

Welcome and thank you for joining!



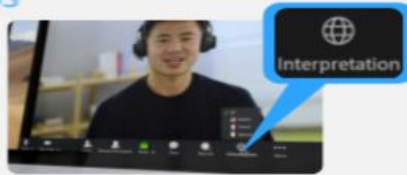
Early Childhood Leadership Commission

- This meeting will be recorded and posted on the ECLC Transition Webpage
- Please use the chat to ask questions for the presenters
- Spanish language interpretation is available. Follow the instructions to join the appropriate language channel

**Durante este evento, se dispondrá de interpretación de idiomas.
Para escuchar la interpretación en un idioma:**

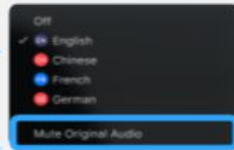


1. En los controles de la reunión o el seminario web, haga clic en **Interpretation (Interpretación)**



2. Haga clic en el idioma que desee escuchar

3. (Opcional) Para escuchar solo el idioma interpretado, haga clic en **Mute Original Audio (Silenciar audio original)**



1. En los controles de la reunión, toque el icono de los puntos suspensivos **⋮**
2. Toque **Language Interpretation (Interpretación de un idioma)**
3. Toque el idioma que usted desea escuchar



4. (Opcional) Toque el interruptor **Mute Original Audio (Silenciar audio original)**



5. Haga clic en **Done (Done)**



Early Childhood Leadership Commission

Early Childhood Transition Plan
Monthly Town Hall
October 2022

Introductions

Early Childhood Leadership Commission Co-Chairs:

- **Susan Steele** - President & CEO, Buell Foundation
- **Sue Renner** - Executive Director, David and Laura Merage Foundation
- **Tammi Hiler** - Special Advisor for Early Childhood and K-12 Policy for Governor Jared Polis

Agenda

- Voices from the Field
- News from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood
- Preschool Development Grant - Updates and Future Grant Opportunity
- Mythbusting and Q&A
- Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

Voices from the Field

Sarah McNeil

Senior Librarian, Early
Learning Department
Denver Public Library

Kate Brunner

Regional Library Specialist
- Southern Region
Colorado State Library

Transition Planning

HB21-1304

- Signed June 23, 2021
- Called for the creation of two reports:
 - Department of Early Childhood Transition Plan
 - ECLC unanimously approved in November 2021
 - Colorado Universal Preschool Recommendations
 - ECLC unanimously approved in January 2022

HB22-1295

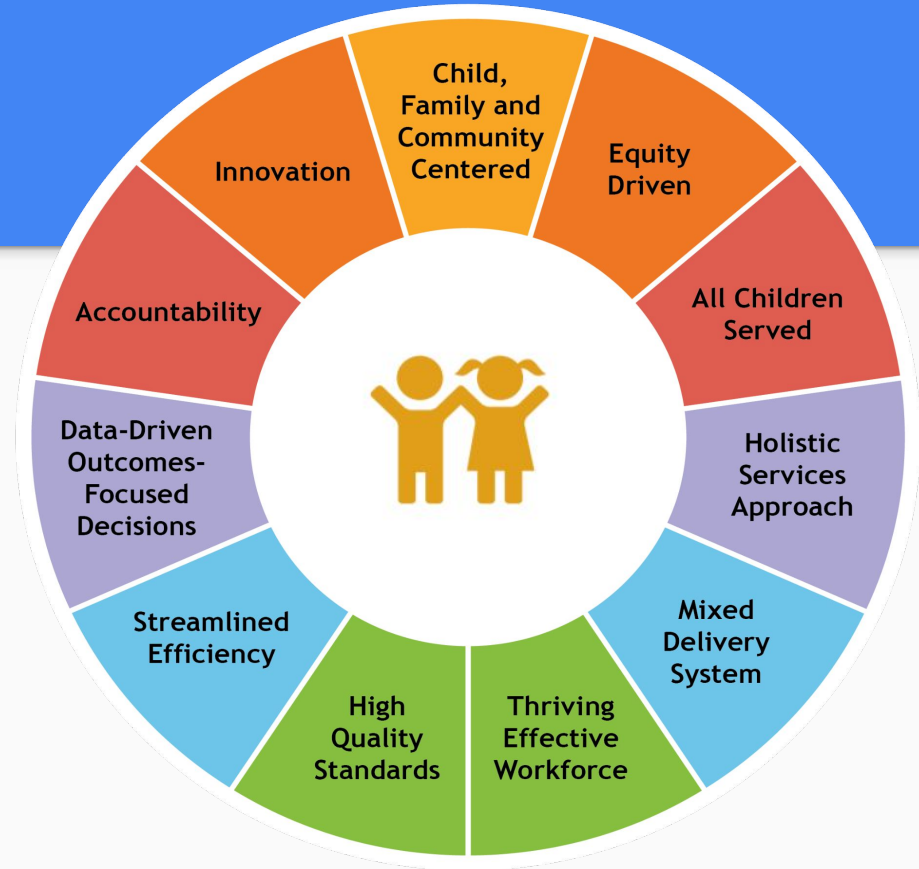
- Signed April 25, 2022
- Aligned with the recommendations of the two reports
- Established responsibilities of CDEC and the Executive Director
- Moved early childhood programs to the new department
- Created the Colorado Universal Preschool Program

