

Chat from November 9, 2021 Transition Advisory Group Meeting

From Leigh Pytlinski to Everyone: 03:31 PM

As this feedback was gathered, was the operational understanding that UPK would be offered year round?

From Mat Aubuchon to Everyone: 03:36 PM

Year round needs to be a local decision. Not all parents want/need that and not all providers have the manpower and ability to do so.

From Dr. Cathrine Aasen Floyd ("Katrina") to Everyone: 03:37 PM

I thought that it was school-year only, so this would be a good question to have answered

From Gina Robinson/HCPF to Everyone: 03:39 PM

PEAK is another good example of that complexity

From Dr. Cathrine Aasen Floyd ("Katrina") to Everyone: 03:41 PM

Stacking is the term that we used to acknowledge that most funding sources have an hour requirement

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 03:41 PM

Nasha and team, I wonder if someone could define blending, braiding, and stacking in the chat in case folks on the call might not understand the difference? Thanks!

From Merlyn Tejada to Everyone: 03:42 PM

Blending: "Financial assistance is combined under a single set of reporting and other requirements, and resources contributed from each individual funding stream lose their original award-specific identity."

Braiding: "Financial assistance from several sources is coordinated to support a single initiative or strategy, while each individual award maintains its award-specific identity."

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 03:43 PM

Thank you Merlyn!

From Carol Woods to Everyone: 03:43 PM

Sorry I am late. No subs, just finished sending my kiddos home.

From Gina Robinson/HCPF to Everyone: 03:43 PM

BRB

From Kristie Kauerz to Everyone: 03:46 PM

Those definitions of blending/braiding are on page 25 of the Transition Report delivered to the legislature.

Thank you, Diane. My suggestion is that I don't see that information presented here...yet.

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From Amber Bilby - CAFCC to Everyone: 03:50 PM

We do however need to make sure that those who have registration prior to the school year are ready to go before 2023. We should really look at having things in place next year as well.

From Maegan Lokteff, ECCLA to Everyone: 03:52 PM

Great point Amber!

From Floyd Cobb Phd - Colorado Department of Education to Everyone: 03:52 PM

Is there thinking on when that registration date should be?

From Mat Aubuchon to Everyone: 03:53 PM

And we need to remember that parents start enrolling often in December of the prior school year for "preschool". Some of these timelines need to take that into account that a true design is in place by about this time next year.

From Amber Bilby - CAFCC to Everyone: 03:53 PM

Correct Mat

From Kristie Kauerz to Everyone: 03:54 PM

This is yet another aspect in which big picture things (like total pot of money, # of hours of services, etc.) matter. Eligibility needs to match up with what the state can afford. And, to Lorena's point, also needs to match up with a set of values about who gets served.

From angela.fedler to Everyone: 03:55 PM

With additional time to literally build the application process into current data systems or alignment of current data systems so that folks are duplicating data between systems (powerschool vs salesforce vs child plus for instance)

From Mat Aubuchon to Everyone: 03:58 PM

Agreed Angela. The tech side of this could be a huge bear. Given the intricacies of what we all deal with in districts with our current platform, we need to be VERY careful when introducing another that they can communicate to each other.

From Dustin Elliott to Everyone: 04:07 PM

Could we develop a "Checklist" for families. This would include all documentation needed to complete the application before they begin filling out the application. This would help the family come ready to start and complete the application.

From Lorena Garcia |CSPC| She/Ella to Everyone: 04:08 PM

this is a great opportunity for community partnerships

Organizations that serve families who would benefit can become supports for these families applying.

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From Kathy Howell to Everyone: 04:10 PM

it is very possible a single application will result in a loss of identification of potential preschool students who have special needs

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 04:11 PM

I would certainly prefer it to say "as soon as possible"

My concern is that families may not see much burden lifted if they are still submitting multiple applications.

From Amber Bilby - CAFCC to Everyone: 04:12 PM

I agree Melissa.

