

## Policy Matters Summary

The Policy Matters Committee members participated in a process of establishing policy priorities for Delaware's early childhood system for the next 2 to 3 years. Committee members engaged in multiple processes to prioritize the domain and sub-domain priorities.

1. Governance and Coordination
  - a. Governance entities
  - b. Alignment with other systems
2. Accountability and Results Orientation
  - a. Data on ECE system
  - b. Instructional assessment
  - c. Program accountability
3. Quality ECE Setting and Professional and Workforce Development
  - a. Adequate compensation
  - b. Incentives for quality
  - c. Facilities and capital
4. Health, Oral Health, and Mental Health
  - a. Prevention education
  - b. Accessibility of mental health
  - c. Accessibility of services
  - d. Health insurance
5. Informed Families, Informed Public

The policy priorities were analyzed and scored on the dimensions of 1) sustainability, 2) unify-ability, 3) sell-ability, 4) fund-ability, 5) do-ability, 6) child-centered, 7) system-focused, and 8) high impact. The three highest priorities were selected for further development.

### **Governance – Priorities**

1. Alignment of ECE services
2. Reactivating the Interagency Resource Management Committee

### **Accountability – Priorities**

1. Incorporating ECE data into existing system/statewide longitudinal data system
2. Requiring all programs to adopt Early Learning Guidelines (ELGs)
3. Aligning Early Learning Standards birth to eight
4. Establishing and requiring kindergarten readiness assessment

### **Quality – Priorities**

1. Making Delaware Stars available to all programs by fully financing the system and providing ongoing supports to maintain quality improvements, such as tiered reimbursements in Purchase of Care
2. Establishing a Commission to review child care compensation
3. Indexing Purchase of Care reimbursement rates to inflation