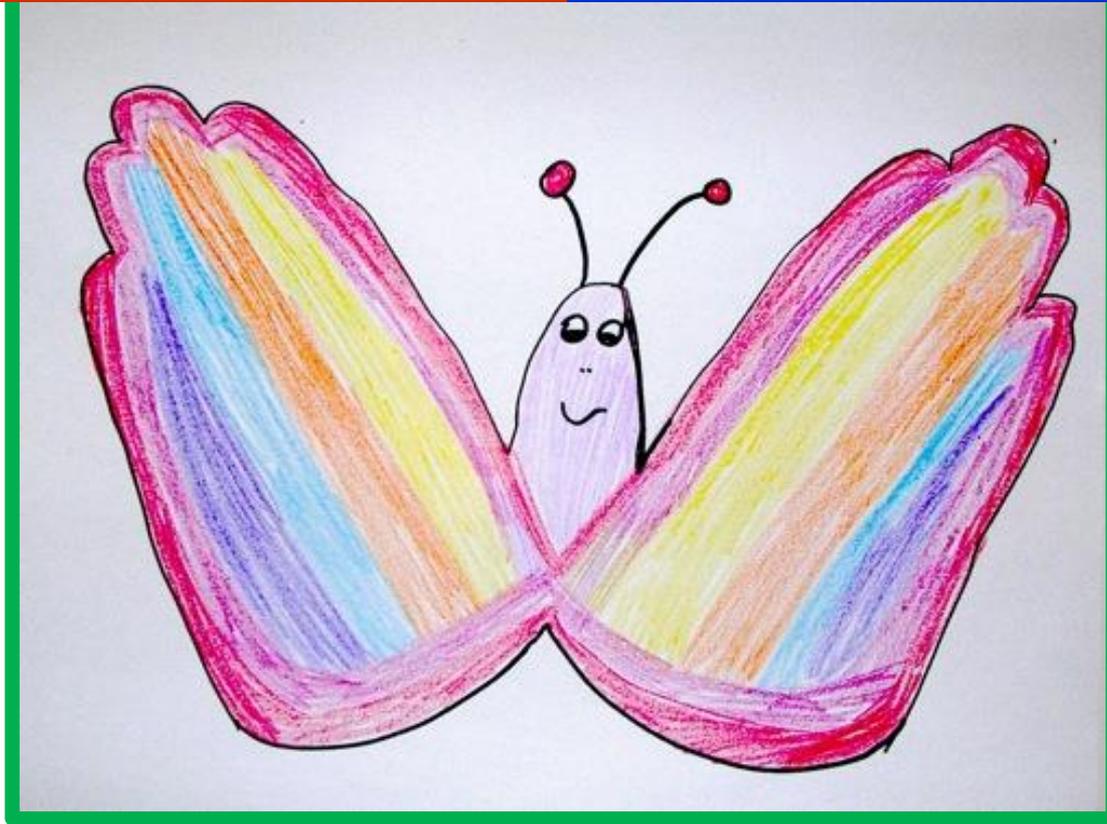




Washington State Department of
Early Learning



Early Start Act Overview

Early Start Act

"I want to congratulate Gov. Jay Inslee, educators and other leaders in Washington State on the Early Start Act, which will improve early learning opportunities for over 48,000 children, building on the successes the state's Race to the Top-Early Learning Challenge grant. It's a huge step toward a vision for a comprehensive early learning system that will make Washington a leader in doing the right thing for our youngest children. "

U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan

Building Early Learning in Washington



Phase I Creating the Environment

- Creation of DEL and Thrive Washington
- ELAC
- Early Learning Plan
- Early Learning Partnership
- Full Day Kindergarten
- Starting Strong
- Seeds Pilot

2005 – 2010

Phase II Building the Infrastructure

- Home Visiting Services
- EL Guidelines
- Children's Trust/Strengthening Families
- WaKIDS
- Early Achievers
- Professional Development Systems
- Data System
- ECEAP Entitlement
- Early Learning Regional Coalitions
- Reduced primary class size
- Early Start Act