CDEC officially launched July 1, 2022!



Guiding Principles

The CDEC and UPK reports centered on the guiding principles adopted by the ECLC



New ECLC Members

- **Nicole Riehl** (Castle Rock) - President and CEO, Executives Partnering to Invest in Children (EPIC)
- **Whitney LeBoeuf** (Denver) - Director of Data Integration and Analytics, Colorado Evaluation and Action Lab
- **Maria Tarajano Rodman** (New Castle) - Executive Director, Valley Settlement
- **Pamela Harris** (Denver) - President & CEO, Mile High Early Learning (reappointed)
- In addition, the Governor appointed **Sue Renner**, Executive Director, David and Laura Merage Foundation, and **Tamara Hiler**, Special Advisor for Early Childhood and K-12 Policy for Governor Jared Polis to serve as Co-Chairs of the Commission alongside **Susan Steele**, President & CEO, Buell Foundation



COLORADO

Department of Early Childhood

News from the Colorado Department of Early Childhood

October 2022

- Rules Advisory Council and Rulemaking Process
- Communications Updates
- Update on UPK Rules and Next Steps

Rules Advisory Council and Rulemaking Updates

- Next RAC Meeting: Optional Work Session on Thursday, October 13 at 12pm
- Next Public Rulemaking Hearing: Monday, November 21 at 9am
- [Sign up](#) to be notified when rules are drafted and available for public comment
- Public notice information on the CDEC website



Find us on Facebook in Spanish!

Asegurando que los niños más pequeños de Colorado sean valorados, saludables y prósperos.



Departamento de la Primera Infancia de Colorado

8 likes • 14 followers

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UPK Rules Update

For a child to who is three, or younger than three in a district with a waiver to serve children younger than three, and for children in the year before kindergarten to receive additional hours of care in the Colorado Universal Preschool Program, the child must meet one or more of the following criteria

- A child who lives in a low-income household (270% of the 2023 Federal Poverty Guidelines)
- A child who is a dual language learner and the native language spoken in the child's home is a language other than English, or the child's native language is not English
- A child with an Individualized Education Program (IEP)
- A child who is currently in a foster care home or in non-certified kinship care
- A child who is identified as homeless

The specific number of hours for children three and younger (waiver districts) and for children in the year before kindergarten will be determined in November alongside the provider rate.



