

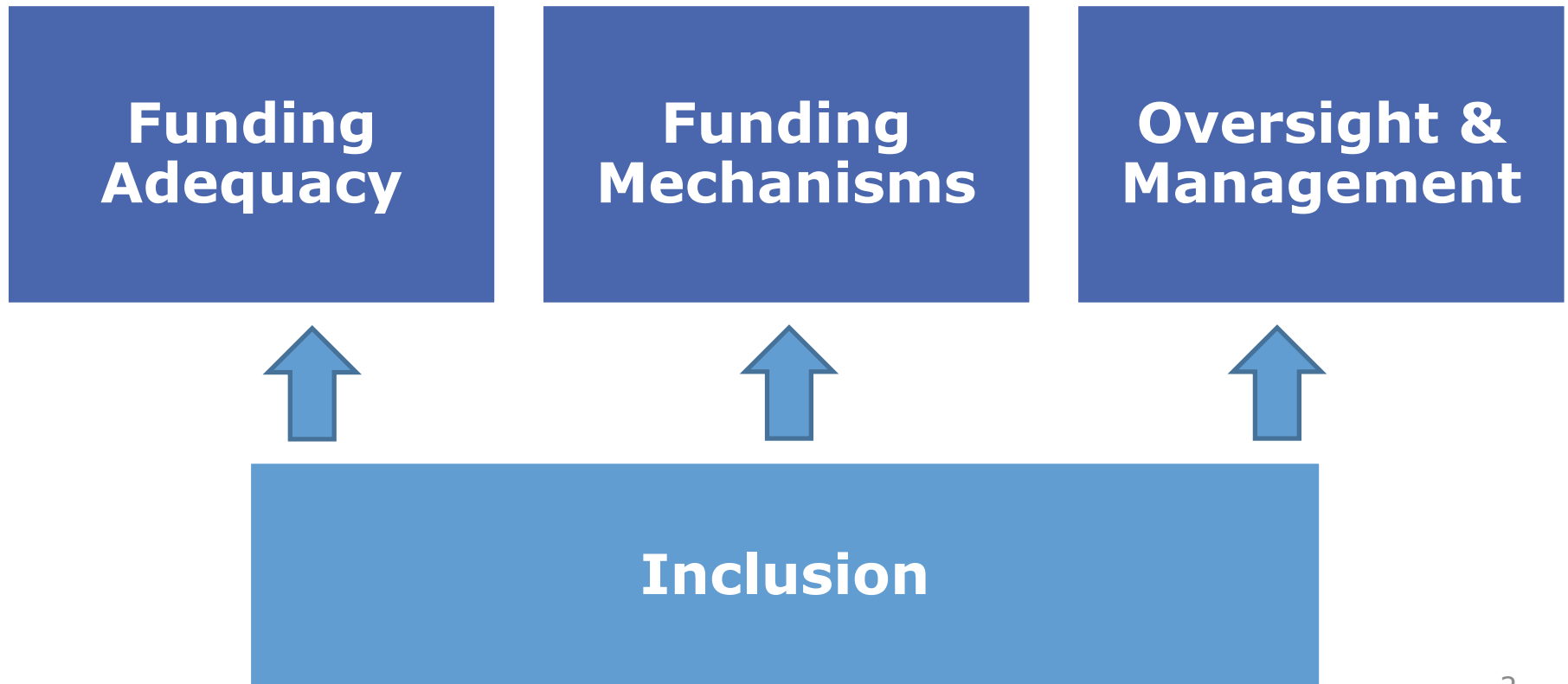


Commission on Equitable Early Childhood Education and Care Funding

Inclusion Working Group
Meeting 8 – 9/30/2020

Inclusion Charge

Inform the work of other Working Groups and the full Commission as it relates to children receiving special education and early intervention services, in alignment with the Commission's guiding principles



Inclusion Meeting 8 Agenda

Item	Time
Agenda, goals, and framing	2:00 – 2:15
Revisit funding adequacy and funding mechanisms recommendations	2:15 – 3:00
EI and ECSE in a centralized system of funding and governance	3:00 – 3:50
Next Steps	3:50 - 3:55
Public Comment	3:55 - 4:00

Today is successful if we:

- **Align on recommendations** we are best positioned to put forward at this time
- Understand **next steps to refine and solidify** recommendations between now and year-end

Framing for our recommendations

What recommendations will satisfy the charge by **informing legislation?**

Directive recommendations

- Commission recommendations that can inform a legislative package

What recommendations will satisfy the charge by providing a **road map** for how to get to an ideal state?