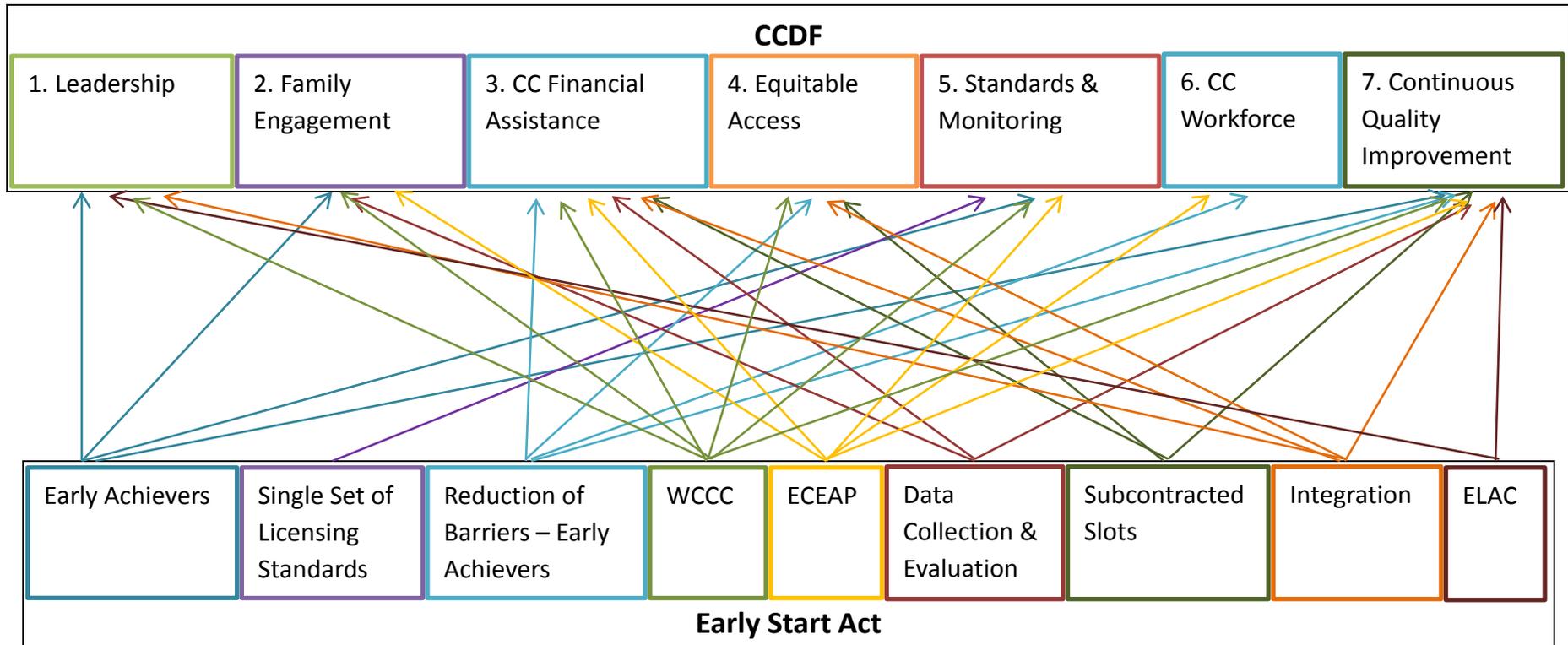
2010 - 2016

Phase III Attaining Impact

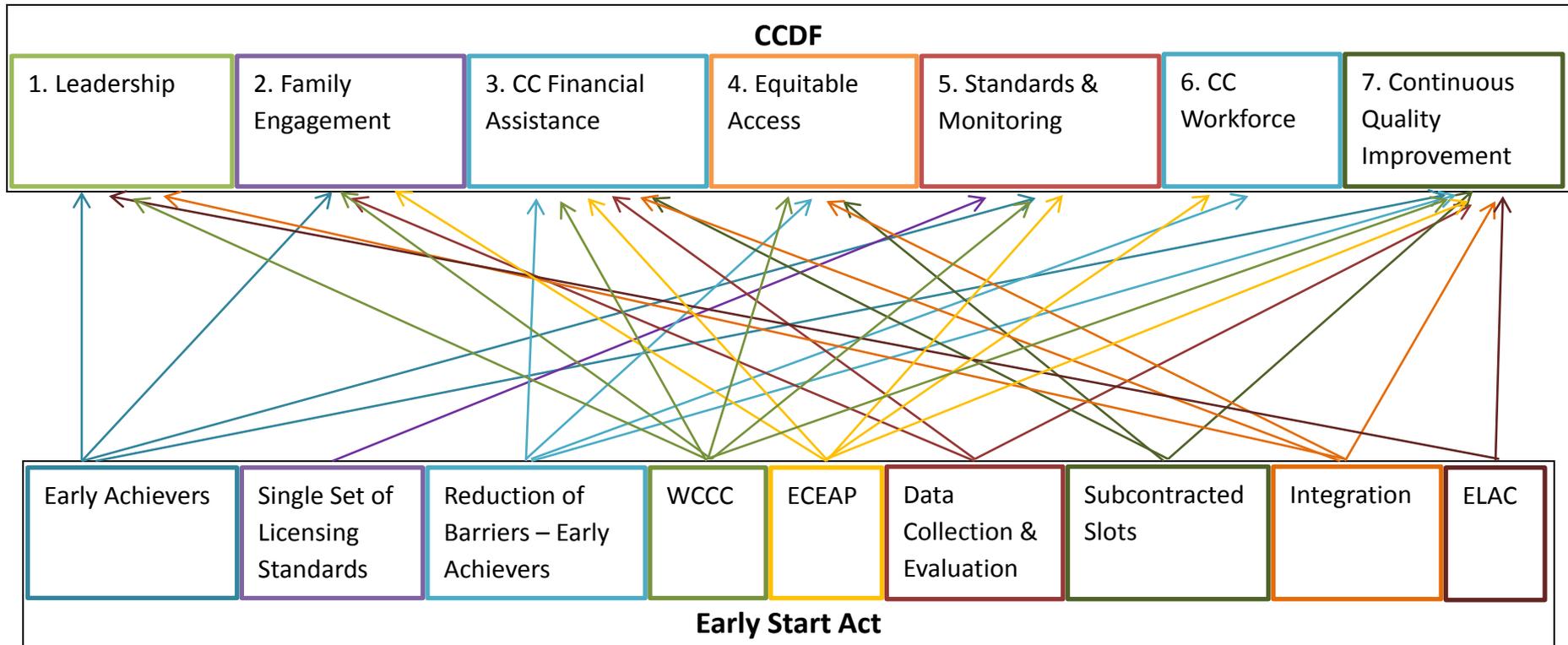
- **Advance Quality in all programs**
- **Scale to more children; prioritize high-needs children**
- **Align and integrate across programs and funding streams**
- **Maximize funding opportunities**
- **Continue focus on the most vulnerable children and families**