From Lorena Garcia [CSPC] She/Ella to Everyone: 04:12 PM

Univision and Telemundo too

From Betty Dalton to Everyone: 04:12 PM

I so agree, parents get confused fairly easy.

From Carsten Baumann to Everyone: 04:12 PM

Two downsides of the single application for everything at once: 1) it will be much longer than for a single service and 2) not everyone is ready for all services at once because needs change. We need to keep in mind the unintended consequence of asking for too much information at once potentially preventing families from participating in what they consider the most essential services...

From Sarah Carlson to Everyone: 04:13 PM

In my setting, the application also includes a screening tool so that we're getting children identified who may need to be evaluated for special education asap.

From Susan Steele - Buell to Everyone: 04:14 PM

Are there some national examples we could draw upon for this?

From Mat Aubuchon to Everyone: 04:14 PM

Need to go- will pop onto another device in a few.

From Kristie Kauerz to Everyone: 04:15 PM

There is actually already a PDG-funded working group on Common Application, Eligibility, and Enrollment.

From colleen.oloughlin to Everyone: 04:15 PM

This is likely a premature comment, but what Matt said made me think of it. I think that it will be important to conduct some training for the community program providers who come into UPK to help them identify students who may qualify for IDEA services.

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From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 04:17 PM

Good point Lorena! I agree. I think it is important that we still think broadly what multiple applications might mean for the family burden and would encourage the TAG to make a broad recommendation about "as soon as possible" versus "over time"

From Kathy Howell to Everyone: 04:19 PM

Do you consider special education a program?

From Kristie Kauerz to Everyone: 04:21 PM

All to say: go slow to go fast.

That's right. The new money is not going to be enough to accomplish everything we want right now. It's a LOT of money, and a huge accomplishment.

I'm for a common application for UPP. not everything else just yet.

From Susan Steele - Buell to Everyone: 04:22 PM

And fully utilize stimulus funds as appropriate.

From Lorena Garcia [CSPC] She/Ella to Everyone: 04:22 PM

If an expertly designed user friendly application is not front and center, then families wont apply.

From Cassandra Johnson, BCDI-Denver (Queen, Mother, Sista) to Everyone: 04:23 PM

and we have to keep in mind the preschool providers will also have their own application process that may include additional paperwork requirements, so as much as we want to eliminate a burden with having one application, the reality is families will have to meet the enrollment requirements for where they are being served

From Kristie Kauerz to Everyone: 04:25 PM

User error...just never took it down.

From angela.fedler to Everyone: 04:27 PM

just an idea but maybe there is a stacked application process depending on level of care wanted or needed..

From Kristie Kauerz to Everyone: 04:27 PM

Mat would love that suggestion, Angela.

And I think that's an intriguing concept

From Sherri Valdez to Everyone: 04:28 PM

I appreciate that thought Angela.

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From Maegan Lokteff, ECCLA to Everyone: 04:28 PM

Great point Sherri! And if it is a statewide application how do you eliminate confusion when not every program is available in every community. From a parent perspective it would be confusing and disappointing to fill out an application that lists things like Head Start or Home Visiting programs that are not universally available or even in several communities.

From Lorena Garcia |CSPC| She/Ella to Everyone: 04:28 PM

@angela, I like that idea...

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 04:29 PM

Interesting idea, Angela. It would sort of be a "choose your own adventure" application and could immediately filter programs out once an applicant enters their zip code.

If those programs don't exist within a certain zip code, county or # of miles.

From Ty Johnson(she,her) to Everyone: 04:30 PM

@Maegan, that is what I am trying to wrap my mind around...when thinking about a unified application that is making a big assumption that what is applied for is available when it may not be...especially in some rural areas or an area where care is scarce....mmmmm, thinking

From Maegan Lokteff, ECCLA to Everyone: 04:34 PM

@Ty, yeah, I hadn't really thought about it until Sherri brought up that point. Maybe it wouldn't be assumed by families but it seems like if they see a list of programs that they are theoretically applying for under a single application they would assume those are available in their community. But maybe that is not an issue . . . this is a difference from PEAK . . . it is a single application for programs available in every county, and even that is tricky when things have waitlists in some counties.

