

Professional Development Consortium: Core Competency Work

- House Bill 1943 directs the Department of Early Learning (DEL) and the Professional Development Consortium (PDC) to report to the Governor and the Legislature by December 2010 with recommendations for the creation of an integrated system of preparation and continuing education for the early learning and school-age workforce. The recommendations are to include delineation of core competencies or core knowledge areas for early learning and school-age program providers, staff, directors and administrators.
- To begin the work of delineating core competencies, the PDC undertook an extensive review of existing core competency documents. After this review, the PDC decided to adopt the *Kansas and Missouri Core Competencies for Early Care and Education Professionals* as a framework for or place to begin our work for Washington State.
- The PDC developed and used a set of criteria, as well as the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) policy blueprint *Workforce Designs: A Policy Blueprint for State Early Childhood Professional Development Systems*, when making this decision. The PDC will continue to use these criteria and the policy blueprint as we work on product design and development for Washington State.
- The PDC also considered that School's Out Washington, with stakeholder input, recently adopted *Kansas and Missouri Core Competencies for Youth Development Professionals* as a framework for their work.
- The next step is for a consultant to incorporate infant and toddler core competencies and integrate cultural competency and schools, families and communities into the framework. Stakeholder input will also be sought.
- For more information, contact Char Goodreau at char.rupp@del.wa.gov or (360) 725-4691 or go to <http://www.del.wa.gov/partnerships/development/consortium.aspx>. To view the Kansas and Missouri documents, go to:

<https://www.openinitiative.org/content/pdfs/CoreCompetencies/EC-CoreCompetencies.pdf>