# Feedback from Working Group Members: Funding Mechanism Topics

We compiled and consolidated all feedback received into a single document for the working group discussion. The content is organized by topic and whether the feedback might impact the actual recommendation, context around the recommendation, or implementation considerations. We will use this as a starting point for the conversation.

| ***Topic*** | ***Change to Recommendation*** | ***Context*** | ***Implementation*** | |
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| **Funding Mechanisms Topics** | | | | |
| Contracts and Vouchers | Must grapple with contract vs. voucher questions in the external feedback. | Could the report discuss a process for phasing in contracts and a dual system while this happens?  Spell out clearly if we are doing contracts or vouchers and why. | | Not ready to go to all contracts. Will need to phase in. Also, will likely always be a need for some vouchers (Family, Friend, and Neighbor? Centers with few eligible?) |
| Provider Accountability in Contracts | Ensure accountability mechanisms are clearly outlined in contracts to ensure quality over the contract period. |  | |  |
| Funding Allocation Processes |  | Use data to determine funding priorities across the state, with provider input.  Use external experts to support funding allocation processes to make it fair and equitable; look to Head Start/ Early Head Start for examples of this. | | Conduct a full, formal review/audit of the funding allocation process that is inclusive and brings the voice of users/beneficiaries into the process. |
| Funding Priorities | **Infants/Toddlers (I/T):** Recommendations should include:  1) The state should establish a formal mechanism to then be codified in law that would direct portion of ECEC funds to Infants/Toddler services,  2) The State should review and recommend appropriate % of funds needed for Infants/Toddler services, and  3) The state should allocate no less than the current % allocated to Infants/Toddler services.  **Geography:** Funding formula should specifically address *geographic equity* (as well as age, race, income, etc.) |  | | Future rate increases must include Early Intervention, not just child care. (Reference to a section of the outline that references child care increases). |
| Family Child Care (FCC) and Family Friend and Neighbor (FFN) Care |  |  | | Not much in the draft mentioning Family Child Care (FCC) & FCC networks’ unique role. Need deeper engagement during implementation regarding how funding mechanisms will impact them. |
| English Learners in Evidence Based Funding formula for Illinois Public Schools |  | The report outline lacks discussion of any recommendations, leanings, or concerns around current English Learners funding in Evidence Based Funding formula for schools (like it does for Early Childhood Special Education) or future funding mechanisms.  Lacks discussion about how funding mechanisms will impact English Learners. | |  |
| Stakeholder Engagement Around Mechanisms |  | Ensure parents and stakeholders are engaged as partners around Funding Mechanisms to ensure mixed delivery and family choice. | |  |