

Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development Strategic Plan Overview: 2019-2021

<u>Vision:</u> Every young child develops to their maximum potential and thrives with the support of their families and communities.	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Purpose</u></p> <p>The Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development (GOECD) leads the state's early childhood systems building by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordinating the strategic vision for early care and education in Illinois. • Advancing the knowledge of child and family serving agencies and organizations to ensure the achievement of the vision. • Building equity in systems to achieve the vision for every young child. • Promoting system congruence by aligning policies, resources, and services to children across the same age and along the life span. 	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Functions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use findings from data analysis and research in decision-making. • Analyze and advance equity in systems. • Guide statutory and regulatory policy change. • Align initiatives across sectors. 	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Strategies</u></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Priority: Families and Communities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen family awareness of and engagement in early learning programs. • Expand home visiting services to address social risk factors and negative child outcomes by implementing evidence-based home visiting models in at-risk communities. • Strengthen the infrastructure and support resource allocation for community systems development, especially to remove barriers to access and alignment. • Support community collaborations in building leadership and service capacity, increasing connections with emerging research and implementation of evidence-informed practices. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Priority: Educators and the Workforce</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement strategies that increase compensation, improve work environment, and support career advancement. • Align existing early childhood workforce systems with competency-based Gateways Credentials as the foundation. • Increase access to effective professional development and coaching opportunities across early childhood programs, including models that foster social and emotional development and address trauma.
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Priority: Providers and Settings</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the implementation of high-quality early learning expansion models that improve instructional excellence and community collaboration in high-priority communities. • Support the development of program models and state policies to improve access for priority populations. • Build a cross-sector quality improvement program informed by cross-sector quality ratings and data in ExceleRate Illinois. 	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Priority: Systems and Alignment</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advance the vision for early childhood systems by supporting and coordinating the work of the Early Learning Council. • Conduct periodic needs assessment and strategic planning activities informed by the vision. • Provide leadership to implement the vision and strategic plan across state agencies. • Target dissemination of information to stakeholders to facilitate implementation of the vision.