UPK Update

- LCO training began supporting LCOs in start up efforts. Topics included: community plan supports and development, initial budget planning, change leadership, data driven decision making, stakeholder engagement and more! CDEC, in collaboration with Jodi Harden and Early Milestones Colorado, will continue training through November in support of the January UPK application launch. These trainings are intended to set a foundation as well as be responsive to local needs.
- CDEC contracted with BridgeCare to formally begin development of the unified UPK application. The application is being developed to ensure ease of access and use, promoting family choice as well as LCO and provider access and customization. (See last meeting for application demo.) Leading up to the January launch, we will continue to provide system updates including testing outcomes, system flow mapping, etc.



THANK YOU!

<https://cdec.colorado.gov/>



Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five 2022 Planning Grant

Opportunity

- Expect 10 awards (27 eligible applicants)
- \$4 million maximum (average award of \$3 million)
 - States must provide a 30% non-federal match
- Project period is December 31, 2022-December 30, 2023
- Separate from the current PDG B-5 Renewal Grant



Purpose

- Strengthen the state early childhood system and prepare children for kindergarten
- Invest in the early childhood care and education (ECCE) workforce
- Identify opportunities to expand access to high-quality ECCE
- Support a comprehensive mixed delivery system



Program Approach

- Promote an integrated ECCE system
- Support the early childhood workforce
- Expand meaningful community and family engagement and leadership
- Ensure includes of children with, or at risk of, disabilities
- Address suspension, expulsions, exclusion
- Incorporate trauma-informed approaches
- Coordinated application, eligibility, and enrollment system
- Align with CCDF activities
- Support effective and appropriate transitions
- Build infant-toddler care capacity
- Provide services to underserved children



Current PDG B-5 Grantees

- Expanding and building upon previous work in all areas
- Activities chosen should enhance and advance what has already been done
- Opportunity to address some of the challenges caused by COVID that may have derailed planned efforts
- Address B-5 workforce challenges that were not previously available to states in the original PDG B-5 Initial Grant



Proposed Vision and Outcomes

Colorado Shines Brighter when all children, families, and early childhood professionals are valued, healthy and thriving.

PDG B-5 Project Outcomes

1. Ensure all families have equitable and easy access to high quality and affordable early childhood services to meet the unique developmental needs of children in mixed delivery settings, including home and communities, child care and preschools, and healthcare settings.
2. Recruit, retain, well-compensate, and support a diverse and qualified early childhood workforce to provide care and education to all children and their families.
3. Strengthen, coordinate, align, and sustain the comprehensive statewide early childhood system and meaningfully and equitably engage, support, and empower families and communities to promote children's overall development, learning, and well-being.



Activity 1: Conduct or Update Comprehensive Statewide B-5 Needs Assessment

Applicants that choose to substantively update a previously conducted needs assessment must explore additional elements not previously assessed by or identified as initial gaps related to the availability and quality of existing programs in the state with a particular emphasis on equity for traditionally underserved communities; and include additional data to identify emerging or previously unidentified needs, such as those resulting from the COVID-19 public health emergency, as well as programs serving the most vulnerable or underserved populations and children in rural areas.

Colorado's Approach

Update the 2019 Colorado Shines Brighter B-5 Needs Assessment with a focus on:

- emerging or previously unidentified needs resulting from COVID-19 and other changes to Colorado's ECCE landscape (e.g. HB22-1295)
- children with special health needs
- early childhood workforce



Activity 2: Develop or Update Comprehensive Statewide B-5 Strategic Plan

Develop or substantively revise and/or implementing a comprehensive statewide B-5 strategic plan that recommends coordination and quality improvement activities, based on the needs assessment findings.

Colorado's Approach

Utilize the ECLC's Colorado Shines Brighter Strategic Plan Working Group to engage stakeholders and review data/needs assessments, the revised Early Childhood Colorado Framework, state equity plans, and other inputs to update the strategic plan.



