

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) for the
Supporting Children with Special Needs Workgroup
&
Supporting Multilingual Learners Workgroup**

Workgroup Information

Q. What is the role of the workgroup?

The workgroup will create recommendations for the proposed Illinois Department of Early Childhood to improve early childhood programs and services for children and families by winter 2024. The workgroup will provide regular updates and share its recommendations with the [Transition Advisory Council \(TAC\)](#).

Q. What is the time commitment to participate in a workgroup?

Workgroups will meet 1-2 times per month, May – December 2024. The meetings will be held virtually during a convenient day and time for all members.

Q. Who will participate in this workgroup?

Each workgroup will include parents/guardians, educators/providers, representatives from community organizations, legislator(s), state agency staff, and others who provide diverse perspectives.

Application Process

Q. How do I apply to be considered for a workgroup?

Identify the workgroup you are interested in and your role – parent or educator. Click on the link below. Please complete the application by the deadline.

Supporting Children with Special Needs Workgroup –

[Parent Application](#) or [Educator Application](#)

Supporting Multilingual Learners Workgroup –

[Parent application](#) or [Educator application](#)

Q. Can I apply for more than one workgroup?

Yes, but we will prioritize including diverse perspectives across workgroups.

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Q. Can I apply as a parent and educator?

Although many have multiple roles as parents and educators, please select the role you feel most comfortable representing – parent or educator.

Q. How long will it take to complete the application?

The application should take no more than 10 minutes to complete.

Q. When does the application close?

The applications will close on Tuesday, May 7 at 11:59 p.m. CT.

Q. Who do I contact if I need assistance in completing the application or need access to the application in another language?

Please contact Erin Arango-Escalante at erin@allchildren-thrive.com who will assist with interpretation, translation, and completion of applications.

Q. What if I am not a parent or an educator but wish to participate in this workgroup?

Please complete and submit this [form](#) by the due date.

Q. How many people will be selected to participate in this workgroup?

Approximately 15 people will be selected to participate in each workgroup.

Selection Process

Q. When will I be notified that I am selected to be a member of a workgroup?

Everyone who applies will be notified by the end of May.

Q. How will members be selected to participate in a workgroup?

Membership criteria were developed to ensure diverse representation in each workgroup. This includes but is not limited to geographic representation, role, program type, and linguistic and race/ethnic diversity. These criteria will be applied when selecting members.

Additional Information

Q. If I am not selected to be a member of a workgroup, are there other ways I can get involved?

Yes. Your contact information will be kept and there will be additional opportunities for local/community level engagement.