From Sherri Valdez to Everyone: 04:34 PM

Should local investment be added here? Employer investments?

From Kristie Kauerz to Everyone: 04:40 PM

Options 3 and 4 have higher needed investments in intermediaries (not necessarily a bad thing...but, again, less money going directly to providers and families).

From Kathy Howell to Everyone: 04:43 PM

If you are not a member are you to not engage?

From Sarah Shepherd to Everyone: 04:44 PM

Yes!

From Merlyn Tejada to Everyone: 04:44 PM

Jamboard: <https://jamboard.google.com/d/1Y0ewKq63ZGBQQ3bBcu8JnQvxOSdoJT-Pltxz59Y-LIM/viewer?f=0>

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From Kristie Kauerz to Everyone: 04:44 PM

Unfortunately, I teach tonight and have to scoot...serendipitously, on the topic of ECE finance and governance. Sorry to miss these conversations.

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 05:12 PM

I appreciate the concern that was raised about equity and the need for robust outreach about this model.

I wonder if this group discussed transportation as an essential component of this model being equitable, especially in rural Colorado

From Ty Johnson(she,her) to Everyone: 05:15 PM

this option begs Navigation and support

From Kate Brunner (she/her) to Everyone: 05:15 PM

This also assumes a certain level of slots being available in the first place. If you have cash in hand, but no slot available, then what?

no *slot available - typing too quickly, sorry.

From Kallie Leyba, AFT CO, she/hers to Everyone: 05:16 PM

Excellent point Kate

From Leigh Pytlinski to Everyone: 05:19 PM

Thanks, Ty.

From Ty Johnson(she,her) to Everyone: 05:19 PM

yes ma'am, my pleasure

And Nasha you sound great and clear still

From Kathy Howell to Everyone: 05:19 PM

well said Ty

From Kallie Leyba, AFT CO, she/hers to Everyone: 05:25 PM

Well done Angela

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 05:25 PM

A concern with this option (3) is that it would not result in true mixed delivery- right now school districts offer 78 percent of preschool slots

From Lorena Garcia|CSPC|She/Ella to Everyone: 05:26 PM

Thanks Melissa!

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From Diane Price, Early Connections Learning Centers to Everyone: 05:27 PM
some communities have multiple school districts

From angela.fedler to Everyone: 05:27 PM

One point I forgot we discussed! In some areas they are the only providers willing to meet the quality criteria to receive the funding...not in all areas but in some. There are private providers that have no interest in meeting the provided quality measures

From Sherri Valdez to Everyone: 05:27 PM

Will this new PS funding go through a school district count date? Will CPP continue to be funded through a count date vai SD

From Kathy Howell to Everyone: 05:28 PM

Of CPP slots but not preschool age children Melissa.

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 05:28 PM

Kathy can you add? I'm not sure I follow your point

From Kathy Howell to Everyone: 05:29 PM

There are a lot more preschool age kids than are in CPP slots

From angela.fedler to Everyone: 05:29 PM

yes agreed

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 05:29 PM

Ah yes- I agree. CPP only serves 30-40 percent of our preschoolers

Thanks Kathy!

From Gina Robinson/HCPF to Everyone: 05:30 PM

Thank you!

From Melissa Mares (she, her, ella) to Everyone: 05:31 PM

And thank you Nasha, Kristina and teams!

From Shaun Steele/Hatch Early Learning to Everyone: 05:31 PM

Thank you so much!

From Amber Bilby - CAFCC to Everyone: 05:31 PM

Thank You

From Maegan Lokteff, ECCLA to Everyone: 05:31 PM

Thank You

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From Kallie Leyba, AFT CO, she/hers to Everyone: 05:31 PM
Thank you!