

*Policy Domain Framework*  
**Domain VI: Governance and Coordination**

**A Product of the Policy Matters Project  
National Center for Children and Families  
Teachers College, Columbia University**

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**Revised: June 2009**

NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired policy Level
<b>VI.A.1 State-level Entity:</b> State legislates a mandatory state-level governance entity to oversee and coordinate integrated and comprehensive early childhood services	1. State mandates a state-level entity for integrated and comprehensive early childhood services for children 0-8 and provides funding for staff and operations 2. State mandates and funds a state-level entity for some children 3. State mandates the	<i>**As the work group struggled with this domain, it became clear that in order to complete this domain we needed to define 'governance' before we could complete this work. We concluded that <b>governance implies authority over both policy and funding</b>. Our ratings reflect the use of that definition of governance.</i>  Two entities exist specifically related to early childhood exist in code, the Interagency	Notes: Delaware Code for IRMC and Early Childhood Council: <a href="http://delcode.delaware.gov/title14/c030/index.shtml">http://delcode.delaware.gov/title14/c030/index.shtml</a>  P-20 Council Code: <a href="http://delcode.delaware.gov/sessionlaws/ga143/chp062.shtml">http://delcode.delaware.gov/sessionlaws/ga143/chp062.shtml</a>  Note from the Work Group:	# 2 Only the IRMC has the authority to make policy and funding decisions; while the IRMC exists	# 1 The IRMC code needs to be updated to reflect its broad birth to 8 early childhood mission and

	<p>creation of a state-level entity for children 0-8</p> <p>4. State mandates the creation of a state-level entity for some children</p> <p>5. State does not mandate, but governance entity exists.</p> <p>6. State does not mandate, no governance entity exists</p>	<p>Resource Management Committee (IRMC) and the Early Childhood Council (DE ECC). Plus the P-20 Council includes early childhood as part of its mission.</p> <p><u>IRMC</u>: created to promote inter-agency collaboration in the administration of the Program for Children with Disabilities (PCD), then ECAP was added to their responsibility, and <del>then</del> given authority to appoint the DE ECC in 2002.</p> <p><u>DE ECC</u>: created to provide oversight and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature on the implementation of <i>Early Success: Delaware's Delaware's Early Childhood Plan</i>.</p> <p><u>P-20 Council</u>: created to coordinate educational efforts of publicly-funded programs from early care through higher education and to foster partnerships among groups concerned with public education; the Chair of the Early Childhood Council has a seat on the P-20 Council.</p>	<p>None of the 3 departments, Education, Health and Social Services and Children's, that house early childhood services, include early childhood as part of their mission. Early childhood services are located in 3 different divisions at Health and Social Services, <u>the Kid's Department, and the Department of Education</u>. The fragmentation of early childhood services across departments and divisions creates an environment where collaboration occurs because of relationships not because of governance structures. This work group recognizes the importance of relationships, but a comprehensive early childhood system can not be built or sustained solely on relationships.</p> <p>The work group does think that due to existence of the IRMC, DE ECC and the P-20, that Delaware is well poised to create an effective governance entity for early childhood, <u>but building a comprehensive system to support early childhood will not happen until greater collaboration in decision making around policies and funding occurs.</u></p>	<p>and votes by email on funding 2 or 3 times per year, it has not met in at least 5 years. The other two Councils meet regularly and do have a strong influence over some policy and funding, they do not have governance authority.</p>	<p>include accountability. OR another governance structure needs to be created with policy and funding authority. Linkages between the IRMC, P-20 and State Board of Education need to be established. The IRMC has linkages to both the Executive and Legislative branches. DE ECC should advise the IRMC.</p>
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<p><b>VI.A.2 Local-level Entities:</b> State mandates local (sub-state) entities to oversee and coordinate integrated and comprehensive early childhood services</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State mandates local-level entities for integrated and comprehensive early childhood services for children 0-8 and provides funding for staff and operations</li> <li>2. State mandates and funds a local-level entity for some children</li> <li>3. State mandates the creation of a local-level entity for children 0-8</li> <li>4. State mandates the creation of a local-level entity for some children</li> <li>5. State does not mandate, but local governance entity exists</li> <li>6. State does not mandate, no local governance entity exists</li> <li>7.</li> </ol>	<p>While local councils exist in the City of Wilmington and Sussex County, no state mandate for such entities exist.</p> <p>The work group discussed whether or not having local EC councils should be a priority for DE given that we are a state of less than one million people, 3 counties, and the state can be traveled end to end in about 2 hours.</p>	<p>#</p> <hr/> <p>Notes:</p>	<p><b># 6</b> <b>While local councils do exist they do not meet the definition of governance.</b></p>	<p><b># 5</b></p>
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**Helpful Clarifications for Completing the Policy Audit**

