

CONSORTIUM MEETING

4.29.24

**PLEASE PUT YOUR NAME AND
SOMETHING INTERESTING HAPPENING
IN YOUR PROGRAM OR WORK OR
A BRIEF SUCCESS STORY YOU WANT
TO SHARE**



**Illinois
State Board of
Education**

AGENDA

- Welcome, Housekeeping, and Opening Remarks
- Minutes
- ECACE: Phase II (Legislation, Prior Padlet on Sustain, Polls, Plan)
- June Meetings: Overview, registration process,
- Proposed Department of Early Childhood (Ann)
- Updates
 - Reporting (Mid-year and Annual Report)
 - Working Groups
 - Communications Campaign: Early Childhood Workforce
- Public Comment
- Closing Remarks

Guiding Principles

Foundation for decisions, processes, policies

Principle 1: Center Student Success

Principle 2: Share Leadership

Principle 3: Behave as Equals

Principle 4: Respect Consortium Agreements, While Accommodating
Institutional Differences

Principle 5: Simplify Student Navigation





Meeting Minutes

ECACE Consortium Work: Phase 2

Vision for the Consortium




Collectively and individually
address opportunities and barriers
for the early childhood workforce to
access, persist, and complete
credentials and degrees.

**WE CAN DO MORE
TOGETHER THAN ALONE**

Consortium Work

Requirement	Future Work
Consortium: Create and convene a Consortium of 2- and 4-year colleges and universities (all community colleges and public four years + interested privates) ✓	<p>Consortium will meet and work to address opportunities and barriers for the workforce (blend of in person and virtual)</p> <p>Institutions will continue to have Institutional Representatives who can pull together a team internally, make decisions inside the institution and with the Consortium, and who can serve as a liason</p>
AAS: Seamless Transfer of the AAS and Level 4 ✓	<p><u>Continue to fully transfer AAS students</u> into programs as juniors, without credit loss and within the mandated Cap. Institutions may not require students to repeat courses taken/successfully completed and applied to the AAS</p>
CDA: Develop a process for awarding credit for CDA by January 31, 2022 ✓	<p>Continue providing 6 semester hours or equivalent.</p>

Consortium Work

Requirement	Future Work
Employers: Working with employers to assess regional demand; engaging and being responsive to employers 	SAME – Continuing to work w/employers
Outreach: to students to recruit and enroll 	Institutions will need to continue to document these efforts
Student Support: For access, persistence, and completion 	Continue to support students to persist and complete; report on academic and holistic plans on how you will do so
Prior Learning: Develop standardized methods for awarding credit for prior learning	Explore ways to develop standardized methods for awarding credit for prior learning
Ensuring Course Availability: Provide course offerings available <i>to any student enrolled in a member institution</i> when not available at a home institution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to programs when, where, how needed. • Consortium explores course sharing and making courses available through other institutions.

Consortium Work

Requirement	Future Work
Affordability and Cost to Students: Ensure students have the most affordable options; reporting on these costs	Continue to report on tuition, net price, and student loans
Reporting: All items listed in legislation (enrollment, persistence, completion, outreach, tuition)	Continue reporting, but maybe in different ways. Reporting Working Group looking at this.
Goals: Goals set for students to enroll and persist or complete by September 2024	IBHE, ICCB, ISBE, IDHS, in consultation with the advisory committee, <u>shall determine new metrics and goals</u> for the Consortium to be instituted after the 2024 – 2025 academic year.

Afton Partners: Supporting IBHE and ICCB to Map Out Phase 2

- 1) Assisting IBHE and ICCB with planning Phase 2 Consortium Work
- 2) Supporting Reporting Working Group
- 3) Documenting our work: 2nd Annual Report
- 4) Workforce Demand “Sketch”
- 5) Potentially a Survey to determine scholarship students’ time to completion

Ad Hoc Working Groups: Help Support/Design Phase 2 Work

Creative Course Delivery

Identify and recommend ways Consortium institutions can ***jointly and cooperatively provide streamlined paths for students.***

- How can we work together to ensure students needs are met in Phase 2?
- Where and what creative collaborations can provide student-centered experiences and strengthen programs?

Reporting

Advise on a plan to address required reporting requirements in a way that both elevates the great work of institutions and seeks to minimize time and effort.

- What is required and what else should be collected and reported?
- Who, what, how....can reporting be done in Phase 2?