Process recommendations

- Recommended next steps to support future thoughtful policy change
- Packaged with associated guardrails, priorities, guiding principles, and/or interim findings

What recommendations will guide a new **M&O entity's decision making?**

Acknowledgement

- May include recommended guardrails, guiding principles, or considerations for a new M&O entity

Taken together, our recommendations can and should...

- Define, at a high level, our ideal end state
- Acknowledge and/or address critical challenges in today's system for children, families, and providers
- Recommend next steps on the path to get there
- Provide guardrails, guiding principles, and/or considerations for follow-on work

Today we will attempt to align on our **conceptual recommendations**. We will not fully address follow-up charges/guidance, technical issues, or wording.

Note that all our work and rich discussion will inform the final report.

Our recommendations will inform the Commission's Final Report

What it is

- ✓ Strategic blueprint for the future system
- ✓ Detailed enough to inform a legislative package
- ✓ Thoughtful on major implementation issues
- ✓ Directional understanding of future system costs

What it is not

- ✗ Detailed implementation plan for future system
- ✗ Bill language
- ✗ Detailed enough to inform administrative code
- ✗ Summation of unique individual provider costs

Revisiting funding adequacy and funding mechanisms recommendations

Draft high-level recommendations for reaction

- 1. Funding Goals:** We must adequately fund ECSE and EI services. To do so, we must charge X group with modeling the cost of adequately funding ECSE and EI services.
- 2. Funding Mechanism:** State appropriations for ECSE should remain in EBF, and the calculation for ECSE in EBF must be reevaluated. The funding mechanism for ECSE should be reevaluated by X group while a new ECEC agency is established, with the goal of transparently and effectively supporting providers and expanding ECSE services to meet child and family need.
- 3. Funding Mechanism:** We must further define how Illinois can best serve children 3-5 in the mixed delivery system in a way that meets the needs of a child and their family. We must charge X group with defining parameters for the mechanism and how to implement it.
- 4. Funding Mechanism:** We should evaluate a shift to a contract-based system for EI funding for its ability to support providers in better serving children and families. We must charge X group with evaluating this proposal.
- 5. Implementation** (*To be discussed today*): management & oversight recommendation for EI and ECSE.

Discussion Questions

- Are these the **next steps** that must be taken to satisfactorily fulfill the Governor's charge?
- What **further details** might we want to include in these recommendations?

Draft high-level recommendations for reaction

- 1. Funding Goals:** We must adequately fund ECSE and EI services. To do so, we must charge X group with modeling the cost of adequately funding ECSE and EI services.
- 2. Funding Mechanism:** State appropriations for ECSE should remain in EBF, and the calculation for ECSE in EBF must be reevaluated. The funding mechanism for ECSE should be reevaluated by X group while a new ECEC agency is established, with the goal of transparently and effectively supporting providers and expanding ECSE services to meet child and family need.
- 3. Funding Mechanism:** We must further define how Illinois can best serve children 3-5 in the mixed delivery system in a way that meets the needs of a child and their family. We must charge X group with defining parameters for the mechanism and how to implement it.
- 4. Funding Mechanism:** We should evaluate a shift to a contract-based system for EI funding for its ability to support providers in better serving children and families. We must charge X group with evaluating this proposal.
- 5. Implementation** (*To be discussed today*): management & oversight recommendation for EI and ECSE.

Draft high-level recommendations for reaction

- 1. Funding Goals:** We must adequately fund ECSE and EI services. To do so, we must charge X group with modeling the cost of adequately funding ECSE and EI services.
- 2. Funding Mechanism:** State appropriations for ECSE should remain in EBF, and the calculation for ECSE in EBF must be reevaluated. The funding mechanism for ECSE should be reevaluated by X group while a new ECEC agency is established, with the goal of transparently and effectively supporting providers and expanding ECSE services to meet child and family need.
- 3. Funding Mechanism:** We must further define how Illinois can best serve children 3-5 in the mixed delivery system in a way that meets the needs of a child and their family. We must charge X group with defining parameters for the mechanism and how to implement it.
- 4. Funding Mechanism:** We should evaluate a shift to a contract-based system for EI funding for its ability to support providers in better serving children and families. We must charge X group with evaluating this proposal.
- 5. Implementation** (*To be discussed today*): management & oversight recommendation for EI and ECSE.

