

# Early Childhood Education and Care Transition Advisory Committee

January 9, 2024

5:30-7:00pm



# Welcome!

## Here are our virtual meeting protocols for TAC Members



- **Please be on video** as much as possible to help with overall engagement
- **Mute self** when not speaking
- Use **Chat feature** or **“raise hand” button** for questions or comments
- Technical issues can happen to anyone – **chat privately to Megan Bock for any needs**
- If you are experiencing an unstable connection - **switch to phone call or close other applications**



# Notes regarding this Meeting

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- **TAC Meetings are open to the public**
  - While not subject to Open Meetings Act, we will follow the intent of OMA as closely as possible
  - Meeting materials and a summary of minutes will be posted on the ELC website
- **Members of public are in “listen only” mode**
  - Public input will be gathered in Listening Sessions, held every other month, and in multiple other forums throughout the Transition process
  - An input/feedback form is available; a link will be shared in chat
  - TAC members can expect a summary of public input prior to each meeting
- **This meeting has Spanish translation**

# Today's Goals

- ✓ Build community amongst TAC members
- ✓ Continue getting to know consultants that will be supporting the work
- ✓ Establish TAC community agreements and equity commitments
- ✓ Brainstorm and discuss opportunities and areas to further develop common knowledge that will help drive our work together
- ✓ Learn about the state's budgeting process

# Agenda

Welcome and Introductions	20 min
Consultant Introduction: <i>CK Impact Strategies</i>	5 min
Consultant Introduction: <i>All Children Thrive</i>	5 min
Review Community Agreements and Equity Commitments	20 min
Setting the Stage: Stakeholder Engagement and Meaning Making	25 min
Building Shared Knowledge: High Level Overview of State's Budget Timeline and Process	5min
Next Steps and Adjourn	5 min





# Welcome & Introductions





# Roll Call





## TAC Charge

The state has established the **Transition Advisory Committee (TAC)**, comprised of representatives with diverse perspectives from across the state, to serve as an external advisory committee as the state moves toward a single ECE agency.

The TAC will **seek and help the state make meaning of stakeholder input** in preparation for the transition, with a **particular emphasis on understanding families' goals and needs** from a comprehensive ECE system for Illinois children.

The Transition Advisory Committee will work with the State's Early Childhood Transition Director, Ann Whalen, to **release a report by December 31, 2025.**

# TAC Year 1 Timeline and Priorities

Year 1: December 2023 – December 2024

## TAC relationship-building

Norm and build common knowledge and language

Get to know the transition consultants and understand their roles

Phase 1: Months 1 – 3

## Meaning making

Deep dive into family engagement findings

Unpack ongoing feedback and findings from transition key areas (ex: data and learning infrastructure)

Identify further areas of inquiry

Phase 2: Months 4-8

## Meaning making (continued)

Unpack ongoing feedback and findings from transition key areas (ex: data and learning infrastructure)