**POLICY FEATURES AND LEVELS FOR DOMAIN VI:**

**GOVERNANCE & COORDINATION**

**SUB-DOMAIN VI.A: STATE AND LOCAL EARLY CHILDHOOD GOVERNANCE ENTITIES**

NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired Policy Level
<b>VI.A.3 State-local Linkage:</b> State creates, monitors, and supports institutionalized linkages between state and local governance entities	1. State funds and coordinates linkages between state and local entities e.g., staff liaison, regular state/local representation on local/state board, information dissemination across state and local entities 2. Linkages are funded 3. Linkages are institutionalized but not funded 4. Linkages exist 5. Linkages do not exist 6. No governance entity exists	The DE ECC is staffed by the Office of Early Childhood (OEC) in the Department of Education and staff from that Office staff both local entities, no mandate exists for that relationship although supporting the local councils is written into OEC work plans. Members of the state early childhood council participate in the local council, but no mandate for this linkage exists.	# OEC mandate in Budget Epilogue and MOU (MOU will be sent as an attachment)  <a href="http://budget.delaware.gov/fy2010/budget2010.shtml">http://budget.delaware.gov/fy2010/budget2010.shtml</a> See page 218, Section 366	# 4 <b>Linkages exist and are supported, but are not mandated.</b>	# 4 Linkages exist via the job descriptions and work plans of the OEC staff. More durable linkages would be beneficial.
			Notes: While there is funding dedicated to these linkages, it is not mandated that these positions maintain the linkages with the local entities. The Office of Early Childhood has 3 staff dedicated to Council work. Two of the positions are funded by CCDF and the other is state funded.		

NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
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<p>VI.A.4. Roles of State Governance Entity: State governance entity is empowered to make critical policy decisions for integrated and comprehensive early childhood services.</p> <p>This is the #1 priority for the work group.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State entity has decision-making responsibility for the following functions: resource allocation, blending funding, setting state priorities.</li> <li>2. State entity has an advisory role for these functions</li> <li>3. State entity has neither decision-making nor an advisory role for these functions</li> <li>4. No governance entity exists.</li> </ol>	<p>The Early Childhood Council's mandate is advisory, see above for mandate.</p>	<p>see VI.A.1 for citation</p>	<p>#2</p>	<p># 1</p> <p>IRMC or other state governance structure with decision-making authority for policy and funding needs to be fully operational and clearly accountable for the implementation of Early Success, Delaware's Early Childhood Plan. DE ECC represents the public and private sector; its role as a strong advisory body should continue. DE ECC should serve as advisor to the state governance body. A state governance entity like the IRMC creates efficiency for decision-making; the DE ECC would not have this efficiency due to its structure. DE ECC should continue with its mandate to provide oversight on Delaware's implementation of Early Success.</p>

**SUB-DOMAIN VLB: FAMILY AND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN GOVERNANCE**

NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired policy Level
<b>VI.B.1 Families Represented in State Governance</b> <b>Entity:</b> Parents represented in state governance entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State governance entity requires AND supports the inclusion of diverse groups of parents as official members of the governance entity</li> <li>2. State governance entity requires OR supports the inclusion of diverse groups of parents as official members of the governance entity</li> <li>3. State governance entity does not have provision for official parent representation</li> <li>4. No governance entity exists</li> </ol>	IRMC is made up of all state officials. DE ECC has 17 members with various roles specified including "two parents whose children receive care in a licensed home or center, one of whom shall be a parent of a child with special needs." P-20 does not include parents as members.	# same Del Code citation as VI.A.1.	<b># 2</b> <b>Due to the definition of governance.</b>	<b># 3</b> DE ECC will be advisory, not true governance. DE ECC should look for mechanisms to increase parents' engagement in the council.
			Notes:		
<b>VI.B.2 Diverse Stakeholders Represented in State Governance</b> <b>Entity:</b> Diverse early childhood stakeholders represented in state governance entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State governance entity requires AND supports the inclusion of representatives of the school system, family child care, Head Start, non-profit and for-profit centers, business, R&amp;R, health, mental health, family</li> </ol>	IRMC members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Secretary of Education who shall be the chairperson of the IRMC;</li> <li>• Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Services;</li> <li>• Secretary of the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families;</li> <li>• Budget Director;</li> <li>• Controller General</li> </ul>	# same Del Code citation as VI.A.1.	<b># 2</b> Due to the definition of governance	<b># 3</b> By differentiating the roles of the IRMC and Council, the diversity of stakeholders would be represented on DE ECC, not the IRMC.