Draft high-level recommendations for reaction

- 1. Funding Goals:** We must adequately fund ECSE and EI services. To do so, we must charge X group with modeling the cost of adequately funding ECSE and EI services.
- 2. Funding Mechanism:** State appropriations for ECSE should remain in EBF, and the calculation for ECSE in EBF must be reevaluated. The funding mechanism for ECSE should be reevaluated by X group while a new ECEC agency is established, with the goal of transparently and effectively supporting providers and expanding ECSE services to meet child and family need.
- 3. Funding Mechanism:** We must further define how Illinois can best serve children 3-5 in the mixed delivery system in a way that meets the needs of a child and their family. We must charge X group with defining parameters for the mechanism and how to implement it.
- 4. Funding Mechanism:** We should evaluate a shift to a contract-based system for EI funding for its ability to support providers in better serving children and families. We must charge X group with evaluating this proposal.
- 5. Implementation** (*To be discussed today*): management & oversight recommendation for EI and ECSE.

Draft high-level recommendations for reaction

- 1. Funding Goals:** We must adequately fund ECSE and EI services. To do so, we must charge X group with modeling the cost of adequately funding ECSE and EI services.
- 2. Funding Mechanism:** State appropriations for ECSE should remain in EBF, and the calculation for ECSE in EBF must be reevaluated. The funding mechanism for ECSE should be reevaluated by X group while a new ECEC agency is established, with the goal of transparently and effectively supporting providers and expanding ECSE services to meet child and family need.
- 3. Funding Mechanism:** We must further define how Illinois can best serve children 3-5 in the mixed delivery system in a way that meets the needs of a child and their family. We must charge X group with defining parameters for the mechanism and how to implement it.
- 4. Funding Mechanism:** We should evaluate a shift to a contract-based system for EI funding for its ability to support providers in better serving children and families. We must charge X group with evaluating this proposal.
- 5. Implementation** (*To be discussed today*): management & oversight recommendation for EI and ECSE.

EI and ECSE in a centralized system of funding & governance

Draft Recommendation

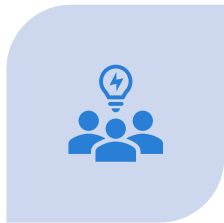
To implement centralized ECEC funding allocation and disbursal...



Centralize ECEC services in a new state agency

Centralize ECEC state agency programs and capacities from three agencies to one new agency to implement the new system of funding.

To implement centralized ECEC funding, the State should centralize ECEC into one agency



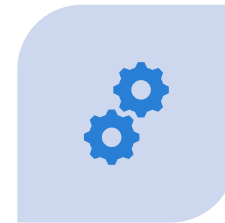
POLICY LEADERSHIP

ONE ECEC VISION
ONE SET OF ECEC
QUALITY STANDARDS
ONE AUTHORITY FOR
PROVIDERS
ONE ECEC VOICE OF
COLLABORATION WITH
THE EARLY
CHILDHOOD ECO-
SYSTEM



FUNDING & OVERSIGHT

SIMPLIFIED,
STREAMLINED
FUNDING ALLOCATION
AND DISTRIBUTION



INFRASTRUCTURE

SYSTEMWIDE DATA
UNIFIED PROFESSIONAL &
WORKFORCE
DEVELOPMENT
UNIFIED QUALITY
IMPROVEMENT



COMMUNICATIONS

CLEAR, UNIFIED
LISTENING AND
ENGAGEMENT

Creation of a New State Agency:

The advantages are significant, and there are known complexities



PROS

- + Exclusive ECEC mission focus
- + Elevates ECEC policy matters
- + Creates clear lines of authority on ECEC matters
- + Creates one accountable entity for racial equity and other work
- + Creates statewide ECEC leadership and a cabinet level voice for ECEC
- + Has led to increased profile of and demand for high-quality ECEC services
- + May be easier to find exceptional talent to lead and manage a new agency
- + Requires and allows for outlining of leadership capacities at each level of bureaucracy

CONS

- Complex: likely requires 2-3 years to fully accomplish
- Requires large investment in change management and culture change to achieve desired results
- Implementation may serve as a distraction from external ECEC work
- Separates ECBG-funded ECEC programs from K-12
- Could require determining a way to split TANF funds into ECEC and non-ECEC portion and send ECEC portion to new agency to administer

Other Notes

- An incremental approach to agency creation can make the transition more manageable, but ultimately can cause problems with culture and cohesion

Centralized ECEC funding allocation and disbursal would include these **funding sources** and **programs**

Funding Sources

State General Revenue
Early Childhood Block Grant

State General Revenue
Child Care Assistance Program

Federal Child Care Development Fund
Child Care Assistance Program

Federal TANF (a portion)
Child Care Assistance Program

State General Revenue
Healthy Families Illinois & Parents Too Soon

Federal MIECHV
MIECHV

State General Revenue
Early Intervention

Federal IDEA Part C
Early Intervention

Evidence Based Funding (a portion)
Early Childhood Special Education

Federal IDEA Part B Sec 619
Early Childhood Special Education

Federal Child Care Development Fund
Licensing

Federal Office of Head Start grant
Head Start State Collaboration Office

Programs

Early Childhood Block Grant

Child Care Assistance Program

Home Visiting

Head Start State Collaboration Office

Early Intervention

Early Childhood Special Education

Licensing

Currently
ISBE

Currently
IDHS

Currently
DCFS

Recommendation
Forthcoming

The Inclusion Working Group can make a management & oversight recommendation

What should be the management and oversight structure for EI and ECSE?