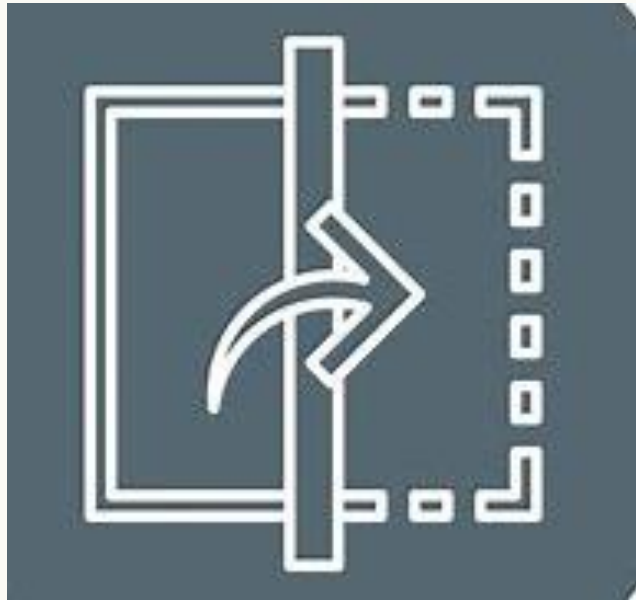
Reconcile data & stakeholder input

Begin to synthesize and make recommendations

Phase 3: Months 9-12



# Reflecting Back to Move Forward



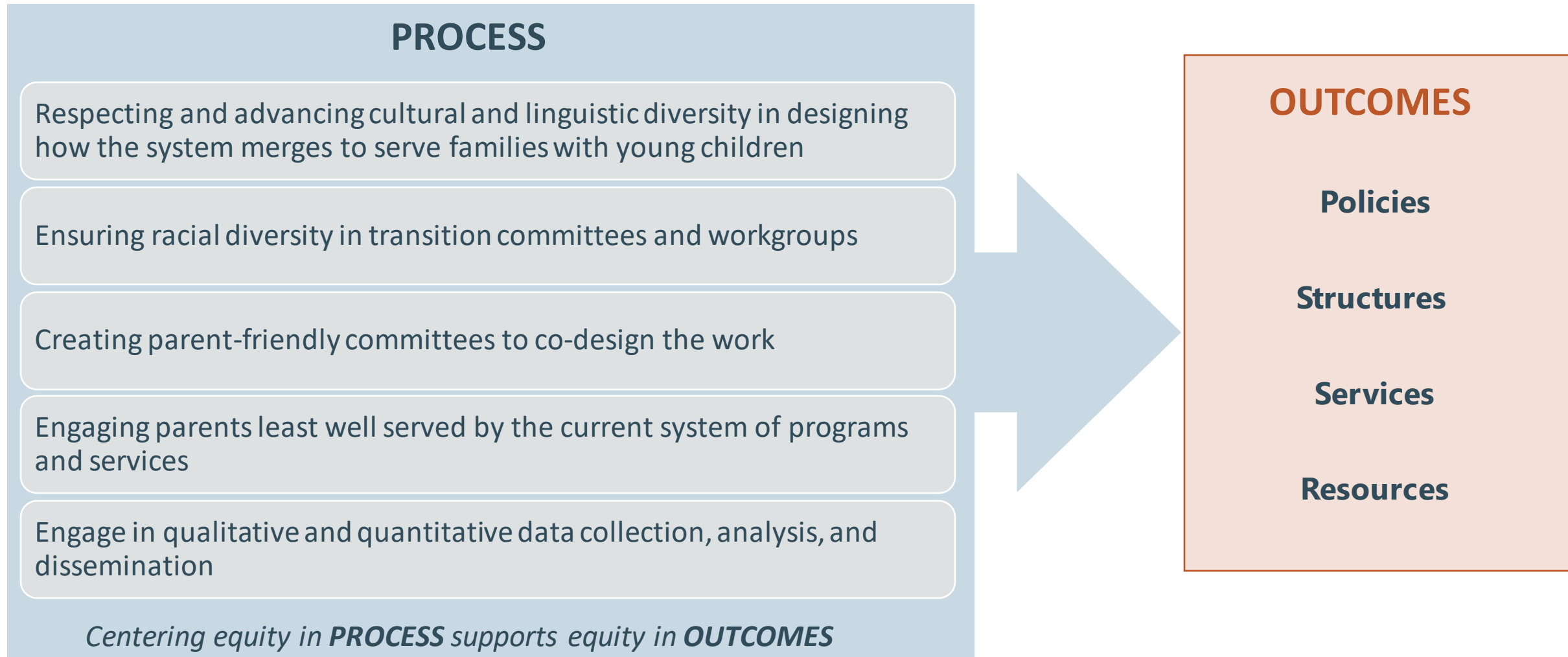
**Before the meeting, you received:**

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- ✓ **Draft Community Agreements**
- ✓ **Summary of Survey Responses**
- ✓ **December Meeting Minutes**

# Our efforts to improve the system must center racial equity and parent participation

The transition will center racial equity in process, vision for system, and outcomes of programs and services.



# *Christina Krasov, CK Impact Strategies*



# Introductions – CK Impact Strategies

## Name

- Christina Krasov
- Early Childhood consultant with nearly 20 years experience using data for impact

## The ways you interact with the EC System

- Activating Early Childhood champions (you!) with data and insights
- Formerly led collective impact strategy and Data and Learning for Early Childhood provider

## One hope you have for this group and the work we are embarking on

- That we together elevate a data and learning culture that helps make Illinois the best state in the country to raise children.
  - Nearly 80% of states have embarked on a journey to learn from integrated early childhood data
  - *“When you know better, you do better”* - Maya Angelou



# Introductions – CK Impact Strategies

## My role

- Draft a **Statewide Data & Learning Strategy** that is informed by EC stakeholders (you!), leverages existing the data and learning assets, and addressing shared wishlist items.
- Support the new governance structure by developing an **implementation plan** for a comprehensive statewide data and learning infrastructure.
- Document **national best practices** and position Illinois to be a leader among data-driven collaboratives in the national early childhood sector.
- Generally promote a **data and learning culture** throughout the early childhood system.

# Your turn!

What does a Data & Learning Culture sound like to you?



