

Early Learning and Development Guidelines Implementation

ELAC

4/8/13

Jennifer Jennings-Shaffer



What are the Guidelines and Why do they Matter?



“These Guidelines are a statewide resource for everyone who loves, cares for and educates young children. The Guidelines provide essential information to support and enhance children’s development and learning.”

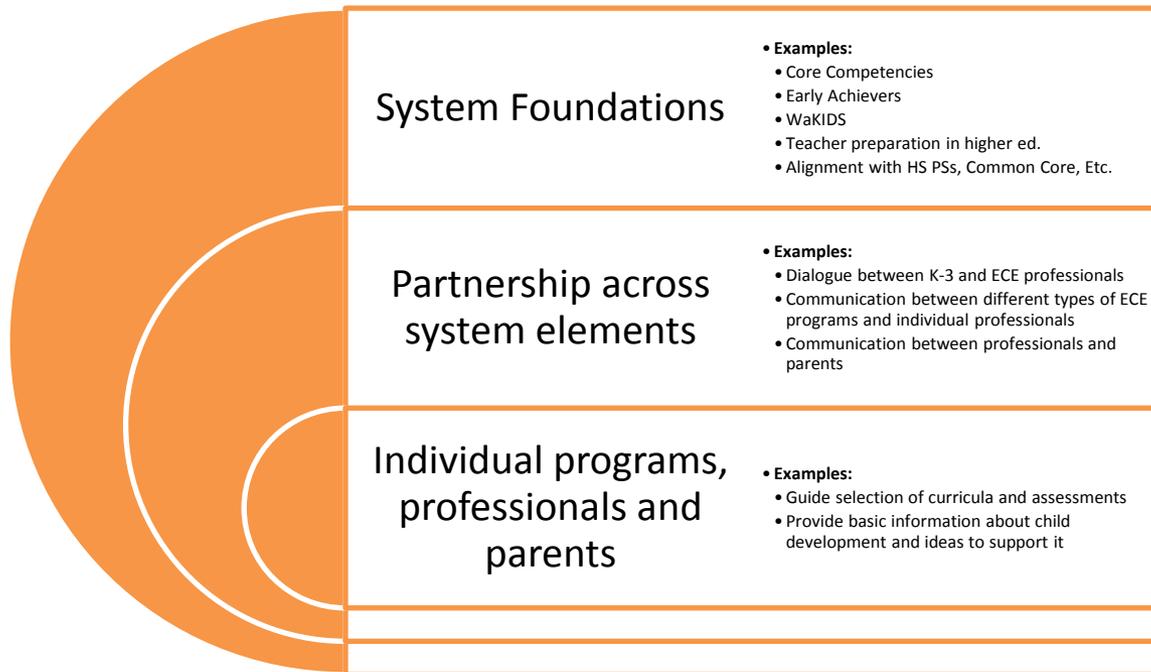
-Guidelines Development Committee,
2011

The goal of supporting the holistic development of young children in the context of their families and communities is at the center of everything that we do. The Guidelines are our statewide shared understanding of what this looks like.



What are the Guidelines and Why do they Matter?

The Guidelines are a common thread that echoes through our early learning system in different ways at different elevations



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Where We've Been and Where We're Going

The first step in maximizing the opportunity for our Guidelines to provide this strong shared foundation for our system was the development of a redesigned Guidelines document that is:

- Representative of the 0-8 spectrum;
- Based upon the most up to date research regarding young children's development; and
- Intentional about reflecting and celebrating the diversity of our state.

The next step is to take deliberate actions to support implementation of the Guidelines so that they are an embedded, living component of the early learning system at all levels.



Where We've Been and Where We're Going

Roll Out Objectives:

- Create widespread awareness of the Guidelines among parents, caregivers, professionals and other interested parties.
- Make the Guidelines widely available to parents, caregivers, professionals, and other interested parties in formats that meet their needs.
- Ensure that support and training is provided so that the Guidelines are used effectively and appropriately.
- Be intentional about addressing the needs of diverse communities.
- Include ongoing feedback mechanisms.
- Build and support alignment across systems efforts through use of the Guidelines as a foundational document.



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Where We've Been and Where We're Going:

A cross-agency team of staff from DEL, OSPI and Thrive have been meeting to:

- Facilitate additional stakeholder outreach and input gathering.
 - October 8th stakeholder planning day
- Compile a set of specific actions both underway and propose for the partners to advance roll out objectives.



Underway:

- **Communications:**
 - Partner websites
 - DEL list-serve
 - Newsletters
 - Press releases
- **Presentations at meetings and conferences**
 - Starting Strong
 - Infant & Early Childhood Conference
 - Washington Educational Research Association P-3 Symposium
 - Washington State Association of Head Start & ECEAP
 - Home Visiting Services Account
 - Regional Coalitions
 - Technical Educator summer conferences



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Underway:

- Electronic and hard copies available in English and Spanish
- Training:
 - Guidelines training module online
 - Guidelines training integrated into I/T curriculum being implemented in regions
 - Guidelines training is part of Early Achievers
 - Integrated into WCCC staff training
 - Guidelines instruction is being incorporated into revamp of high school STARS implementation- 3 credit college course



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Underway:

- Work with Richland School District to help develop supplemental materials such as “tips” calendar, handouts/brochures, etc.
- Integration/alignment with existing programs/efforts
 - Reflected in ECEAP Performance Standards
 - Alignment with Common Core, Head Start Performance Standards, and Core Competencies
- Included in topics covered at WaKIDS EL Coalition meetings in regions



Proposed:

- Look for opportunities to partner with complimentary efforts to generate awareness:
 - Child Profile
 - WIC
 - Within Reach
 - Project Launch
 - High school child development classes
- Build in additional feedback mechanisms re: how the Guidelines are working and supports needed:
 - User survey at 2.5 year point
 - Leverage regional coalitions to assess community need
 - Convene teachers to gather feedback about specific tools that would be useful



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Proposed:

- Look for opportunities to embed the Guidelines into various programs/efforts:
 - Medicaid Treatment Child Care contracts
 - Strengthening Families WA contracts
 - Early Support for Infants and Toddlers
- Continue to build the Guidelines into the professional development system:
 - Train the trainer in regions
 - Incorporate Guidelines component into STARS basic training when it moves from 20 to 30 hours
 - Connect with Teacher Preparation Council re: integration of the Guidelines into higher education ECE courses



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Proposed:

- More explicitly address the needs of diverse communities:
 - Translate into additional languages
 - Create a video outlining key child development content from the Guidelines with narration in many different languages]
 - Partner with organizations working with diverse communities to conduct focus groups to gather additional information about community needs



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Discussion:

Overall:

- General reactions
 - Is anything missing?
 - Are there things that seem particularly urgent? (particularly from a state leadership perspective)
- How do you think ELAC should be involved in the future of Guidelines implementation?

Diving in:

- How can we best address the needs of non-English speaking communities?

