

Department of Early Childhood Transition Planning: **Supporting Multilingual Learners (MLLs)**

Workgroup Charter

Purpose
<p>In collaboration with and in support of the development of the new agency, this workgroup will develop specific recommendations to align and improve early childhood services, programs, and supports for multilingual learners, their families, and the practitioners who support them.</p> <p>This workgroup will have an intentional focus on</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Identifying multilingual learners consistently across programs;● Providing appropriate linguistic and cultural supports for children in early childhood programs (e.g., professional development); and● Creating recommendations for seamless transitions from early childhood to K-12 for multilingual learners and their families.
Background Information
<p>Illinois is committed to providing equitable access and opportunities to all children in early childhood programs (and beyond). Starting in Spring 2024, the Transition Team will launch a workgroup to build on the 2021 Funding Commission report and other pertinent resources to develop recommendations for future priorities, program alignment, and improvement for multilingual learners, their families, and those who support and provide care in their communities.</p>
Goals & Objectives
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To understand the current landscape, context, plans, and recommendations for programs serving multilingual children and families<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Determine which programs and services are relevant to multilingual learners and familiesb. Determine guardrails for workgroup (in scope/out of scope)c. Document current context, lessons learned from other states, and implications for new agency2. To prepare and present recommendations for programs and the new agency that centers multilingual children, families, and practitioners<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Center and document family ideas for program connections and alignmentb. Explore recommendations with families and communities furthest from opportunity, advocacy organizations, state agencies, LEAs, intermediaries, legislators, and others identifiedc. Finalize recommendations and share with the state agencies, TAC, ELC, IACBE, and other groups as needed

Outcomes & Deliverables		
<p>Create a child, family, and community-friendly set of recommendations, centered in equity and civil rights, that</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● aligns to identified family needs and solutions, ● meets federal and state requirements, ● attends to feasibility and sustainability, and ● supports agency and administration mission, vision, and values. 		
Timeline		
2024	February	Create workgroup charter
	March	Create criteria for membership selection
	April	Select workgroup members
	May	Facilitate first workgroup meeting
	June	Review parent feedback from ChiByDesign Second meeting
	July	Third meeting
	August	Fourth meeting
	September	Fifth meeting
	October	Sixth meeting
	November	Seventh meeting; draft recommendations
	December	Submit final recommendations
2025	January	Follow-up activities
	February	Follow-up activities
	March	Follow-up activities
Membership		
State Agencies Advocacy Organizations Parents & Caregivers Legislators LEAs & Providers	Rebecca Vonderlack-Navarro, Transition Advisory Committee (TAC) Member Edgar Ramirez, Transition Advisory Committee (TAC) Member Debra DeValdivielso, Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) Trish Rooney, Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)	

Intermediaries	Joanne Clyde, Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Luis Narvaez, Parent Archana Agrawal, Parent Michelle Ramirez, Parent Celina Molina, Child Care Provider Keeshia Cart, Child Care Provider Elizabeth Perkins, Local Education Agency/School District (LEA)
Community Agreements	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">-Stay engaged-Speak your truth in a safe and confidential environment-Take space, make space-Allow time for interpretation-Experience discomfort, and name it-Show empathy-Expect and accept a lack of closure-Come prepared to actively participate in meetings-Avoid the use of acronyms	