



# Indiana Early Learning Advisory Committee

November 1, 2022

# Meeting Agenda

- ▶ Call to order
- ▶ Approval of the Agenda
- ▶ Approval of Minutes
- ▶ Matters for Decision
  - ▶ Priorities of ELAC
  - ▶ 2022 Recommendations & Report
  - ▶ Definition of Kindergarten Readiness
- ▶ Public Comment
- ▶ Discussion
  - ▶ OECOSL Legislative Priority Update
  - ▶ Disaster Preparedness & Response Plan Feedback
  - ▶ Director's Report- 2023 Changes & Updates
- ▶ Adjourn



**Indiana Early Learning**  
Advisory Committee





# Approvals

- Agenda
- Minutes from September



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# Proposed ELAC Priorities



Improve learning and kindergarten readiness



Increase the supply and sustainability of high-quality providers



Increase affordability for families, particularly vulnerable families



Improve and increase system capacity



# 2022 Policy Recommendations



**Indiana Early Learning  
Advisory Committee**

# Improve Learning & Kindergarten Readiness

- Define Kindergarten Readiness & update standards
- Build & Deploy an assessment system
- Update PTQ to incorporate objective measures of quality
- After update, require PTQ participation for all providers receiving public funding
- Design & implement a strategy to strengthen kindergarten readiness across the mixed delivery system
- Adopt or develop data systems & technology to improve analytics across the birth-school continuum

# Increase the Supply & Sustainability of High-Quality Providers

- Increase reimbursement rates to improved provider sustainability
- Encourage and reward operational efficiency and scale
- Enable all LEA's to quality to accept OMW vouchers for PreK services
- Enable new models of care to meet demand, especially in hard to serve areas
- Target financial incentives to grow capacity for high-need areas and populations
- Design and implement strategy to encourage new workforce training models
- Increase scholarship supports for EC workers
- Use matching workforce funds or other incentives to support recruitment and competitive compensation and working conditions for effective early learning educators

# Increase Affordability for families, particularly vulnerable families

- Expand income eligibility for CDC Fund vouchers
- Expand income eligibility and remove work requirement for On my Way Pre-K
- Improve business sector support through technical assistance and tax credits



# Improve & Increase System Capacity

- Focus on system-level improvements to be carried out by government
- Enable blanket waivers in place of frequent variances
- Modernize the statutory and regulator environment
- Update licensing systems to increase automation & streamline reporting
- Refine licensing compliance with efficient and abbreviated inspections
- Evaluate structures and processes for determining eligibility and establish user-centered systems and approaches to build equity
- Establish targets for percentage of subsidies allocated through providers qualifying under “agreement center” contracts

# What is Kindergarten Readiness?

November 2022



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## **TODAY'S** FOCUS

- **Level-Set: IDOE Priorities**
- **Why Define Kindergarten Readiness?**
- **Definitions**
- **Key Initiatives Providing Support**
- **Next Steps**

# REFOCUSING INDIANA EDUCATION: THREE PILLARS

## PILLAR 1



### STUDENT

LEARNING & OPPORTUNITY

## PILLAR 2



### EDUCATOR

TALENT, QUALITY, & VALUE

## PILLAR 3



### SYSTEM

ALIGNMENT & CAPACITY

## EXPAND ACCESS TO QUALITY **EARLY LEARNING**



*Priority Strategy: Expand and support quality, affordable and accessible learning opportunities, including early learning options*

Studies have shown that pre-K provides a **strong foundation** that gives students **advantages in future grades.**

- Establish an **Office of Kindergarten Readiness** within IDOE
- Collaborate to revise the **Early Learning Advisory Committee**



## **WHY** DEFINE KINDERGARTEN READINESS?

### **Defining kindergarten readiness allows us to -**

- Establish a direction for the Office of Kindergarten Readiness,
- Acknowledge the importance of the whole child,
- Acknowledge the importance of collaboration, and
- Answer questions from the field.

## **DEFINITION:** KINDERGARTEN READINESS

### **Kindergarten readiness is achieved when -**

- Children are **prepared in all domains** of early learning, and
- Families, schools, and communities **collaborate to positively impact educational outcomes.**

## **DEFINITION:** KINDERGARTEN READINESS FOR CHILDREN

For **children**, kindergarten readiness is being prepared in all domains of early learning and development through appropriate routines and activities.