	<p>support, child welfare, and economic assistance as official members of the governance entity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. State governance entity requires OR supports the inclusion of representatives of diverse early childhood stakeholders as official members of the governance entity</li> <li>3. State governance entity does not have provision for the representation of diverse stakeholders</li> <li>4. No governance entity exists</li> <li>5.</li> </ol>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DE ECC members: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Two center-based early care and education providers;</li> <li>2. One family-home based early care and education provider;</li> <li>3. Two parents whose children receive care in a licensed home or center, one of whom shall be a parent of a child with special needs;</li> <li>4. One Delaware Head Start/Early Childhood Assistance Program Association representative;</li> <li>5. One representative of a state-wide early care and education resource and referral agency;</li> <li>6. Two representatives from child health and emotional health direct service and/or advocacy organizations;</li> <li>7. One representative from the Family Support Coordinating Council;</li> <li>8. One public school district representative;</li> <li>9. One Higher education representative;</li> <li>10. Two business community representatives;</li> <li>11. Two community members; and</li> <li>12. One chairperson.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	Notes:		
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NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired Policy Level
<b>VI.B.3 Families Represented in Local Governance</b> <b>Entity:</b> Parents represented in local governance entities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local governance entities require AND support the inclusion of diverse groups of parents as official members of the governance entity</li> <li>Local governance entities require OR support the inclusion of diverse groups of parents as official members of the governance entity</li> <li>Local governance entities do not have provision for official parent representation</li> <li></li> </ol>	<p>The Wilmington Code does provide for 2 parents to be on their council. Underlined below.</p> <p>DIVISION 7. WILMINGTON ADVISORY COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES Sec. 2-131. Established; membership.</p> <p>((b) There is established as a component of the commission, with its own membership but which may overlap that of the commission, the Wilmington <b>Early</b> Care and Education Council to foster collaboration among existing programs, identify gaps in current service delivery, to apply in its own name for local, state, federal and foundation grants, or any combination of the same, and to enter into agreements with an eligible entity to serve as fiscal agent for administering such grants. The council membership shall consist of 18 individuals, appointed by the mayor with the advice of city council, and shall include one representative of the state office of child care licensing; one representative of the state division of social services, one representative of the family and workplace connection, two representatives of local community agencies, <u>two parents</u>, two representatives of child care providers or centers, one representative each of the office of the mayor and city council, the chairperson of the city council education, youth and family services committee, two representatives of local school districts and at least one representative of the charter school serving the city, two institutions of higher education with programs in <b>early childhood</b> development and one</p>	City of Wilmington code: <a href="http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=11715&amp;sid=8">http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=11715&amp;sid=8</a>	# 3	# 3
			Notes:	<b>Neither council meets the definition of governance</b>	

