

Governance, Administration, and Oversight Flowchart

A variety of key players participate in the governance, advising, administration, and oversight of Voter-Approved Children’s Funds. These may all be separate entities, there may be entities that take on more than one of these roles, and they may be new or existing bodies within or outside of government.

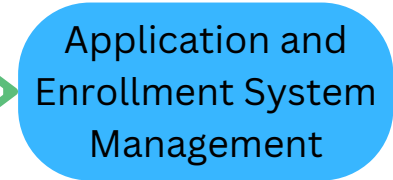
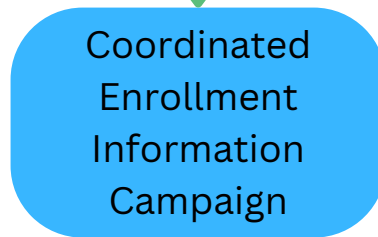
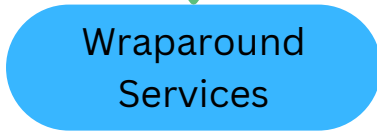
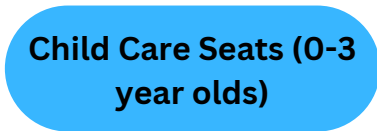
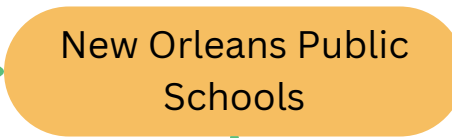
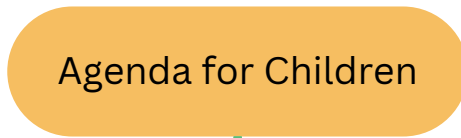
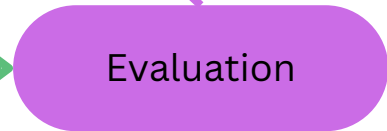
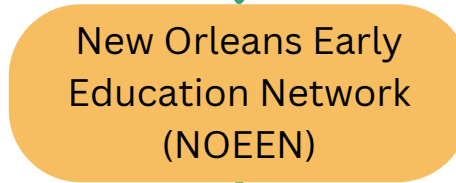
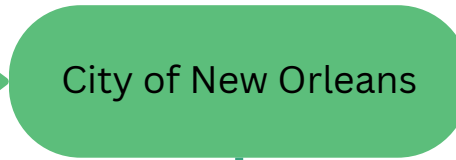
This document overviews the constellation of players and their roles in implementing the Early Childhood Millage, established in 2022.

In 2022, New Orleans voters approved a millage increase of \$5 per \$1000 of assessed property value and dedicated the new revenue to infant and toddler care. The millage raises approximately \$21 million annually and is primarily used to support new child care seats through the City Seats program.

The New Orleans Early Education Network (NOEEN), was chosen to administer the City Seats program due to its existing, transparent governance structure and existing systems supporting child care centers and coordinating funding through the State of Louisiana. NOEEN is comprised of more than 150 publicly-funded early care and education providers, including public schools, non-public schools, Type III early learning centers, Early Head Start centers and Head Start centers, and is co-lead by Agenda for Children and New Orleans Public Schools.