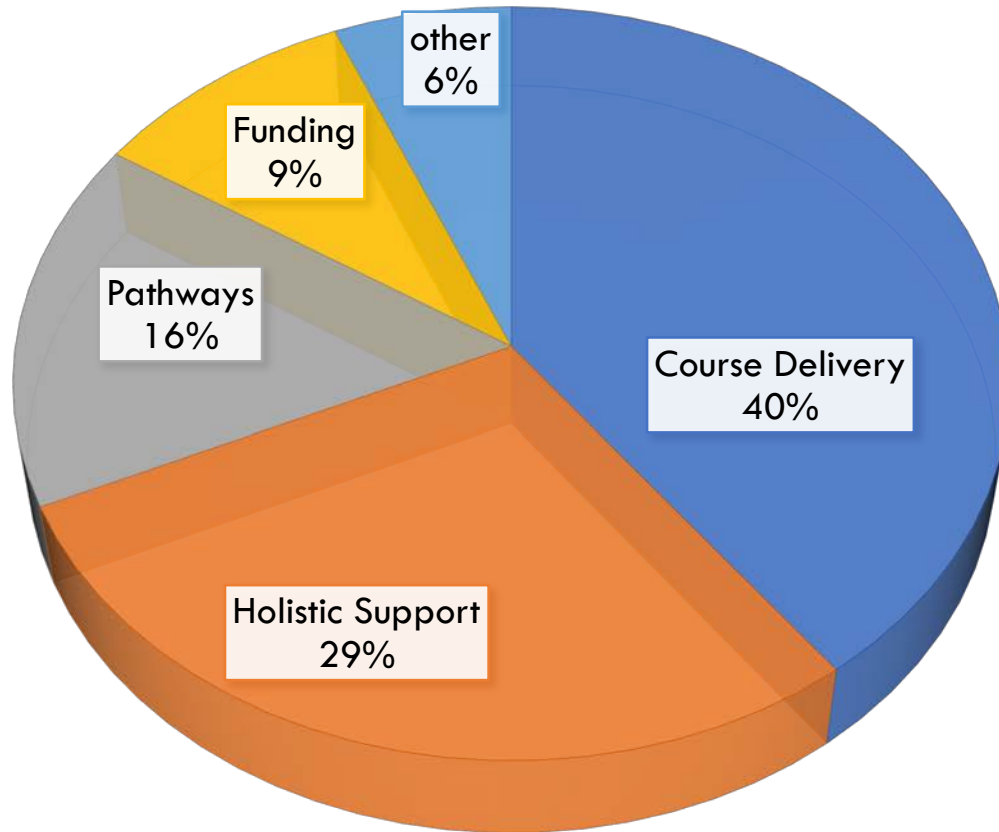
Consortium Phase 2: Padlet from Prior Consortium Meeting

Two Questions Related to Sustaining Current Work

- **Question 1.** What can you and your institution do to maintain what's been built through ECACE? Who can help with this?
- **Question 2.** What can the **Consortium** do collectively to support students and sustain programs?



What can you and your institution do to maintain what's been built through ECACE? Who can help with this?



Course Delivery: Flexible schedules, variety of modalities to accommodate students' needs, Spanish courses,

