



# Best Start Best Life Reform

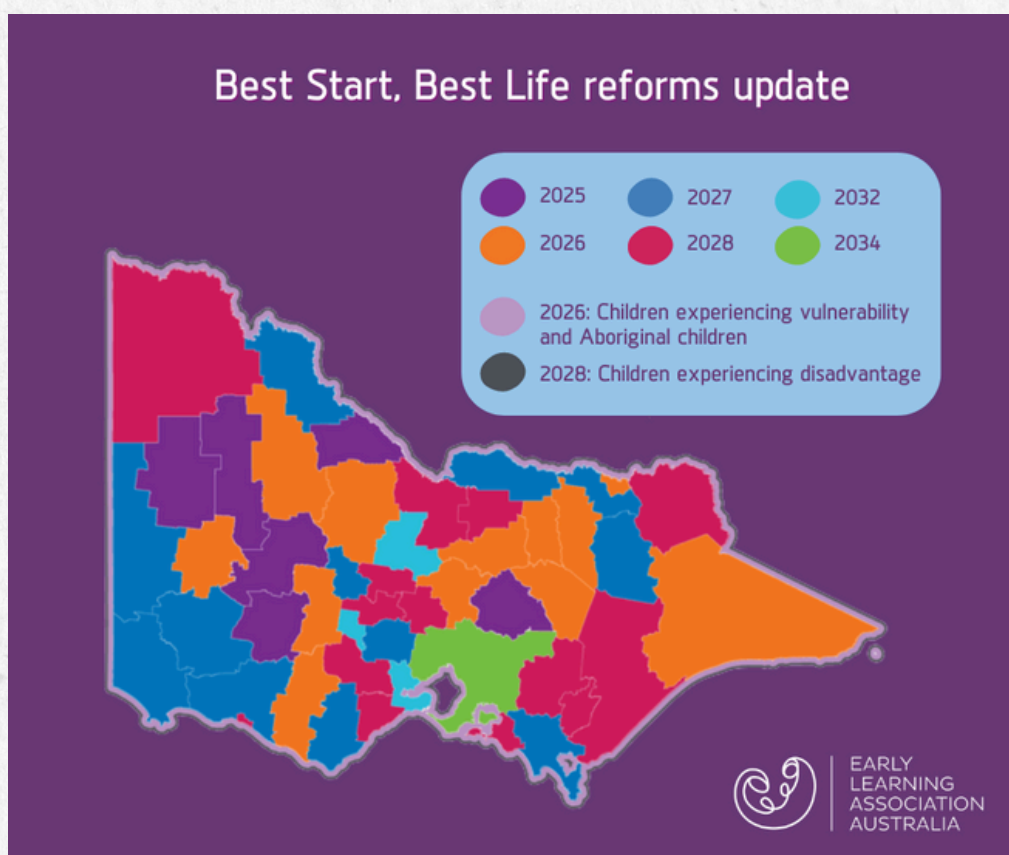
The Victorian Government's Best Start, Best Life reforms represent the most substantial transformation in Victoria's early childhood sector in a generation.

As part of these reforms:

The Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program will expand, reaching 15 hours per week across the state by 2029.

The Four-Year-Old Kindergarten program will evolve into Pre-Prep, with weekly hours increasing from 15 to 30 by 2036 throughout Victoria.

Extending the hours of teacher-led, play-based learning through Pre-Prep in the year before school provides children with enhanced access to the numerous benefits of early childhood education. Pre-Prep will launch in 2025, starting with children in six regional Victorian local government areas, and will gradually expand across the state.



