

Commission on Equitable Early Childhood Education and Care Funding: Stakeholder Engagement Plan

What is the Commission's Vision for Stakeholder Engagement?

ECEC stakeholders (advocates, providers, and families) feel heard, valued, respected, prioritized, and involved in the Commission's work and see their perspectives and recommendations for systems change reflected in the Commission's information gathering, deliberations, final recommendations, and blueprint for change.

What should stakeholders expect their relationship with the Commission to be?

The Commission will look to you, stakeholders and the public, for advice and innovation in formulating recommendations and will incorporate your advice into the final recommendations to the maximum extent possible.

Timeline	What will the Commission do to engage stakeholder perspectives?
February 11, 2020	Commission Meeting Build stakeholder engagement plan
February, 2020	Receive initial research from Build Initiative on other states' models for funding mechanism and management & oversight.
Before the March 10, 2020 Commission Meeting	ECEC advocacy organizations with representation on the Commission host webinars designed to share more information with Commission members and the public focused on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An overview of current funding mechanisms and management & oversight in the ECEC system Illinois' K-12 funding formula reform The Preschool Development Grant Birth to Five-funded cost model for ECEC services
March 10, 2020	<i>Commission Meeting canceled</i> Receive virtual feedback on stakeholder engagement plan
April 14, 2020	<i>Commission Briefing</i>
May 11, 2020	Commission Meeting
Before the June 16, 2020 Commission Meeting	Seek support from advocates, the Early Learning Council Family Engagement Implementation Subcommittee, and the Early Learning Council's All Families Served Subcommittee on identifying families and providers who may want to participate in subject matter hearings or who may want to tell or record a personal story of their engagement with the ECEC system.
Before the July 14, 2020 Commission Meeting	Catalogue recent previous stakeholder engagement efforts related to the Commission's charge.
Before the September 15, 2020 Commission Meeting	Seek support from the Early Learning Council in identifying national experts to weigh in on proposed recommendations during the September Commission Meeting.

Timeline	What will the Commission do to engage stakeholder perspectives?
June 2020	<p>Request written briefs from stakeholders, submitted to bethany.patten@illinois.gov, that describe:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The needs of families, educators, and providers, including the trade-offs that families are making to afford care. • Child, family, and provider archetypes that the Commission can use to better evaluate the proposed recommendations. • National and local best practices in funding adequacy, funding mechanisms, management & oversight, and inclusion. • Research on how to best generate assumptions for a cost model, especially around inclusion and the estimation of demand for ECEC in response to shifts in supply of ECEC. • Feedback on the initial recommendations developed by the Commission Working Groups. • How to weigh the trade-offs and pros and cons described in the Working Groups' initial recommendations in order to hone recommendations in a way that aligns with the Commission's guiding principles. • Specific recommended revisions to initial conclusions and recommendations being developed by the Commission Working Groups.
June 2020	Publish an open-access survey on the Commission website for general feedback related to the Commission's work.
June 2020	Engage with staff for Early Learning Council, Child Care Advisory Council, Professional Development Advisory Council, Professional Review Panel, Child Day Care Licensing Advisory Council, and EI Council to determine how each council would like to engage with the Commission and its forthcoming recommendations.
June 2020	Seek support from advocates, the Early Learning Council Family Engagement Implementation Subcommittee, and the Early Learning Council's All Families Served Subcommittee in organizing virtual focus group feedback sessions on initial recommendations from Working Groups in July and August.
June 16, 2020	Commission Meeting
June 2020	Seek support from advocates, the Early Learning Council Family Engagement Implementation Subcommittee, and the Early Learning Council's All Families Served Subcommittee to organize regional virtual hearings, focused on the Commission's full package of recommendations, in September and October.
July 14, 2020	Commission Meeting
Before the August 18, 2020 Commission Meeting	Request feedback, recommended revisions, and other written comments from the Early Learning Council and other stakeholders on the initial recommendations developed by the Commission Working Groups.
August 18, 2020	Commission Meeting
September 15, 2020	Commission Meeting Subject matter hearing: national early childhood experts
September 2020	Optional attendance for Commissioners: Regional hearing on draft Commission recommendations
October 13, 2020	Commission Meeting (off-site if available)

Timeline	What will the Commission do to engage stakeholder perspectives?
October 2020	Optional attendance for Commissioners: Regional hearing on draft Commission recommendations
November 10, 2020	Commission Meeting (off-site if available)
November 2020	Optional attendance for Commissioners: Regional hearing on draft Commission recommendations
December 8, 2020	Commission Meeting