2016 - 2020

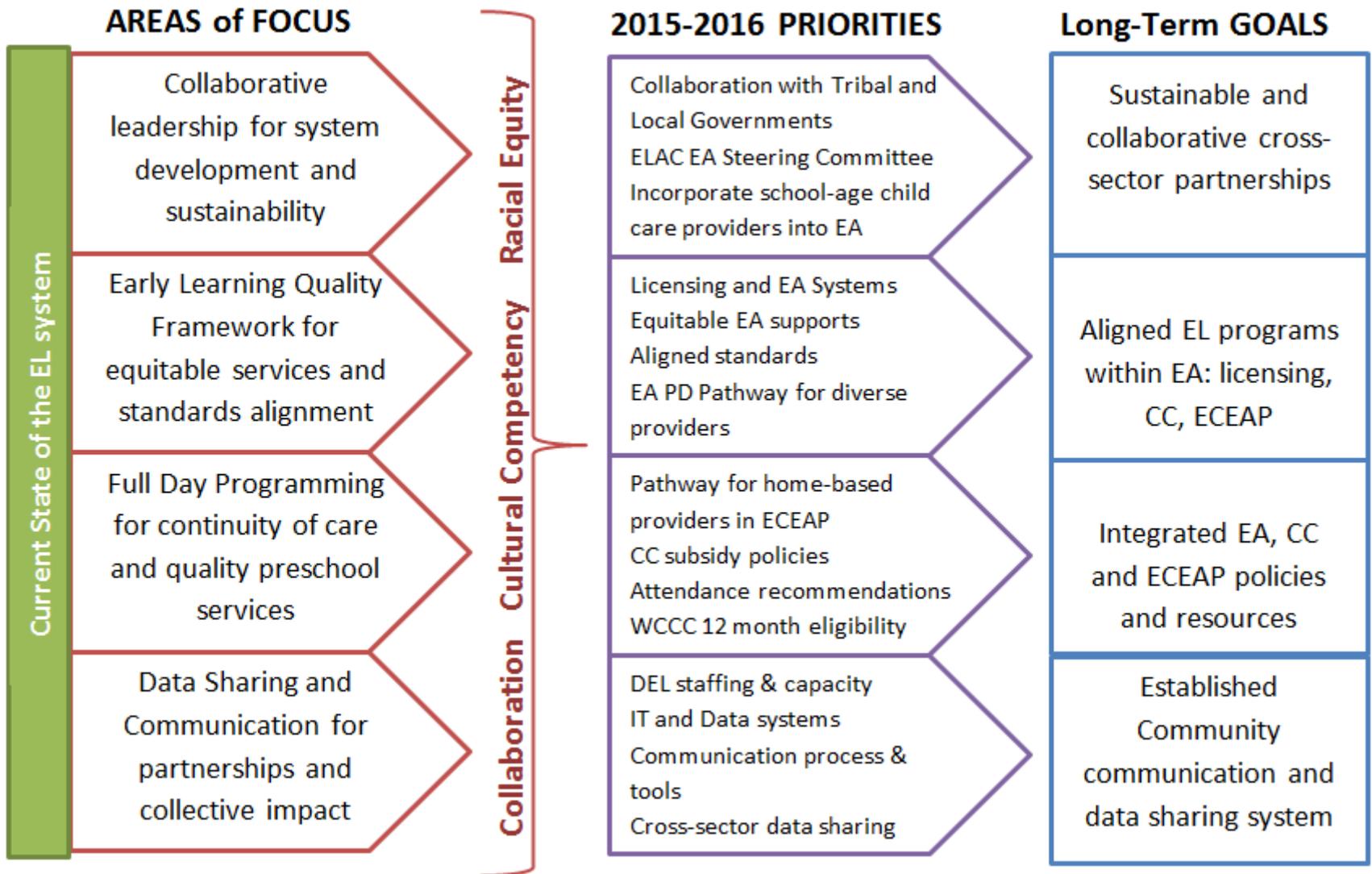
Coordination of Deliverables - CCDF & Early Start Act Alignment



Coordination of Deliverables - CCDF & Early Start Act Alignment



Early Start Act - Prioritizing to Maximize Impact



Early Start Act, Main Deliverables

Alignment, Integration, Collaboration

- ELAC, Early Achievers Review Subcommittee
- Collaboration with Tribal governments
- Integration with local governments
- Aligned licensing, ECEAP and Early Achievers standards
- Collaboration with OSPI – alignment of quality standards for the school age providers

Early Achievers

- Participation mandates for licensed providers
- Rating extension protocol
- Rating cycle
- Ongoing communication system
- culturally relevant PD pathway & PD standards
- Accept National accreditation

Child Care & WCCC

- Authorization of 12 months eligibility
- Early Achievers & subsidy rule making
- Collaboration with DSHS
- Contracted slots
- IT system capacity for the child care data collection

ECEAP

- Early Achievers mandates
- Full day demand data
- Background check procedures
- Attendance data

Data & Reporting

- longitudinal, student-level data on all children attending ECEAP & WCCC
- longitudinal analysis - relationships between Early Achievers quality ratings levels and outcomes for children participating in ECEAP & WCCC
- Annual Report
- impact from quality strengthening efforts on the availability and quality of infant and toddler care