		<p>representative of the state office of <b>early</b> care and education.</p> <p>SECC: No code exists for this council.</p>			
<p><b>VI.B.4 Diverse Stakeholders Represented in Local Governance Entity:</b> Diverse early childhood stakeholders represented in local governance entities</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Local governance entities require AND support the inclusion of representatives of the school system, family child care, Head Start, non-profit and for-profit centers, and business of as official members of the governance entity</li> <li>2. Local governance entities require OR support the inclusion of representatives of diverse early childhood stakeholders as official members of the governance entity</li> <li>3. Local governance entities do not have provision for the representation of diverse stakeholders</li> <li>4.</li> </ol>	<p>The representation on the Wilmington council is diverse.</p> <p>DIVISION 7. WILMINGTON ADVISORY COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES Sec. 2-131. Established; membership.</p> <p>((b) There is established as a component of the commission, with its own membership but which may overlap that of the commission, the Wilmington <b>Early</b> Care and Education Council to foster collaboration among existing programs, identify gaps in current service delivery, to apply in its own name for local, state, federal and foundation grants, or any combination of the same, and to enter into agreements with an eligible entity to serve as fiscal agent for administering such grants. The council membership shall consist of 18 individuals, appointed by the mayor with the advice of city council, and shall include one representative of the state office of child care licensing; one representative of the state division of social services, one representative of the family and workplace connection, two representatives of local community agencies, two parents, two representatives of child care providers or centers, one representative each of the office of the mayor and city council, the chairperson of the city council education, youth and family services committee, two representatives of local school districts and at least one representative of the charter school serving the city, two institutions of higher education with programs in <b>early childhood</b> development and one</p>	<p>City of Wilmington code: <a href="http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=11715&amp;sid=8">http://www.municode.com/resources/gateway.asp?pid=11715&amp;sid=8</a></p>	<p><b># 3</b> <b>Neither council meets the definition of governance</b></p>	<p><b># 3</b></p>
			<p>Notes:</p>		

		representative of the state office of early care and education.  SECC: No Code exists			
<b>Discussion:</b>					

**SUB-DOMAIN VI.C: EARLY CHILDHOOD PLANNING**

NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired Policy Level
<b>VI.C.2 Long-term Plan:</b> State has set up a process to develop a 10-year integrated plan for early childhood services	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Process is funded and mandated by state, with adequate time for meaningful public input</li> <li>2. Process is funded and mandated by state</li> <li>3. Process is mandated by state</li> <li>4. Process exists</li> <li>5. Process does not exist</li> <li>6.</li> </ol>	<p><i>Early Success</i> is the state's long-term plan for early childhood. It was initially created in 2001 patterned after <i>Not By Chance</i>. <i>Early Success</i> was updated and expanded in 2006 to include the goals of the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems work. <i>Early Success</i> has been endorsed by the Governor, Legislature and the leaders of both the public and private sectors.</p>	<p># Notes: Early Success plan on DOE website: <a href="http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/students_family/earlychildhood/default.shtml">http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/students_family/earlychildhood/default.shtml</a> Budget Epilog citation is in VI.A.3.  Notes: One work group participant did note that there was a lack of public notice and posting on the website by DHSS for the latest CCDF plan. And that OCCL's Financial Feasibility Study. Providers often report in practice minimal policy integration at implementation level (eg: mandate new education but minimal in work force to hire, providers serving low income POC children reduce ratios-lower quality--lower reimbursement; etc.</p>	# 4 <b>Process exists;</b> the Council and the Office of Early Childhood staff have jointly made the recommendations to update the plan.	# 1 Relatively easy to accomplish by putting existing process into either code or policy.

		<p>Multiple organizations contributed to and endorsed Early Success (see last 3 pages of the document). The staff of DOE and DPH staffed the revision of Early Success.</p> <p>The mandate for DE ECC calls for the implementation of Early Success. Budget Epilogue language directs the IRMC to coordinate the implementation of Early Success.</p>			
<p><b>VI.C.3</b> <b>Long-term plan:</b> Long-term plan is reviewed and updated regularly</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Long-term plan is reviewed and updated annually</li> <li>2. Long-term plan is reviewed and updated bi-annually</li> <li>3. Long-term plan is reviewed and updated every five years</li> <li>4. Long-term plan is reviewed less than once every five years</li> <li>5. Long-term plan is not reviewed or updated</li> <li>6. Process does not exist</li> </ol>	<p>In practice Early Success has been updated at least every 5 years, but there is no mandate for regular revisions. In preparation for the application Head Start grants for EC Councils, Early Success will be reviewed and updated by early 2010.</p> <p>To apply for the Head Start funding for EC Councils, states must have current strategic plans. Following the completion of the Policy Matters and Fiscal Mapping process, Early Success will be updated. A public hearing will be conducted on the Early Success strategic plan before it is submitted.</p>	#	<p><b># 3</b> <b>Early Success has been updated every 5 years.</b></p>	<p><b># 2</b> Plan should be updated more regularly. The process should continue to be lead by DE ECC and the state agencies with formal adoption by the IRMC.</p>