I know the availability of programs that meet the needs of families from focal populations

I can determine whether outreach methods improve knowledge and understanding of program options among families

I understand whether children from focal populations are enrolled in programs rated high-quality proportionate to their representation in the system

I know children's experiences within their learning environments

I know how well a child is prepared for kindergarten

[https://jamboard.google.com/d/1z4F5isOgj6VESS\\_U8z-ugJ5phfk4tmDXvcB1ob0ji\\_c/viewer?f=0](https://jamboard.google.com/d/1z4F5isOgj6VESS_U8z-ugJ5phfk4tmDXvcB1ob0ji_c/viewer?f=0)

# A data and learning culture sounds like...

**“I found a program for my child tailored to our needs.”**

**“I have visibility into the classrooms/homes that need the most support.”**

**“I know how to meet the needs of early childhood educators”**

**“I can be sure that the children I care about are prepared for their next step.”**

# What's Ahead

## What you can expect from me

- I'll be **listening** in during these TAC Meetings.
- You can feel free to **email me** anytime—will put my email in the chat box.
- I'll be soliciting your **continued feedback** on what data matters most to you and how to together inspire a learning culture.





*Erin Arango Escalante, All Children Thrive*





**ALL CHILDREN  
THRIVE**





Why





# ALL CHILDREN **THRIVE**





# DRAFT Community Agreements

## Engage in respectful dialogue

- Assume best intent and attend to impact
- Ask clarifying questions
- Step up, step back
- One mic
- Be curious and seek to clarify differences

## Actively participate

- Show up prepared
- Be fully present
- Be open-minded and respectful
- Think outside the box

## Make space for vulnerability

- Continually check we are centering families and equity
- Lean into discomfort
- Engage in self-reflection to understand our own reactions first

**Extend technology grace!**

# *Centering Equity in Process and Outcomes*



What does it mean to center equity?

What does it look like to commit to centering equity?

In what ways can we hold ourselves accountable to an equity lens?

**Small groups in session. Meeting will resume momentarily.**





# Setting the stage for our work: Stakeholder Engagement Meaning Making







TAC members **represent stakeholders, provide input, and support meaning making** of engagement with families, providers, and other stakeholders

# Planning for stakeholder input meaning making



- What stakeholders or perspectives may be missing?
- Are there topics where you feel you would like to build your knowledge base?
- What information would you like and/or who do you want to hear from?

# There are multiple opportunities to engage and gather input, including our first Bi-Monthly Listening Session 1/19

Family / Caregiver  
listening sessions

Bi-monthly calls

Transition Advisory  
Committee

Full Early Learning  
Council

Early Learning  
Council  
Committees

Child Care Advisory  
Council

Illinois Interagency  
Council on Early  
Intervention

ECACE Consortium  
Advisory Council

Ad hoc workgroups

Other Regional or  
Program Specific  
Advisories

# State Budgeting Process Overview and FY25 Budget Planning



# State Budget Process Overview

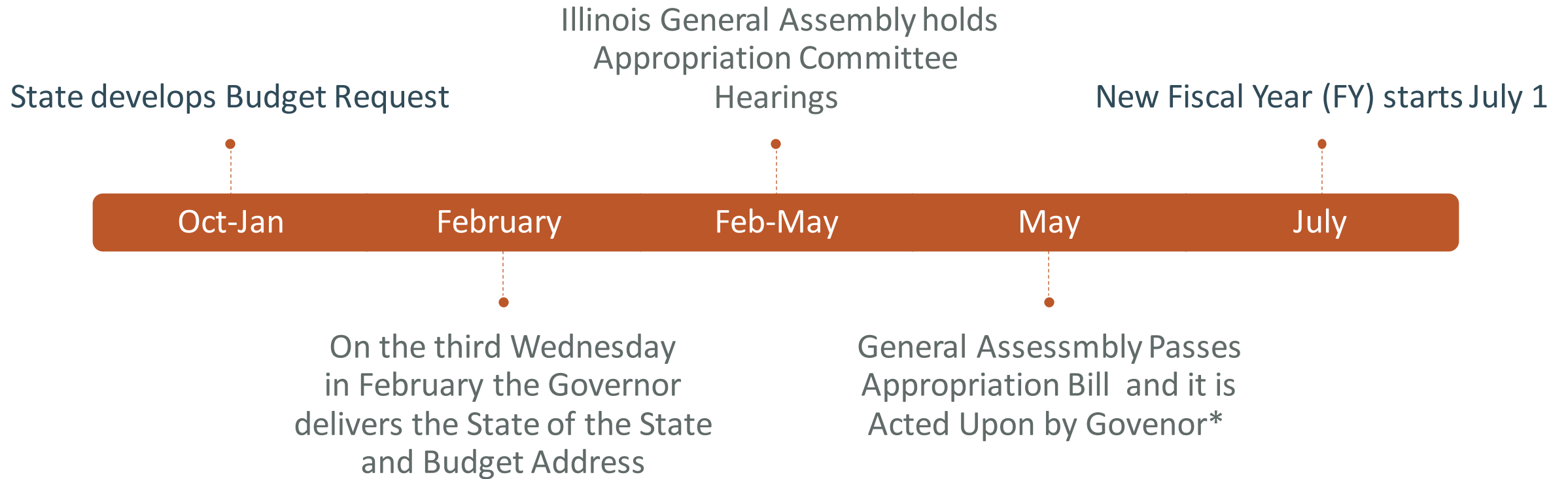


The Illinois Constitution requires the Governor to prepare and submit a state budget to the General Assembly for the upcoming fiscal year.