Centralize EI and/or ECSE in the **new ECEC agency**

EI and/or ECSE **remain** in their current state agencies

EI and ECSE consolidate within **IDHS**

EI and ECSE consolidate within **ISBE**

Remember: This group is recommending that ECSE state funding remain in EBF, which is administered by ISBE.

Should ECSE and EI be included in the centralized M&O entity?

Key outtakes from our last discussion



What we like:

- The idea of the system being built intentionally for all children is appealing
- Promoting the connection between EI and ECSE is important for families and children
- Unified vision, standards, and systems (including data) between EI and ECSE and general ECEC are appealing



Our considerations:

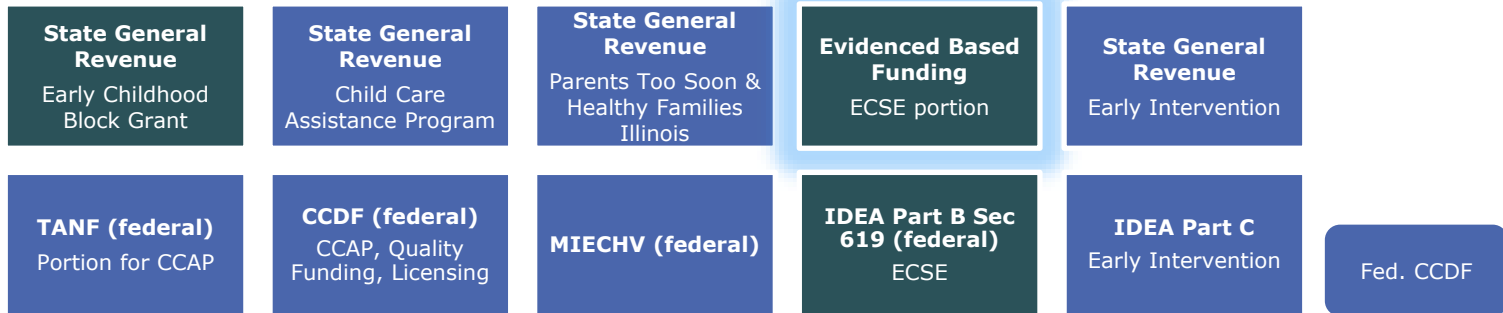
- Concern over losing the connection between ECSE and K12 Special Education if removed from ISBE (though the transition is not extremely smooth as it is today anyway)
- Concern over losing the education focus if removed from ISBE
- Leadership may matter more than the structure

Now that the Commission is leaning toward a new agency, how does this impact our thinking?

If EI and ECSE were included, centralized ECEC funding would be **distributed** to support these **services**.
What are the implications for keeping ECSE funding in EBF?

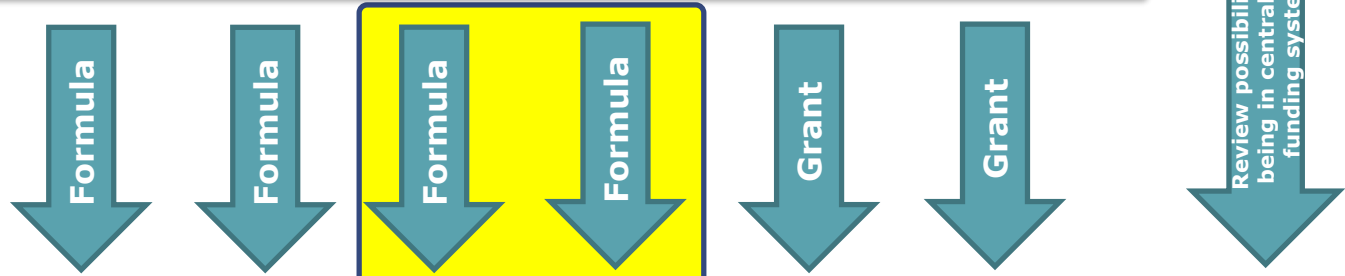
Funding Sources

Currently ISBE
 Currently IDHS



ECEC Agency Centralized System of Funding

Contract designates...



Funding Distributions



Next Steps

Next Steps

- Prepare recommendations for October 13th Commission Meeting
- Inform M&O and Funding Mechanism Working Groups of our recommendations

THANK YOU