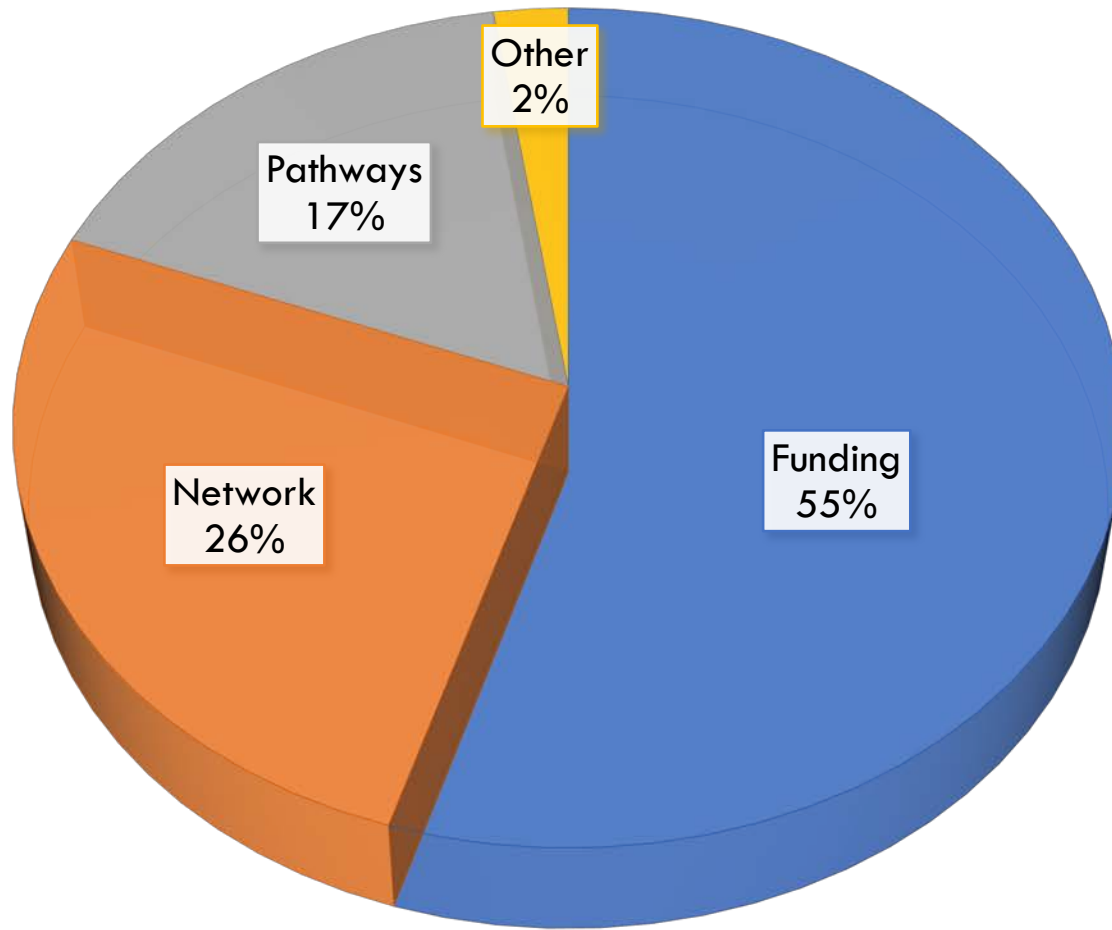
Holistic Support: Mentors, tutors, advising, “high touch” with students, partnering with other institutions and employers to support student teaching and residency models

Pathways: Individual pathways, CDA, accessible programs, prior learning assessments and helping students to transfer.

Funding: Presidents and provosts need encouragement to allocate funding; seeking external resources and grants, scholarships

Other: Quality, partnerships, demo classroom, etc.

What can the Consortium do collectively to support students and sustain programs?



Funding: Funding options to continue scholarship and holistic support; agency messaging to institutions to sustain funding and mentors.

Network and Learning Community: Opportunities to learn from other institutions in the Consortium, agency sharing pertinent state information, sharing insights, and learning from each other.

Pathway: Innovative pathways like CPL, apprentices, statewide PLA,

Other: Share curriculum, collaborate with NAEYC for accreditation, simplifying the reporting process