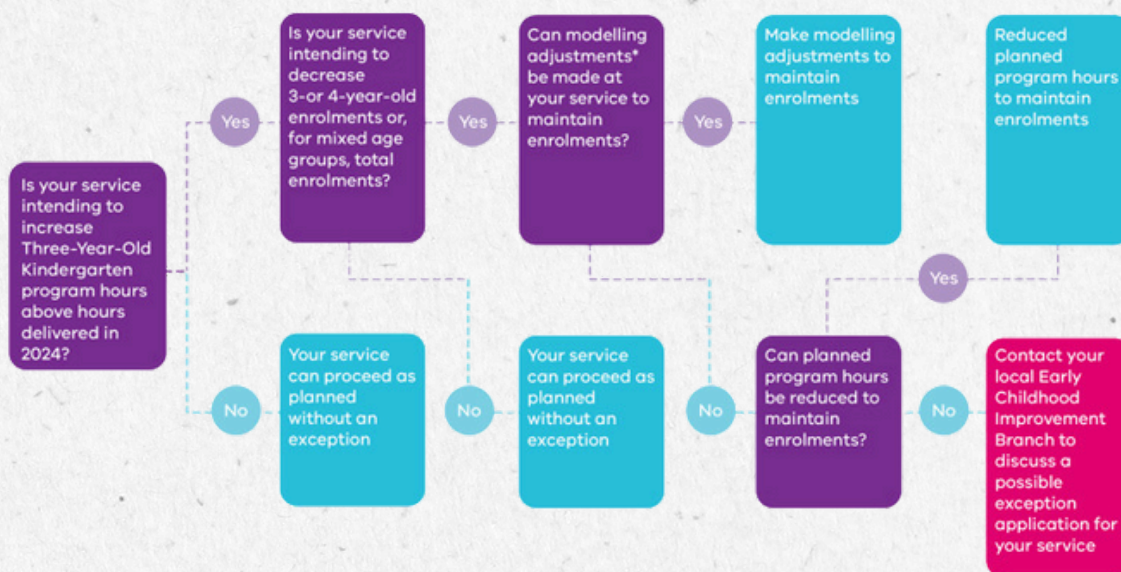
## 3 year old Kindergarten

Starting in 2025, service providers will have the flexibility to decide the number of hours of funded Three-Year-Old Kindergarten they offer each week, ranging from a minimum of 5 hours to a maximum of 15 hours, within established guidelines.





### Three-Year-Old Kindergarten program hours: 5 to 15 hours per week



\* Your local Early Childhood Improvement Branch can provide advice on possible modelling adjustments, for example, operating additional days, changing group sizes, delivering longer sessions, adopting a rotational model.

Reference: Image from Department of Education [Operational policies supporting the Best Start, Best Life reforms](https://www.vic.gov.au/operational-policies-supporting-the-best-start-best-life-reforms) | [vic.gov.au](https://www.vic.gov.au) ([www.vic.gov.au](https://www.vic.gov.au)).

### Priority Group

From 2026, all children across the state identifying as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander, children from a refugee or asylum seeker background, and children who have had contact with Child Protection services, can access between 16 and 25 hours of Pre-Prep, and up to 30 hours from 2028.