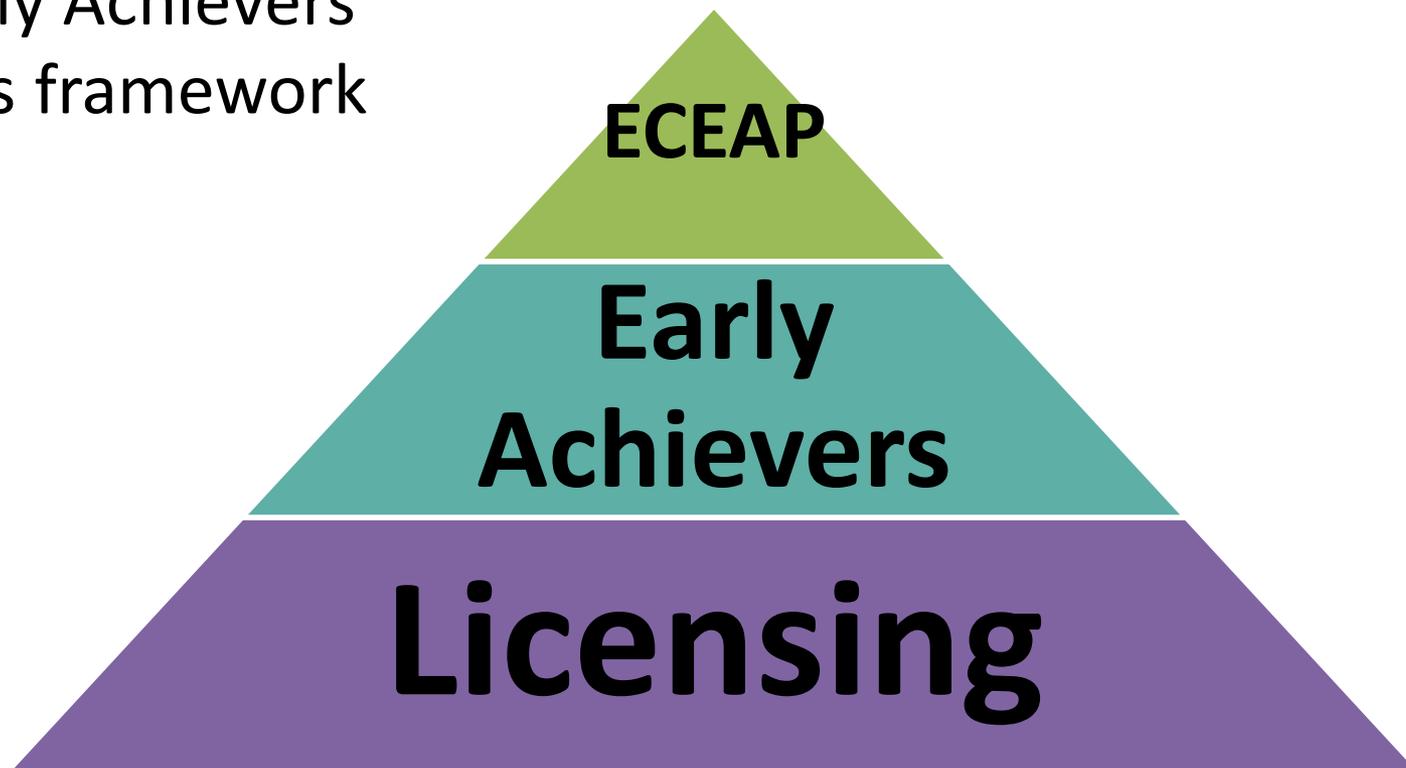
Early Start Act – ELAC

ELAC is established to advise DEL on early learning issues that will build a comprehensive system of quality early learning programs and services for Washington children and families by assessing needs and availability of services aligning resources, developing plans for data collection and professional development of early childhood educators, and establishing key performance measures.

- Convene an EA Review Subcommittee to provide feedback and guidance on strategies to improve the quality of instruction and environment for early learning and provide input and recommendations on the implementation and refinement of the EA. The review conducted by the subcommittee shall be a part of the Annual Progress Report
- The Subcommittee must include consideration of cultural linguistic responsiveness
- The Subcommittee shall include representatives from child care centers, family child care, ECEAP, contractors for EA TA and coaching, tribal governments, the organization responsible for conducting EA ratings, and parents of children participating in early learning programs, including WCCC and ECEAP. The Subcommittee shall include representatives from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

Early Start Act – Standards Alignment

Aligning Licensing and ECEAP standards by using Early Achievers standards framework



Early Start Act – Standards Alignment

State-Wide Collaborative Process:

- DEL Steering Committee
- State-Wide Advisory Committee
- State-Wide Community Engagement
- Reaching Out to Diverse Communities:
 - Tribal
 - Racial and Ethnic
 - Cultural and Linguistic
 - Family Care providers
 - Center Care providers
 - Other

Early Start Act – Standards Alignment

- Staff teaming and creation of framework and options-center & family child care- Spring and Summer 2015
- Advisory Committee Process for initial framework and options- Summer 2015
- **Fall 2015- Community Engagement Process supported by EL Coalitions, Advisory & Steering Committees**
- Early Winter 2015- Regroup and Final Framework and Approach (Staff and Advisory Committee)
- Winter 2016- regulatory drafting with required public process and input
- Spring and Summer 2016- finalization of alignment
- Summer 2016 and beyond- community education, rule-making, implementation, training, etc.