Poll 1: Mentors

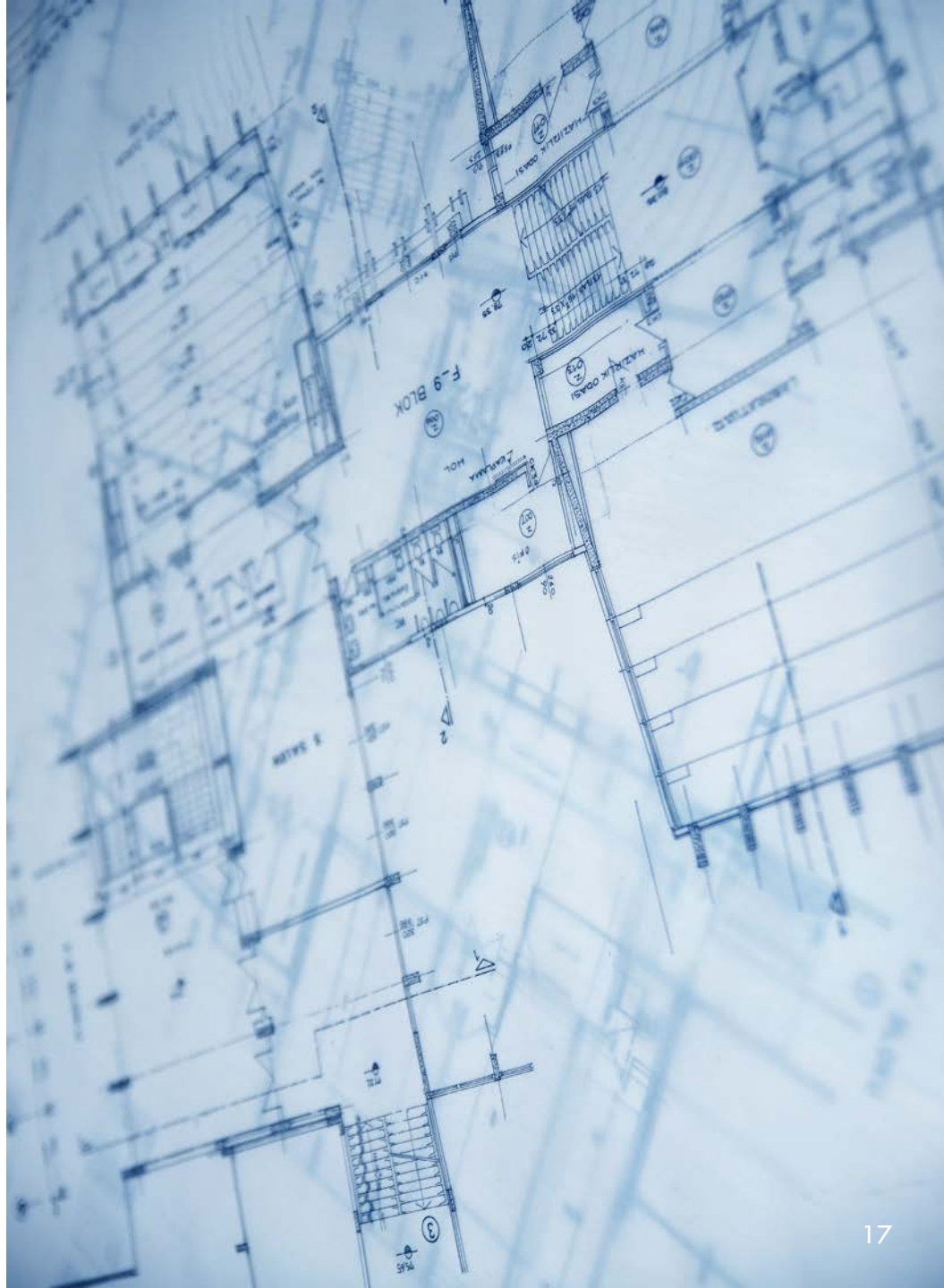


Institutions' Plans to Sustain ECACE Work

- Institutions will provide plans to IBHE and ICCB on how they intend to support the work of the last ~3 years.
 - *“Academic and holistic support plans to help the enrolled incumbent workforce”*
- Plans will include how the institution will:
 - **Financial Aid:** Help students to determine whether they are eligible for alternative financial supports to cover tuition, fees, and other needed funding.
 - **Student Supports:** Maintain supports to ensure students can persist and complete.
 - **Program structure and access:** Maintain programs and courses that support increased access and individualized pathways (e.g., program modality, prior learning, etc.)
 - **AAS and Other Transfer Pathways:** Ensure that AAS Students will continue to be able to transfer according to legislative requirements.

Plans must be submitted and signed by whomever at the institution can ensure these plans are implemented. (e.g., President, Provost, etc.)

Poll 2: Plans



Questions?



Two Upcoming Events!

June 26th Consortium

- Regular in-person Consortium meeting
- Discuss sustainability of ECACE work and the role of the Consortium
- Reporting recommendations

Wyndham Springfield City Centre
Hotel, 10:00am – 3:00pm

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/4bhi6FX>



June 27th Convocation

- Bigger event to celebrate, learn, share, and look forward to Phase 2
- **Representatives register** themselves and up to 3 guests per institution
- Waiting list for up to 3 guests

Wyndham Springfield City Centre
Hotel, 10:00am – 3:30pm

RSVP: <https://bit.ly/3WhnDYF>



June 27th Convocation

- Take time to reflect on the successes of each institution and of the whole Consortium
- Look forward to the future of ECACE
- Agenda in brief:
 - Breakout sessions on topics such as apprenticeships, bilingual programs, recruitment, credit for prior learning, student persistence, sustainable practices
 - Institutional poster sessions
 - Remarks by Governor Pritzker
 - Keynote speaker: Curtis Hill

Thank you to institutions helping co-plan the event!



Will Be Held At:
Wyndham Springfield City Centre
700 Adams St,
Springfield, IL 62701

About The Event

We're gathering together ECACE partners to celebrate how far we've come, share what we've learned, and look forward to what's next for our work. We will:

- Share the progress we made because of the collaborative work of ECACE.
- Have institutions highlight the many pathways created for the workforce in early childhood to higher education opportunities.
- Celebrate the major achievements accomplished together.
- Envision and create the future of ECACE.