### ELAA support

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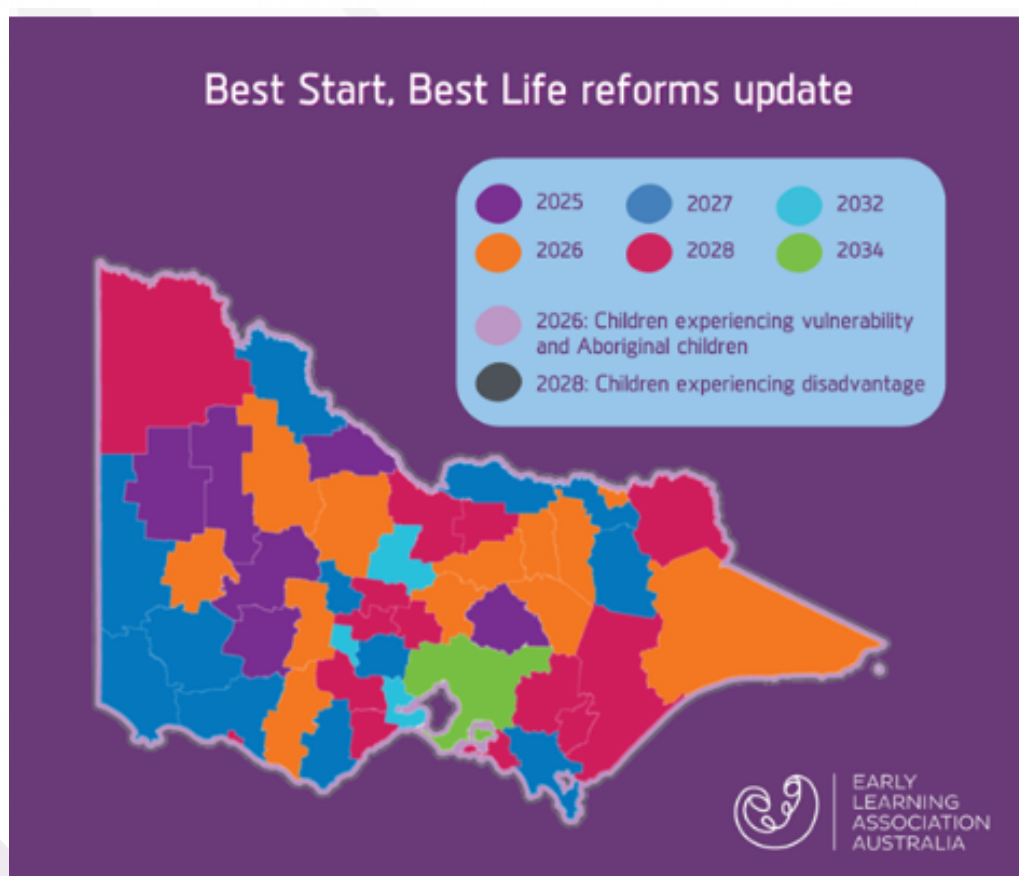
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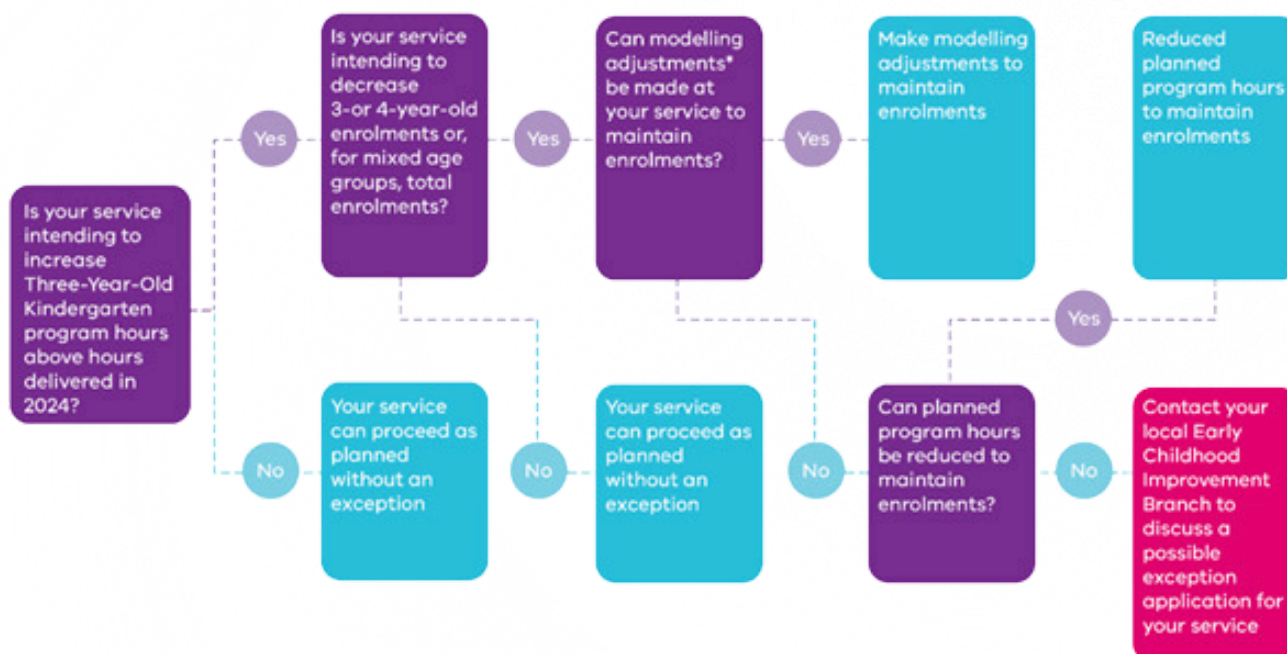
