

## Early Learning Advisory Council (ELAC) 2016 Work Plan Topics

The proposed 2016 ELAC Work Plan topics were identified by ELAC members and Regional Advisors and are informed by the priority strategies of the Washington Early Learning Partnership. The ELAC Work Plan should focus on fewer and major system issues to allow more time for deliberation. Topics should follow these criteria:

1. **High Impact:** Topics will likely make a significant difference in access to services, quality of services, equity and child outcomes.
2. **Capacity to act:** Entity(ies) charged with action has/can readily access the resources (e.g., capacity, funding) to staff tasks, utilize advice and/or implement joint action.
3. **Timely:** Topics will inform decisions and action in timely and meaningful ways.

Work Plan Topic Description	Guidance Needed/Joint Action	Current Stakeholder Engagement
<p><b><u>DEL Agency Request Legislation and Session</u></b> Each year, DEL leadership generates a list of potential agency-request bills that address an issue/problem that requires legislation.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide input on how proposed legislation or budget requests may impact partners and local communities.</li> <li>▪ Support DEL’s legislative efforts by sharing information with communities, constituencies and decision-makers</li> <li>▪ Provide feedback and guidance in shaping the DEL 2016 legislative agenda.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Early Learning Regional Coalitions (ELRC)</li> <li>▪ Early Learning Action Alliance</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Advancing Racial Equity</u></b> ELAC will be implementing a framework to use a racial equity lens when providing advice and make decisions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Convene a Racial Equity work group to ensure that an equity lens is embedded in ELAC’s efforts.</li> <li>▪ Make recommendations on major system issues and initiatives using the racial equity lens, and identify data and measures to track progress.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ELAC Racial Equity Work Group</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Early Learning Work Force &amp; Professional Development</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discuss data on the early learning work force and identify system-wide needs and gaps.</li> <li>▪ Identify system-wide needs to provide professional development on the specific needs of infants and toddlers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Professional Development Consortium</li> <li>▪ Birth to Three Subcommittee</li> </ul>
<b>Topics Related to Early Start Act Implementation</b>		
<p><b><u>Early Achievers 2.0</u></b> Early Achievers is Washington’s quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) that helps child care providers improve the quality of their services, and gives parents seeking child care information about the quality of local programs. Participation is voluntary, however providers serving non-school age children receiving state subsidy, are required to join Early Achievers by August 1, 2016.  The Early Start Act includes new requirements for Early Achievers, including a protocol for eliminating barriers to participation, alignment with national accreditation, and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide input on how to meaningfully engage communities and stakeholders (including parents and providers) in efforts to improve Early Achievers related to EA. [How are coalitions engaged into the work? What are the future expectations of Regional Advisors as the work progresses to action items and more expectations?]</li> <li>▪ Provide input on accreditation pathway, and trainings.</li> <li>▪ Use the University of Washington evaluation report to identify key components of the Early Achievers framework that positively impacts child outcomes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ELAC Early Achievers Review Subcommittee</li> </ul>

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<p><b><u>Standards Alignment</u></b> The Early Start Act requires that DEL implement a single set of licensing standards for child care and ECEAP by November 2016.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide input on proposed aligned standards.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ DEL Standards Alignment team</li> <li>▪ Alignment Advisory Committee</li> <li>▪ ELRC Community Engagement Meetings</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Preschool/ECEAP Mixed Delivery System</u></b> The Early Start Act requires the development of a pathway for licensed or certified child care centers and homes to administer ECEAP.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Provide input on the proposed pathways.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ ECEAP Pathway Pilot</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Washington Early Learning Partnership - Early Learning Plan Priority Strategies</u></b> Each year the Washington Early Learning Partnership (DEL, Thrive, OSPI, DOH &amp; DSHS) identify collaborative work that agencies can plan and implement jointly.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Inform and receive updates on the development of the annual Washington Early Learning Partnership Key Accomplishments and Priority Strategies report.</li> </ul>	

### Topics for Briefings and Updates

The Work Plan includes topics for briefings and updates, so the Council can inform decisions in meaningful ways and promote joint actions that state and local partners can take to improve early learning systems and services. Briefings and updates will be provided during meetings and as in written reports throughout the year as information is available or requested.

Topics for Updates and Discussion	Current Stakeholder Engagement
<p><b><u>Birth to Three Subcommittee</u></b> Receive updates on the Birth to Three Subcommittee's recommendations and provide input and guidance related to increasing access and supports for infants and toddlers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Birth to Three Subcommittee</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Family Partnerships Engagement</u></b> Provide updates on the Parent Advisory Group and other efforts to partner and engage with families.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Parent Advisory Group</li> <li>▪ Early Learning Regional Coalitions</li> </ul>