ECACE Convocation

Thursday, June 27th,
10 AM - 3:30 PM



ECACE June 26 Consortium Registration

Consortium Registration:

- Representatives
or delegates
- Guests

Dear ECACE Institutional Representatives,

Please use this form to register for our next regular, in-person Consortium meeting on June 26 from 10:00am to 3:00pm at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre Hotel.

As usual, if you cannot attend, please consider sending a delegate. Delegates may participate in the meeting but cannot vote on behalf of the representative. The list of institutional representatives can be found [here](#).

Note: Guests are welcome to listen in, but please know that this event is designed for Consortium members. Due to budget rules, lunch can only be provided to institutional representatives.

The following day, June 27, we will host the ECACE Convocation. Separate registration is required for that event.

First Name *

Last Name *



June 27 ECACE Convocation Registration

Enter your
information to
begin the RSVP on
behalf of yourself
and your “guests”
(i.e., members of
your institutional
team).



Please plan to join your colleagues for the ECACE Convocation on June 27 from 10:00 am to 3:30 pm at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre.

Lunch will be provided for all attendees.

Note: Please do not share this form. Only Consortium Representatives can bring guests. If you're a member of an institutional team, please work with your Consortium Representative to register you as a guest. Each institution may bring three guests and waitlist three additional guests.

First Name *

Last Name *

Email *

Attendee type *

Do you have dietary restrictions? *

Choose the number of guests you want to bring.

Add information about up to three guests.

Add information for up to three *more* guests to be put on a waitlist.

Guest Amount *

How many guests would you like to register and waitlist? You may register 3 guests and put an additional 3 on the waitlist.

Select or enter value ▼

0 Guests

1 Guest

2 Guest

3 Guest

3 Guest, 1 Waitlist

3 Guest, 2 Waitlist

3 Guest, 3 Waitlist

[Privacy Notice](#) | [Report Abuse](#)

Guest Registration

First name

Last name

Email Address

Organization

Role

Any dietary restrictions

Institutional Poster Sessions – share information about your work!

What challenges did our institution grapple with to get ECACE work off the ground?

What changes did we make because of ECACE?
What did we do to meet the needs of working adult students attending our institution?

What data show achievements?

What area of strength can we share with others?

How are we hoping to continue this work?

Point person to contact for more information

Next Steps

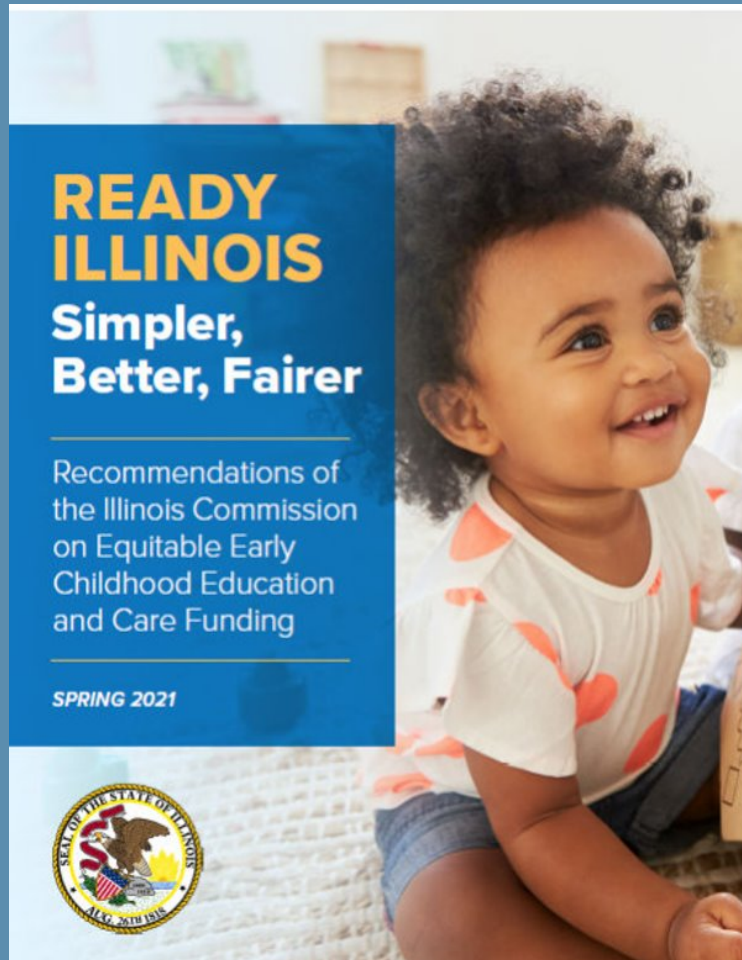
- **Register** for BOTH the June 26th Consortium and June 27th Convocation
 - June 26th Consortium: <https://bit.ly/4bhi6FX>
 - June 27th Convocation: <https://bit.ly/3WhnDYF>
- **Reserve** hotel rooms for you and your guests **by June 4th**
 - We have a hotel block at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre, where both events will be held
 - Hotel reservations: <https://bit.ly/4b3UnZE>
- **Create** a basic poster that describes your ECACE program(s) and achievements
 - We will send out an example poster and template
 - Return the poster to ecace@ibhe.org by May 24,2024



