



MONTANA EARLY CHILDHOOD ACCOUNT (MECA) BUDGET REPORT

REPORT OVERVIEW

Board Meeting: June 18, 2026
Reporting Period: Through May 31, 2026
State Fiscal Year: 2026

BUDGET SNAPSHOT

TABLE 1: REVENUE AND APPROPRIATIONS

Category	Amount
Beginning Revenue Balance	\$10,000,000
Appropriated Authority (SFY 2026)	\$7,500,000

TABLE 2: EXPENDITURES TO DATE

Category	Amount
Personnel Services	\$ 60,341.80
Operating Expenses	\$ 5,738.62
Contracted Services	\$ 0.00
Direct Services	\$ 0.00
Total Expenses	\$ 66,080.42

TABLE 3: REMANING BALANCE

Category	Amount
Remaining Revenue Balance	\$ 9,923,927.75
Remaining Appropriation Balance	\$ 7,433,919.58



KEY FINANCIAL NOTES

PERSONNEL SERVICES

Four pay periods remain to be posted in SFY 2026. In SFY 2027, a full 12 months have been projected. The total anticipated cost for the full year is \$150,458.22. The board meeting held May 21st, the board approved to obligate personnel services for an internal evaluator to support MECA. The internal evaluator will charge 25% of their time and we are projecting \$36,895.87.

OPERATING EXPENSES

Rent/office lease expenditures for JAN-MAY26 have posted. For SFY 2027, we are projecting a full 12 months of rent. The total anticipated cost for the full year will be \$6,850. The board agreed to have in-person quarterly meetings held in Helena MT. DPHHS will reimburse out-of-town board members for travel expenditures that may include mileage, meal per diem, and hotel and in SFY 2027 we are projecting \$7,200.

The board has approved to obligate two activities under the Quality Improvement Initiatives in SFY 2027: Technology and Special Needs Training Support, spending up to \$1.5 million and expand upon Early Childhood Systems Research through a vendor called Child Trends spending up to \$200,000 (for more information regarding the two activities, please see April 16th board meeting minutes). DPHHS staff has since submitted the necessary paperwork to be routed through the procurement process.

INDIRECT COSTS

Indirect costs will be deducted from the revenue (cash) balance, but the expenses will not go against the budgeted authority of appropriations as their expenses are non-budgeted. Indirect costs post on a quarterly basis. There were no expenses in SFY 2026 in the 1st QTR (JUL-SEP 2025). 2nd QTR (OCT-DEC 2025) \$4,817.67 posted, 3rd QTR (JAN-MAR 2026) \$5,174.16 posted, and 4th QTR (APR-JUN 2026) will post in July. Indirects are currently averaging just under \$5,000 a quarter. We can expect indirects to increase next state fiscal year as the board has been working to approve/implement project activities.

REVENUE UPDATE

MECA had a starting revenue/cash balance of \$10 million. In the month of August each year, we can expect interest from the trust to deposit into the revenue account. The Governor's office provided an updated revenue interest projection across four state fiscal years.



MECA BUDGET AND EXPENSE REPORT

TABLE 4: BUDGETED AND NON-BUDGETED EXPENSES

Budgeted Expense	SFY 2026 Actuals YTD	SFY 2026 Projections	SFY 2027 Actuals YTD	SFY 2027 Projections
Salaries	\$43,817.53	\$11,216.44	\$0.00	\$93,930.99
Employee Benefits	\$16,524.27	\$6,875.04	\$0.00	\$56,527.23
Personnel - Internal Evaluator (Board Approved)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$36,895.87
Other Services	\$7.34	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Supplies	\$220.71	\$44.44	\$0.00	\$0.00
Communications	\$199.03	\$101.90	\$0.00	\$650.00
Travel	\$2,634.10	\$3,173.23	\$0.00	\$7,200
Rent (Office Space)	\$2,677.44	\$560.63	\$0.00	\$6,850
Other Expenses	\$0.00	\$40.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Contracted Services (Board Approved)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$1,700,000.00
Benefits & Claims (Direct Services to Citizens of MT)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Non -Budgeted Expense	SFY 2026 Actuals YTD	SFY 2026 Projections	SFY 2027 Actuals YTD	SFY 2027 Projections
Indirect Costs	\$9,991.83	\$4,461.00	\$0.00	\$62,123.44



ESTIMATED ANNUAL INTEREST DEPOSIT PER OFFICE OF BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING (OBPP)

TABLE 5: INTEREST EARNED BY STATE FISCAL YEAR

Interest	SFY 2026	SFY 2027	SFY 2028	SFY 2029
MT Early Childhood (Estimates May 2026)	\$2.99 Million	\$2.91 Million	\$3.25 Million	\$3.48 Million