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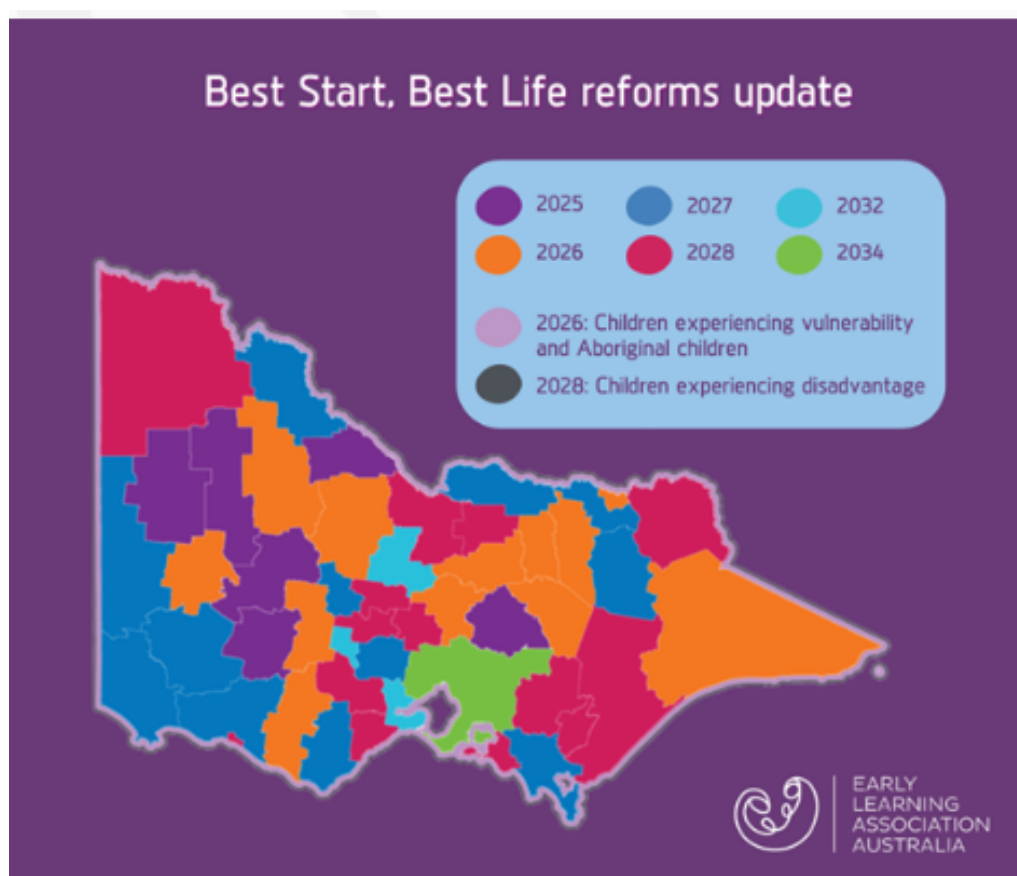
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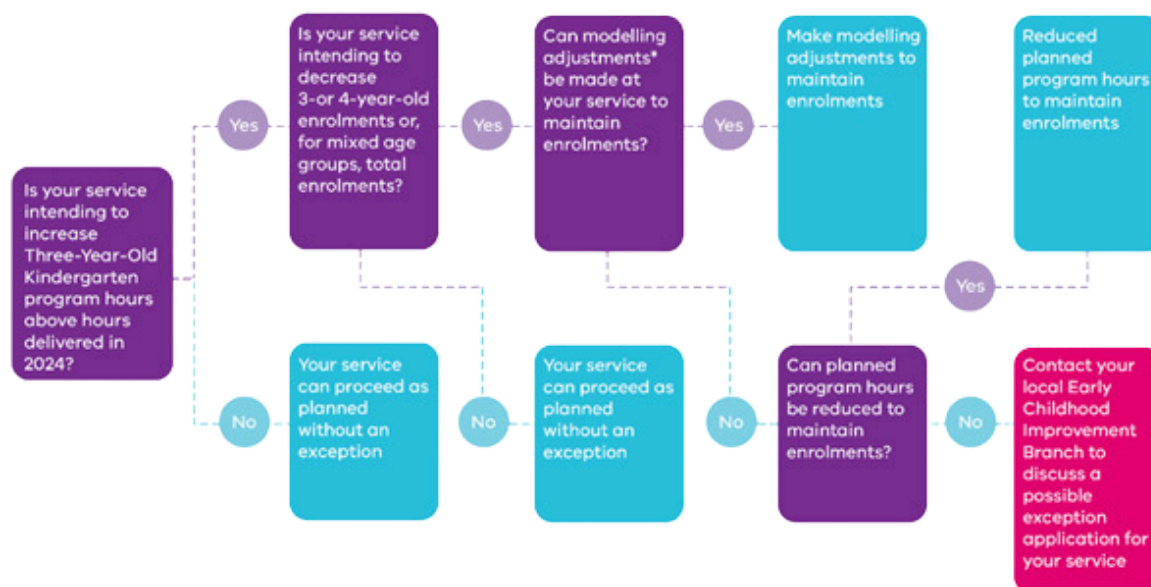