Illinois Fiscal Year (FY) is July 1 – June 30 (e.g., FY24 is July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024)

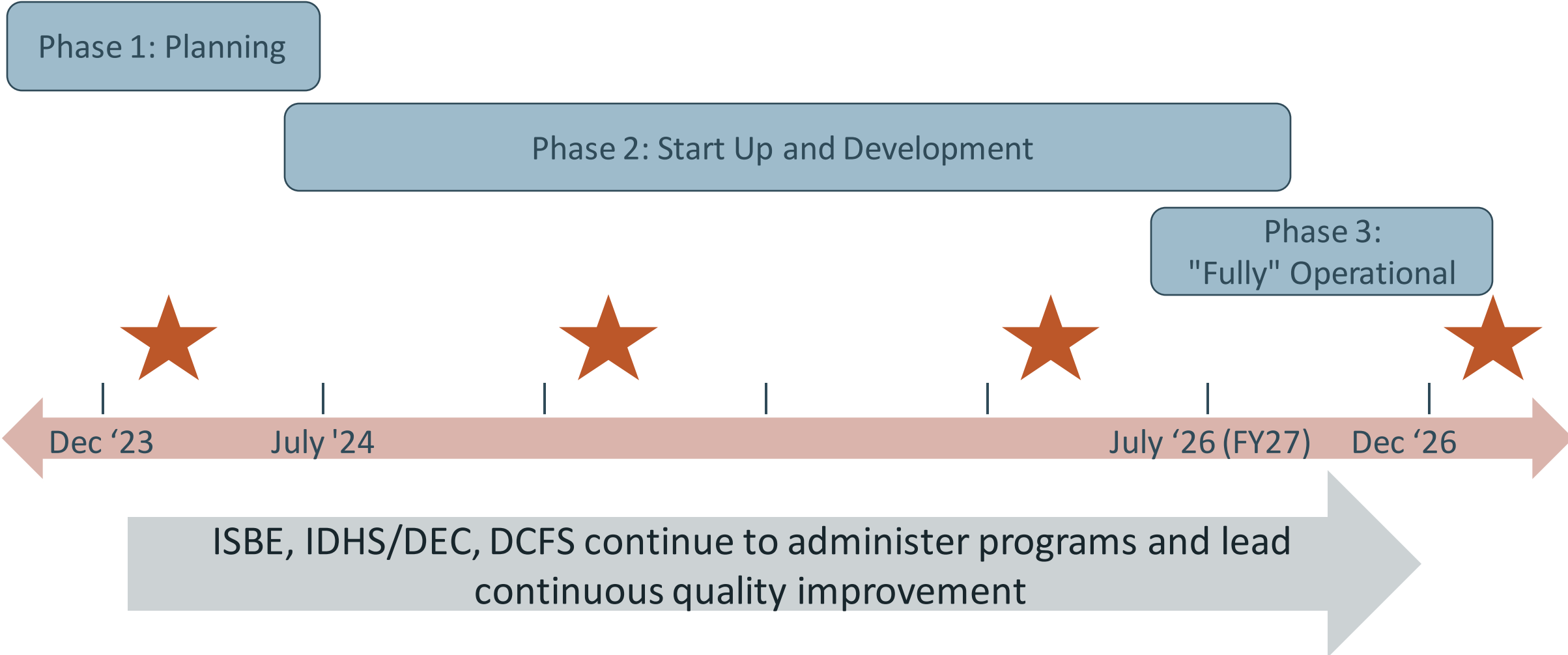


# State Budget Process Overview



\*By May 31 the GA can pass a budget with a majority vote, but after May 31, in the month of June prior to the beginning of the fiscal year on July 1, it will require a supermajority to pass the budget.

# The transition will be over a multi-year timeline, allowing for multiple opportunities to provide recommendations on the state budget



# Next Steps & Close



- Follow up email to be sent next week with meeting summary
- TAC members should reach out to Ann Whalen or Bela Moté with any feedback
- Listening Session: January 19, 2024  
12 – 1 pm
- State of the State and Budget Address: February 21, 2024
- Next Meeting:  
**Tuesday, February 27, 2024**  
**5:30-7pm**

**Thank you!**