		<p>See above also. type here - 9/9/09 5:05 PM</p> <p>wc: Not sure if this issues is for here or under the "Accountability" criteria, but in process of updating currently does not appear to be a funded effort to monitor policy impact at delivery level as cycle of evaluations and then adjust policy as needed. (8/24/09 12:18 PM</p> <p>wc: Plan implementation is voluntary for each state department based on their separate priorities, so needed interlocked policy initiatives required for successful implementation may not happen, forcing unintended consequences on the system - 8/24/09 12:27 PM</p>			
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**SUB-DOMAIN VLD: ALIGNMENT OF ECE WITH OTHER SYSTEMS**

NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired Policy Level

<p><b>VI.D.1 Agency-Level Coordination Between ECE and Other Systems:</b> State has set up mechanisms to coordinate collaboration among ECE services and other child-serving systems to create an integrated and comprehensive early childhood system</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State requires and funds collaborations among ECE and ALL of the following: health, mental health, nutrition, social services, education, family support, and special education systems (e.g., coordinated monitoring visits, transfer of records, joint application forms, or joint funding)</li> <li>2. State requires, but does not fund, collaborations between ALL of the following: health, mental health, nutrition, social services, education, family support, and special education systems (e.g., coordinated monitoring visits, transfer of records, joint application forms, and joint funding)</li> <li>3. State requires and funds collaborations between at least three of the above systems</li> <li>4. State requires, but does not fund, collaborations between</li> </ol>	<p>The State funds the Office of Early Childhood via Budget Epilogue and MOU. FY10 final budget <u>Section 366</u>. The Interagency Resource Management Committee (IRMC) fosters an interagency approach in coordinating the delivery of early care and education services in Delaware, and the establishment and operation of the Office of Early Childhood. The IRMC will coordinate the implementation of the recommendations of the October 1999 report: “Early Success: Creating a Quality Early Care and Education System for Delaware’s Children”, where feasible, and, if applicable, subject to an annual appropriation. The IRMC shall report to the Governor, President Pro-Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House on April 15 of each fiscal year. Each report shall include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A summary of IRMC experiences in attempting to accomplish its purposes as stated above; and,</li> <li>2. A recommendation of the IRMC whether and how to institutionalize its activities and functions.</li> </ol> <p>The IRMC may, at its discretion, apply for grant funds that will further any of the purposes of this section. The Director of the Office of Management and Budget and the Controller General are hereby authorized to transfer funds among the budgets of the departments represented on the IRMC if there is prior agreement by the secretary of the department, as the case may be, to which the funds were previously allocated. Such transfers shall be intended to</p>	<p># Delaware Budget Office website; page 218, section 366 of the budget bill</p> <p><a href="http://www.budget.delaware.gov/fy2010/budget2010.shtml">http://www.budget.delaware.gov/fy2010/budget2010.shtml</a></p> <p>It is important to note that Budget Epilogue language has to be reinstated every year to continue a mandate. Delaware does have a history of using Epilogue language repeatedly.</p>	<p><b># 3 State funds collaboration via the Office of Early Childhood</b></p>	<p><b>#2</b> Existing coordination can be improved. As an integrated early childhood data system is developed focus should not be limited to child outcomes. The data system should also support improved coordination of services to children, families, and programs.</p>
			<p>Notes:</p>		

	<p>at least three of the above systems</p> <p>5. State requires collaborations between two or fewer of the above systems</p>	<p>further the purposes of this section. The IRMC shall be staffed by the Office of Early Childhood in the Department of Education. Such Office shall be composed of a director, an assistant director and a clerical support position. Funding shall be provided by the Department of Health and Social Services and the Department of Services for Children, Youth and Their Families no later than July of each fiscal year to support the operational costs associated with the assistant director and clerical support positions. Funds allocated in this section are to be used to support the work of the Office and to continue the interagency evaluation process for Delaware's early childhood programs.</p>			
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NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired Policy Level