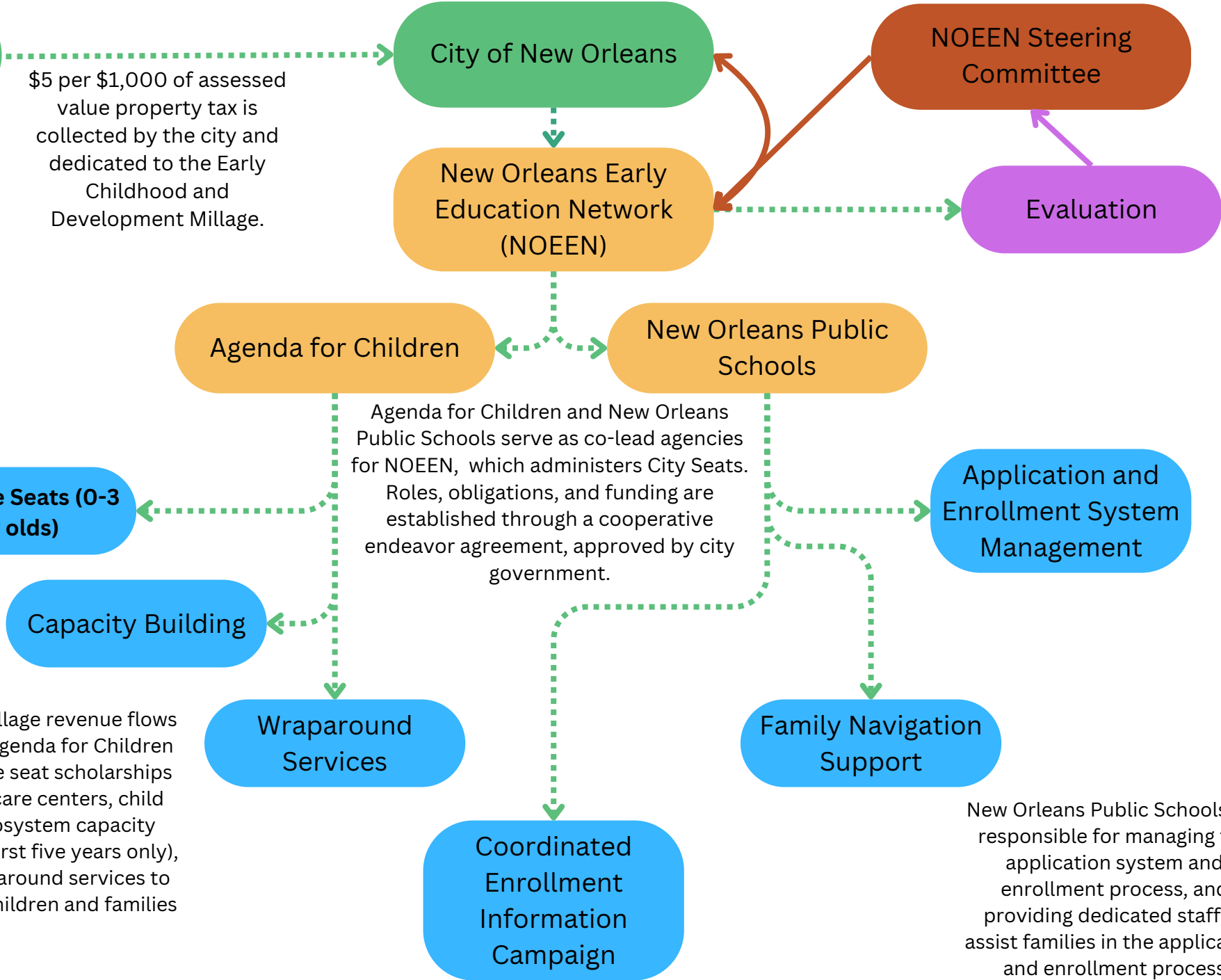
\$5 per \$1,000 of assessed value property tax is collected by the city and dedicated to the Early Childhood and Development Millage.



90% of millage revenue flows through Agenda for Children to provide seat scholarships to child care centers, child care ecosystem capacity building (first five years only), and wraparound services to support children and families

Agenda for Children and New Orleans Public Schools serve as co-lead agencies for NOEEN, which administers City Seats. Roles, obligations, and funding are established through a cooperative endeavor agreement, approved by city government.

New Orleans Public Schools are responsible for managing the application system and enrollment process, and providing dedicated staff to assist families in the application and enrollment process



Key Players & their Roles

City of New Orleans

The City of New Orleans is responsible for collecting the millage and distributing revenue to increase the number and quality of child care seats available in the City Seats program.

- Executes the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement establishing roles, responsibility, and funding allocations between the City, Agenda for Children, and New Orleans Public Schools
- Reviews monthly and annual reports to ensure funds are being used appropriately and transparently

New Orleans Early Education Network (NOEEN)

NOEEN is an initiative of Agenda for Children and New Orleans Public Schools that supports the early child care and education ecosystem in Orleans Parish, and is the lead administrator for the New Orleans City Seats program which receives the revenue generated by the Early Childhood and Development Millage. NOEEN serves as the lead agency recognized by the Louisiana Department of Education for the coordination of early care and education in Orleans Parish. NOEEN coordinates enrollment, funding requests, and reporting with the Louisiana Department of Education. NOEEN also supports quality improvement for partner programs by providing coaching, professional development opportunities, and conducting CLASS observations.