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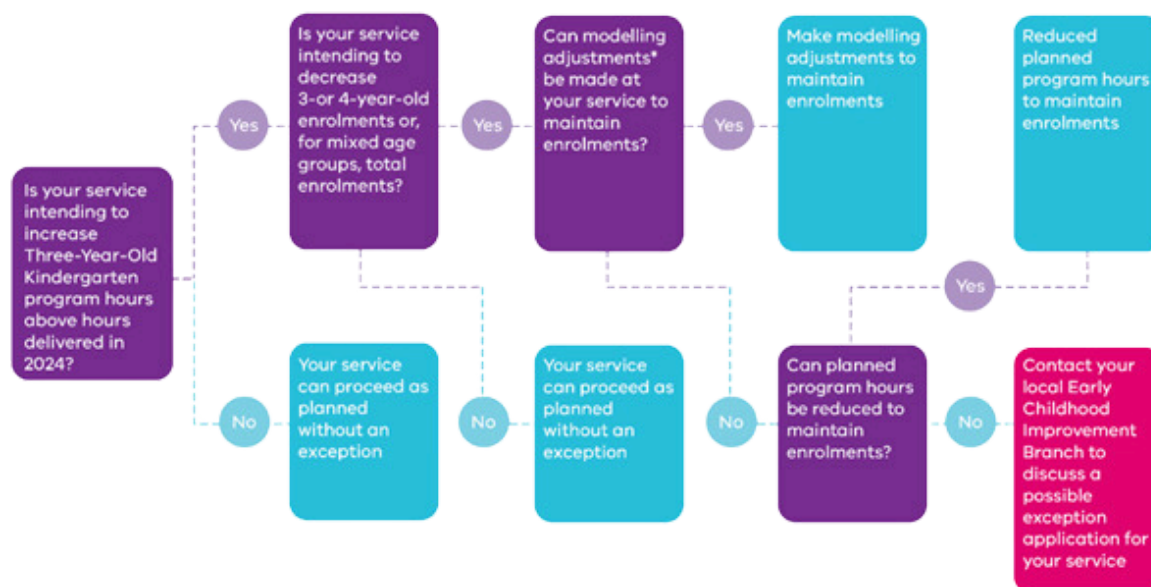
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