<p><b>VI.D.2</b> <b>Individuals with Disabilities:</b> State has developed means for helping programs ensure young children with special needs have access to appropriate services from birth to school entry</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State requires, and funds, development of guidance and supports (e.g. guidelines, indicators of compliance, regular newsletters) to help programs address the natural environments requirement of Part B and Part C of IDEA</li> <li>2. State funds OR requires, but not both, development of guidance and supports (e.g. guidelines, indicators of compliance, regular newsletters) to help programs address the natural environments requirement of Part B and Part C of IDEA</li> <li>3. State does not provide guidance or support on integrating children with</li> </ol>	<p>1. Special Education Administrative Policy concerning Least Restrictive Environment: <b>14.0 Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) Requirement</b> 14.1 General: Except as provided in 14 <b>DE Admin. Code</b> 925.24.12 (regarding children with disabilities in adult prisons), each public agency shall meet the LRE requirements of 15.0 through 20.0. 14.2 Each public agency shall ensure that to the maximum extent appropriate, children with disabilities, including children in public or private institutions or other care facilities, are educated with children who are nondisabled; and special classes, separate schooling, or other removal of children with disabilities from the regular educational environment occurs only if the nature or severity of the disability is such that education in regular classes with the use of supplementary aids and services cannot be achieved satisfactorily. 14.2.1 Additional requirement: No public agency shall make educational placement decisions on the basis of funding sources or amount of funding. Placement decisions shall be based on the unique needs of a child with a disability regardless of the manner or amount of funding available.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="http://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title14/900/923.shtml#TopOfPage">http://regulations.delaware.gov/AdminCode/title14/900/923.shtml#TopOfPage</a></li> <li>2. <a href="http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/files/naturalenvironments.pdf">http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/files/naturalenvironments.pdf</a></li> <li>3. <a href="http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/files/growingtogether.pdf">http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/files/growingtogether.pdf</a></li> </ol> <p>Notes: This web site references the Inclusion Brochure which brings awareness about both Part C and Part B inclusion: <a href="http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/files/brochure.pdf">http://www.dhss.delaware.gov/dhss/dms/epqc/birth3/files/brochure.pdf</a> The state has an obligation to implement the federal statutory requirements of IDEA. These requirements include ensuring that children in Part B receive educational and related services in the least restrictive setting. These services are provided with largely state funding (70%) and local funding (30%) - with some federal funds supporting the excess costs of special education. Policy would come in the form of the state budget supporting the costs of providing educational services. Here a few sites for that issue: <a href="http://delcode.delaware.gov/title14/c031/sc02/index.shtml">http://delcode.delaware.gov/title14/c031/sc02/index.shtml</a> - site referencing the state serving children with disabilities &amp;nbsp; <a href="http://delcode.delaware.gov/title14/c017/index.shtml">http://delcode.delaware.gov/title14/c017/index.shtml</a> - references state funding for educational services</p>	<p># 2</p> <p>Notes:</p>	<p># 1</p> <p>A strengthen mandate for services in natural environments is needed especially with 3 to 5 years olds. Services to the children, not children to the services.</p>
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	<p>special needs into early care and education programs</p>	<p><b>16.0 Placements</b></p> <p>16.1 In determining the educational placement of a child with a disability, including a preschool child with a disability, each public agency shall ensure that the placement decision is made by a group of persons, including the parents, and other persons knowledgeable about the child, the meaning of the evaluation data, and the placement options; and is made in conformity with the LRE provisions of this regulation, including 14.0 through 18.0.</p> <p>16.2 The child's placement shall be determined at least annually; shall be based on the child's IEP; and shall be as close as possible to the child's home.</p> <p>16.3 Unless the IEP of a child with a disability requires some other arrangement, the child shall be educated in the school that he or she would attend if nondisabled.</p> <p>16.4 In selecting the LRE, consideration shall be given to any potential harmful effect on the child or on the quality of services that he or she needs.</p> <p>16.5 A child with a disability shall not be removed from education in age appropriate regular classrooms solely because of needed modifications in the general education curriculum.</p>			
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		(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1412(a)(5); 14 Del.C. §3110)			
		2. Item #2 references Part C Inclusion Guidelines			
		3. Item #3 references Part C Guide to Promoting Inclusion document			

NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired Policy level

<p><b>VI.D.3</b> <b>Transitions from ECE to Kindergarten:</b> State provides for supports to smooth the transition between ECE and Kindergarten  This is the # 3 priority for the work group. It is</p>	<p>1. State requires ALL school districts to provide transition supports (e.g., written transition plans, Pre-K/Kindergarten teacher conferences, visits for Pre-K children to Kindergarten classrooms) between ECE programs and</p>	<p>1. Item one in the Source is the web site for transition practices recommended by the Department in the area of early childhood  The P-20 concerns ECE to kindergarten part of its mandate. No initiatives have occurred yet, but could under the P-20 mandate.  There are requirements for the state prekindergarten program around transition - these are linked to the Head Start Performance Standards - and all state prekindergarten</p>	<p>1. DOE website <a href="http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/students_family/earlychildhood/transition.shtml">http://www.doe.k12.de.us/infosuites/students_family/earlychildhood/transition.shtml</a>  P-20 mandate in VI.A.1  Mandate for ECAP to follow Head Start Performance Standards: <a href="http://delcode.delaware.gov/title14/c030/index.shtml">http://delcode.delaware.gov/title14/c030/index.shtml</a>  <b>Note:</b> Too often K12 sees its role as ‘telling’ early childhood what it should do to prepare children for school success, not on seeing early childhood programs as full partners.</p>	<p><b># 3</b> <b>Transition is required for children covered by IDEA</b></p>	<p><b># 1</b> This is a necessary component of a birth to 8 system; emphasis needs to be placed on establishing true partnerships between early childhood and K12.</p>
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<p>viewed as an interim step towards full implementation of D. 4.</p>	<p>kindergarten for ALL children</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. State requires SOME school districts to provide transition between ECE programs and kindergarten for ALL children</li> <li>3. State requires ALL school districts to provide transition between ECE programs and kindergarten for SOME children</li> <li>4. State requires SOME school districts to provide transition supports ECE programs and kindergarten for SOME children</li> <li>5. State does not require school districts to provide any kind of transition supports between ECE programs and kindergarten</li> </ol>	<p>programs are required to follow the HSPS.</p>			
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NATIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS		STATE POLICY PLANNING			
Policy Feature	Policy Levels	Evidence	Sources of Policy	Current Policy Level	Desired Policy Level
<p><b>VI. D. 4</b>  <b>Alignment between ECE and primary school:</b> State requires that there is pedagogical alignment between ECE and primary school (with primary school including kindergarten)</p> <p>This is the # 2 priority of the work group. It is equal in importance to A.4, but the work group felt that without a strong governance entity this policy could not established.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. State requires ALL school districts to align the content of their primary level standards, curriculum, and assessments with ECE standards,</li> <li>2. State requires SOME school districts to align the content of their primary level standards, curriculum and assessments with ECE standards, curriculum and assessments</li> <li>3. State requires</li> </ol>	<p>The standards for early childhood have been aligned with kindergarten standards. The infant/ toddler standards were aligned to the preschool, then the preschool was aligned to the kindergarten. (alignment documents will be sent as an email attachment)</p> <p>Curriculum and assessments: There is no mandate or policy requiring alignment from primary school standards down to ECE standards. But DOE did do an alignment from ECE up to kindergarten grade level expectations and primary standards.</p> <p>Delacare: Requirements for Early Care and Education Centers Rule #375 requires that the licensee's written plan of developmentally appropriate activities have to be</p>	<p># Alignment documents will be sent as an email attachment</p> <p>OCCL's website:  <a href="http://kids.delaware.gov/occl/occl_resources.shtml#occlregs">http://kids.delaware.gov/occl/occl_resources.shtml#occlregs</a></p>	<p><b># 5</b>  <b>Alignment exists, but is not mandated</b></p>	<p><b># 1</b>  This is a huge policy leap, but an essential one if we are going to make a significant difference in the lives of children. This is where the “rubber meets the road” – creating this policy change would create a ‘sea change’ and long term create the most significant change for children.</p>

	<p>ALL school districts to align the content of their primary level standards and curriculum, or their primary level curriculum and assessments with those at ECE level</p> <p>4. State requires SOME school districts to align the content of their primary level standards and curriculum, or their primary level curriculum and assessments with those at ECE level</p> <p>5. State recommends the alignment of primary level standards, curriculum and assessment with that in ECE</p> <p>6. State does not address pedagogical</p>	<p>aligned to the both the preschool and infant/toddler early learning guidelines.</p>			
			<p>Notes</p>		

	alignment between primary level and ECE				
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