NOEEN Steering Committee

The NOEEN Steering Committee serves as the advisory committee to the co-lead agencies for their roles in administering the City Seats millage. Per NOEEN by-laws, the committee consists of 20 members including 18 voting members that represent public entities involved in administering early care and education in Orleans Parish. Two non-voting members represent Agenda for Children and New Orleans Public Schools. The committee provides oversight and makes operational recommendations to best meet the needs of providers and families. All steering committee meetings are open to the public and information from past meetings are publicly available.

Key Players & their Roles

Agenda for Children

Agenda for Children is an independent non-profit established in 1984 to advocate for children's issues throughout the State of Louisiana and is now the state's leading early childhood education support organization. Agenda for Children is a co-lead agency for NOEEN and acts as the primary administrator for the City Seats program. Responsibilities include:

- Distributing funding for publicly funded child care seats, including the City Seats program funded by the 2022 Early Childhood Millage
- Building capacity and supporting quality improvement in child care centers
- Coordinating wraparound services for families with children in the City Seats program
- Working with New Orleans Public Schools to conduct a coordinated enrollment public information campaign

New Orleans Public Schools

New Orleans Public Schools serves as the second co-lead agency of NOEEN. The school district is responsible for managing family/child enrollment and application processes. Specific responsibilities include:

- Managing/administering the application process and enrollment in seats funded by the 2022 Early Childhood and Development Millage
- Dedicating full-time staff to engage families and assist in navigating the application process
- Working with Agenda for Children to conduct a coordinated enrollment public information campaign about the Early Childhood and Development Millage and City Seats program.

Funding Allocations

Child Care Seats (0-3 year olds)

City Seats provides scholarships of \$12,000/seat per year per child. Scholarships are paid directly to the early learning program providing services on a monthly basis. This funding rate was established in 2017 for municipal seats using Head Start comparisons for similar services and scale.

Scholarship seats are contracted to providers that meet or exceed established quality ratings, participate in professional development, and allow for ongoing monitoring. City Seats will serve as many as 2,000 children this school year.

Capacity Building

Funds are available for capacity building in the early care ecosystem for the first five years of the City Seats millage, and will be used to support facilities upgrades/expansion, new center construction, and quality improvement efforts. The Facilities Fund will offer a mix of competitive small and large grants to support both expansion and new center construction.

Wraparound Services

City Seats provides a set of wraparound supports valued at ~\$3,000 per child to help ensure that the child, the child's family, and the program will be successful. Wraparound supports include infant and early childhood mental health consultation, teacher professional development, hearing, vision, and developmental screenings, and 1:1 coaching to classroom educators to support quality child-teacher interactions in each classroom. NOEEN partners a number of local agencies to support the unique needs of children and families, including:

- Tulane Mental Health Consultation Services
- Children's Hospital New Orleans/ThriveKids Student Wellness Project
- Tulane School of Social Work

Funding Allocations

Coordinated Enrollment Information Campaign

New Orleans Public Schools coordinates with Agenda for Children to execute a public education campaign to engage families and encourage enrollment in the City Seats program. The campaign utilizes billboards, television ad spots, bus ads and social media outreach. This year, a partnership has been formed with the grass roots advocacy organization the Power Coalition to conduct phone banking and canvassing activities and to help facilitate community events.

Application and Enrollment System Management

Per the cooperative endeavor agreement, New Orleans School district is tasked with implementing and maintaining a preliminary eligibility determination process and a coordinated application system. The school district is also expected to provide at least three full-time employees dedicated to navigating the early childhood care and education enrollment process.

Family Navigation Support

Evaluation

The cooperative endeavor agreement allocates a monthly allowance to Agenda for Children for administrative costs, which includes the costs to contract with a third party evaluator and managing compliance and reporting. Agenda for Children works closely with the Mayor's office and provides monthly reports to City Council.