**Aligned with Indiana's Early Learning Foundations, this includes -**

- Social emotional,
- Language,
- Cognitive,
- Motor, and
- Physical wellbeing.

## DEFINITION: ADDRESSING **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

- IDOE will use the definition on the previous slide to guide conversations. It is intended to be brief and easily articulated.
- IDOE believes other considerations exist across stakeholder groups. The additional slides can be used to reinforce these partnerships.

## **DEFINITION: KINDERGARTEN READINESS FOR FAMILIES**

### **For families, kindergarten readiness is -**

- Understanding their child's level of development,
- Understanding the school environment and expectations, and
- Participating in supportive partnerships with the school.



## **DEFINITION:** KINDERGARTEN READINESS FOR SCHOOLS

### **For schools, kindergarten readiness is -**

- Meeting each child where they are with aligned standards and curriculums in engaging, predictable environments.
- Welcoming and accepting unique experiences, cultures, and backgrounds.

## **DEFINITION:** KINDERGARTEN READINESS FOR COMMUNITIES

**For communities, kindergarten readiness is -**

- **Valuing the incredible importance of early learning.**

## **KEY INITIATIVES** PROVIDING SUPPORT

### **Initiatives that will help us build support around kindergarten readiness-**

- Reviewing assessment needs and instrument consideration,
- Reviewing evidence-based, developmentally-appropriate curriculum,
- Providing supports for families and professionals, and
- Increasing collaboration with other agencies.

## **NEXT STEPS**

- **ELAC to consider endorsing the definition of Kindergarten Readiness.**
- **Shared definition to be adopted across agencies, serving as a guide for the state's work in early learning.**

# Thoughts & Questions

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***THANK YOU!***



# Public Comment



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# Office of Early Childhood & Out-of-School Learning Legislative Priority Update



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# Disaster Preparedness and Response Plan

Krystal Robinson  
Director of Child Care Policy  
November 2022



# Disaster Planning and Preparing...



- minimizes the likelihood of injuries and death of children who are particularly vulnerable in disasters



- minimize psychological impact (trauma) and promote resilience in children and adults, in addition to promoting continuity of care



- reduce revenue lost and child care provider liability

**Recovery of child care is a vital service to the community.**



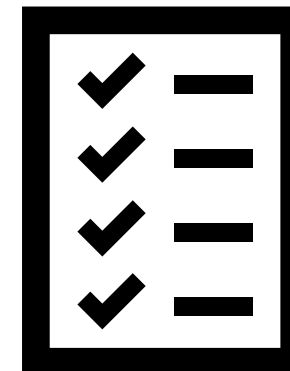
# CCDBG Act

- Requires states to demonstrate in their CCDF Plans how they will address the needs of children in child care services provided through CCDF



# Plans Must Include:

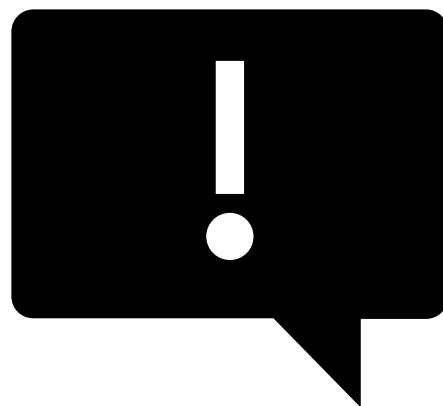
- Continuation of child care subsidies
- Continuation of child care services
- Coordination of post-disaster recovery of child care services
- Procedures for staff and volunteer emergency preparedness training
- Procedures for staff and volunteer practice drills







# We Want Your Feedback!





# ELAC Review

Activity	Timeline
Draft Plan with revisions and additional resources for review sent to ELAC Members	Week of October 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022
ELAC Member feedback sent to OECOSL	November 18 <sup>th</sup> , 2022
Final plan sent to ELAC	Before January 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2022



# Questions?

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# Director's Report/Update



# Director's Report/Updates

- ▶ Meetings
  - ▶ Second Tuesday of alternating months (Jan, March, May, July, Sept and Nov)
  - ▶ 1:00 – 3:00pm EST
  - ▶ Optional morning component to connect with the field
- ▶ 1:1 meetings - December
- ▶ Roles & Responsibilities Update
  - ▶ Committee as a Body
  - ▶ Committee Members
  - ▶ Committee Chair
- ▶ Questions from the committee?





For media inquiries, questions or feedback, please contact  
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