Activity 3: Maximize Parent and Family Engagement in B-5 System

Maximizing parent and family choice and knowledge about the state's mixed delivery system of programs and providers by establishing consistent parent engagement expectations, and expanding the state's efforts to support family choice. This can be accomplished by ensuring families are provided information in ways that are accessible to them (e.g., primary language, clear language, accessible format, digital and hard copy, and through outreach partnerships to include all communities) about the variety and locations of ECCE programs and services that are available, as well as promoting and increasing efforts to involve parents and family members in policy decisions, and programmatic activities to support children's development and their transitions from ECCE into elementary school and continued engagement through the early grades to build strong partnerships between parents and teachers to support learning at school and home.

Colorado's Approach

- Support Tribal Family Leadership
- Increase adoption and assessment of the *Early Childhood Family Engagement Framework*
- Increase opportunities for family voice to be incorporated into state and local decision making
- Develop messaging and materials to increase awareness and engagement of home visiting programs



Activity 4: Support the B-5 Workforce and Disseminate Best Practices

Sharing best practices and identifying workforce supports and trainings among ECCE providers (including family child care providers) to leverage funding and other resources; increase collaboration, coordination, and alignment; and improve transitions that happen across all age spans in early childhood from birth through third grade. Applicants are encouraged to consider and propose systemic investments to support the ECCE workforce as well as investments to support ECCE providers at the community and/or program level.

Colorado's Approach

- Continued planning to support children's transitions into kindergarten
- Continued local organizational capacity building (ECCs, FRCs, LCOs,) and collaborative planning support for local partners
- Continued investment in ECE business practices
- Analysis and planning for a comprehensive, statewide qualification system/career ladder
- Workforce compensation strategies, building on ARPA activities, SB22-213, and recommendations from the ECE Compensation Task Force and the Home Visiting Investment Task Force



Activity 5: Support Program Quality Improvement

Upon completion of Activities One and Two (Needs Assessment and Strategic Plan), applicants can propose to improve the overall quality of early childhood programs and services in the state, including by investing in and enhancing educational opportunities for children.

Colorado's Approach

- Improve access and supports for children with special health needs (based on needs assessment)
- Improve Screening and Referral Practices
- Literacy Policy Alignment (READ Act and HB22-1295)
- ECMH Consultation Support Line Evaluation
- Sustainability Planning for Stimulus Funding “Cliff”



Other Activities

- Evaluation
 - Recipients are required to allocate 5-7% of the total amount of their grant award during this planning grant year to plan, develop, and begin to implement their program performance evaluation plan.
- Early Childhood Workforce Technical Assistance (TA) Peer Learning Initiative and Community of Practice
 - The peer learning initiative will provide TA to a peer group of PDG B-5 grant recipients, as well as to individual states in support of the development and implementation of a compensation or workforce development initiative.



Application Inputs

- Colorado Shines Brighter B-5 Strategic Plan - 2022 Update!
- PDG B-5 and Stimulus Funding Sustainability and/or Expansion Needs
- 2022 PDG B-5 Family, ECE Provider, and Innovative Service Provider Surveys
- 2022 Early Milestones Colorado COVID-19 & UPK Family and ECE Provider Surveys
- ECLC/PQA Meeting Feedback

This is a planning grant - stakeholders will be engaged throughout the year.



Questions? Thank you!

Lindsey Dorneman

Preschool Development Grant B-5 Director

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Mythbusting and Questions



Upcoming Engagement Opportunities



Upcoming Engagement Opportunities

Stakeholder engagement will remain critical to the success of CDEC and the universal preschool program. Stakeholders can expect to remain informed and engaged through the following new and existing channels:

- CDEC Website has officially launched: cdec.colorado.gov
- Sign up for the [CDEC Newsletter](#)
- Follow the CDEC on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Instagram](#)
- [Feedback Form](#)
- Newsletter updates through the [Our Voice Newsletter](#)
 - Please sign up for *Our Voice* to continue to receive updates!
- Monthly town halls
 - Next Town Hall: Tuesday, November 8 at 5:30pm

Thank you!

