as House 1.



FEBRUARY–MARCH 2009 The State House of Representatives and State Senate develop their respective budget proposals.



APRIL 2009 The State House of Representatives debates their budget recommendations.



MAY 2009 The State Senate debates their budget recommendations.



JUNE 2009 Conference Committee members appointed to negotiate difference between the House and Senate versions of the budget. The budget then returns to the House and Senate for final approval.



JULY 2009 By July 1, 2009 Governor Patrick signs the FY10 budget into law and the new budget year begins.

What you can do:

- Send a letter to Governor Patrick asking him to preserve and protect investments in high-quality early education and UPK.

What you can do:

- Set up a time to meet with your legislators or send a letter, email or make a call to ask them to prioritize young children and families in the state budget.
- Participate in the Early Education for All (EEA) postcard campaign.

What you can do:

- Invite your state legislators to visit your program.
- Celebrate Week of the Young Child (WOYC). To learn more, visit www.earlyeducationforall.org.

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What you can do:

- Visit www.mass.gov/legis/ to find out which legislators are appointed to the Conference Committee.
- Go to www.strategiesforchildren.org/eea/EEA8_action.htm for action steps.

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Want more information? Contact Kyle DeMeo, EEA Early Childhood Field Director at kdemeo@earlyeducationforall.org or 617.330.7383.



The Early Education for All (EEA) Campaign is an initiative of Strategies for Children Inc., a non-profit organization based in Boston working to ensure all young children and families benefit from high-quality early education.