The Department Of Early Childhood - The Multi- Year Path to a New State Agency

April 2024
Update





A single agency for Early Childhood will be:



Easier for parents

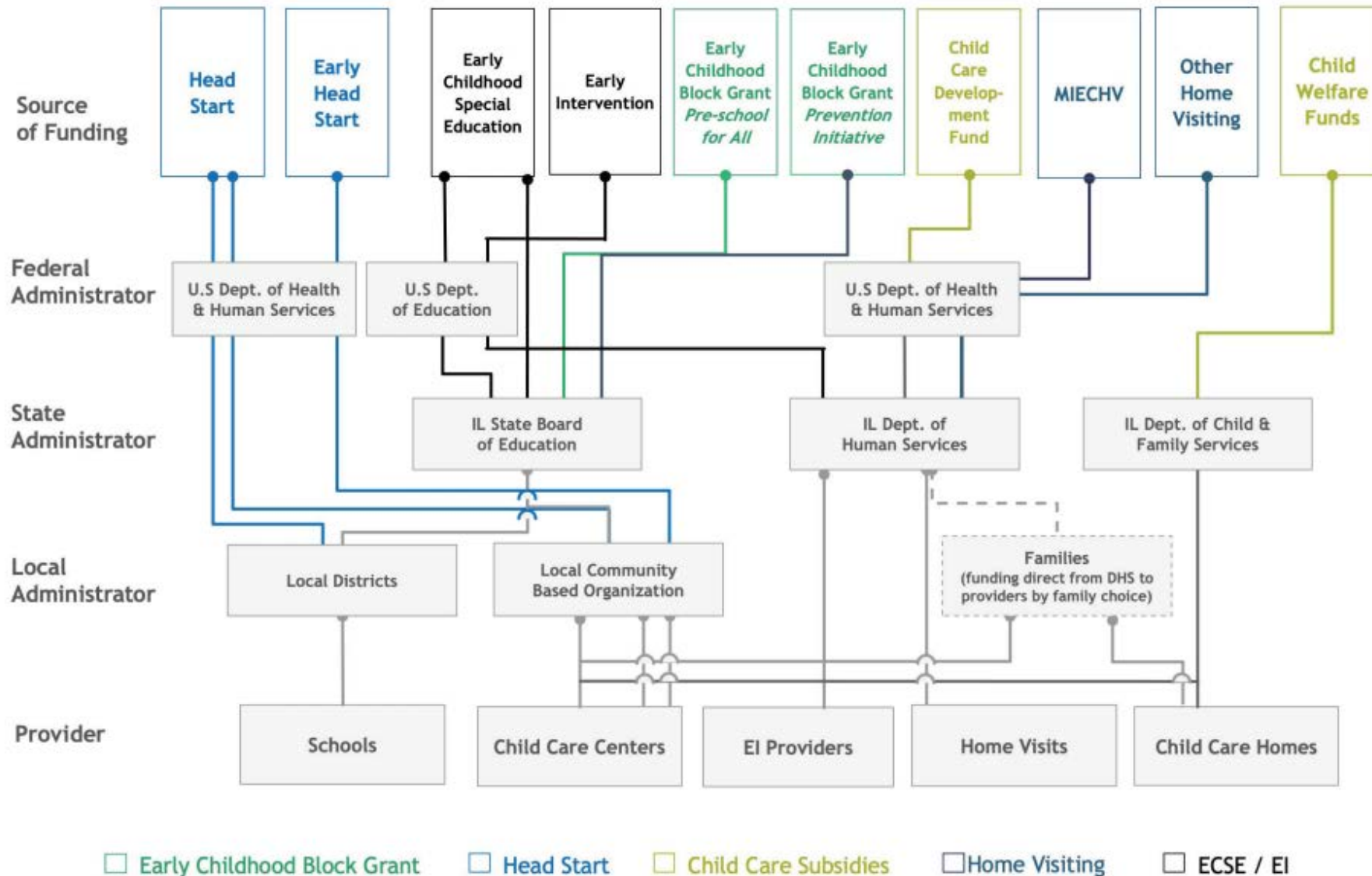


Simpler for providers

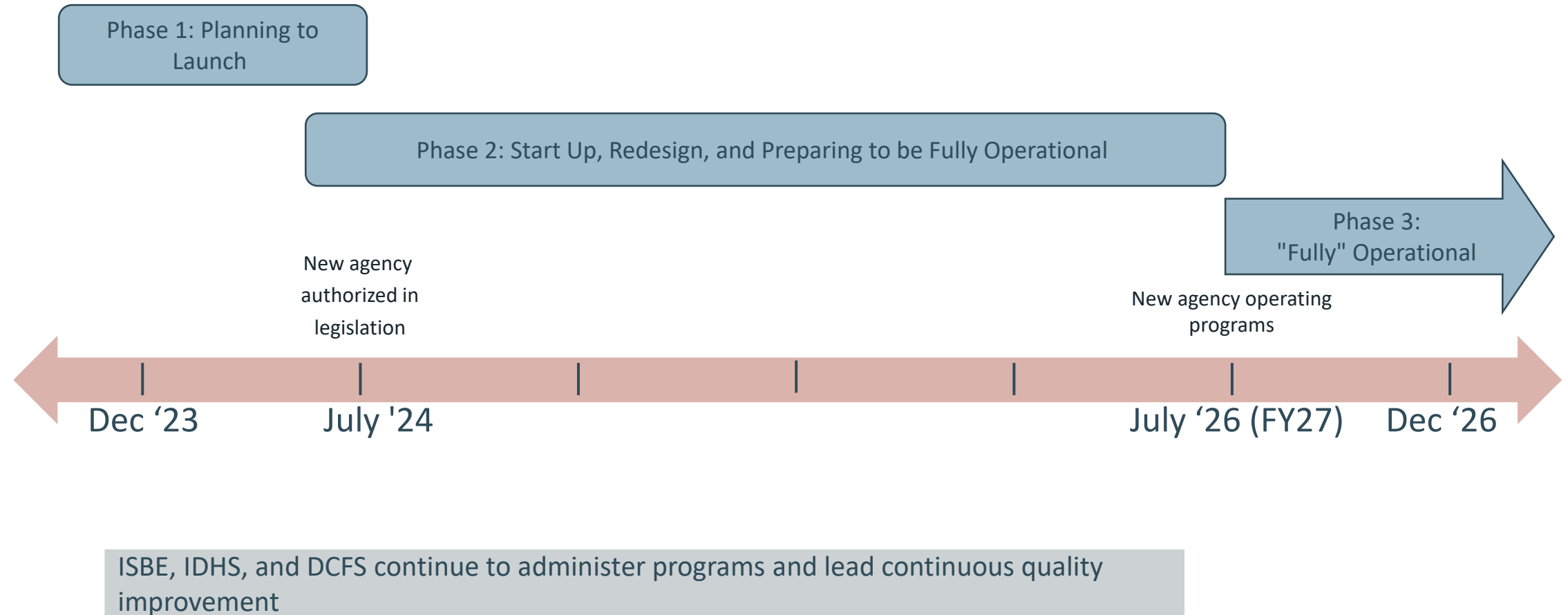


More cohesive and streamlined for the state

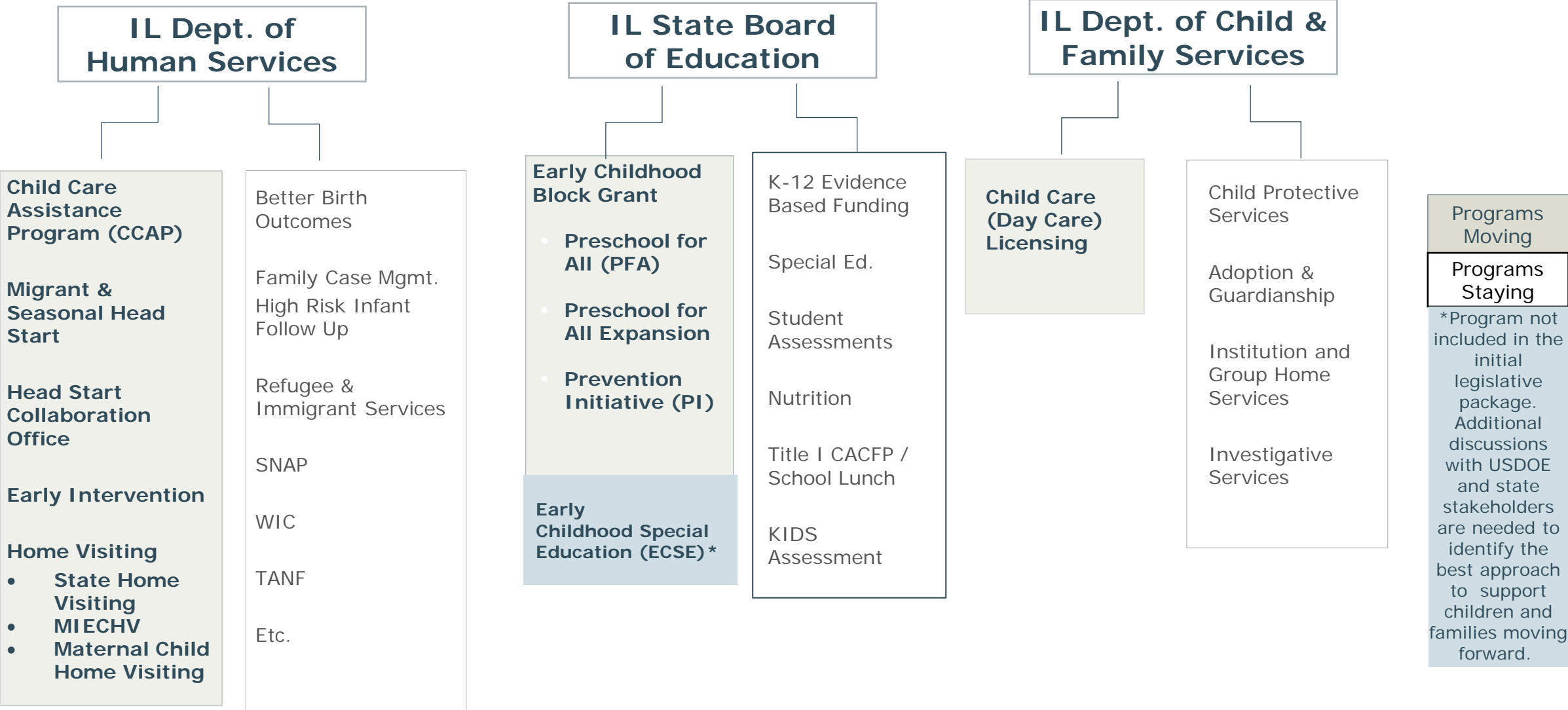
Illinois' early childhood system is too complex, which leads to inequity and inefficiency.



The transition to a new agency is on a multi-year timeline with three phases.



Early childhood services will move; broader family and school supports will remain at home agencies.



Initial Legislation Overview (SB1 and HB5451)

What the initial legislation does...

- ✓ Does propose the establishment of the new Department of Early Childhood on July 1, 2024
- ✓ Does propose to move early childhood programs and services from legacy agencies to the Department of Early Childhood on July 1, 2026
- ✓ Does propose to add the Department of Early Childhood to applicable State advisory councils
- ✓ Does propose the new Department to designate a body by 7/1/26 to advise the Department on an ongoing basis
- ✓ Does propose to add the Department of Early Childhood to applicable Illinois code (e.g., Civil Administrative Code of Illinois, etc.)

What the initial legislation doesn't do...

- Does not propose any policy changes to existing programs or services
- Does not propose any implementation changes to existing program or services (other than to move them to the new agency in 2026)
- Does not make any substantive adjustments to advisory groups or committees (e.g., Early Learning Council, Illinois Interagency Council on Early Intervention)

Phase 2: Transition work begins by centering equity, family and provider voice in both the process and outcomes.

- **Starting with parents and providers least centered in the current system**
 - **to advance racial and regional equity**
 - **to center families/parents with young children with special needs**
- **Establish a goal to build a better system for multilingual family services and supports for children receiving special education services**
- **Create multiple and ongoing opportunities and modalities for parents and providers to engage and help redesign the system**
- **Engage in qualitative and quantitative data collection, analysis, and use**



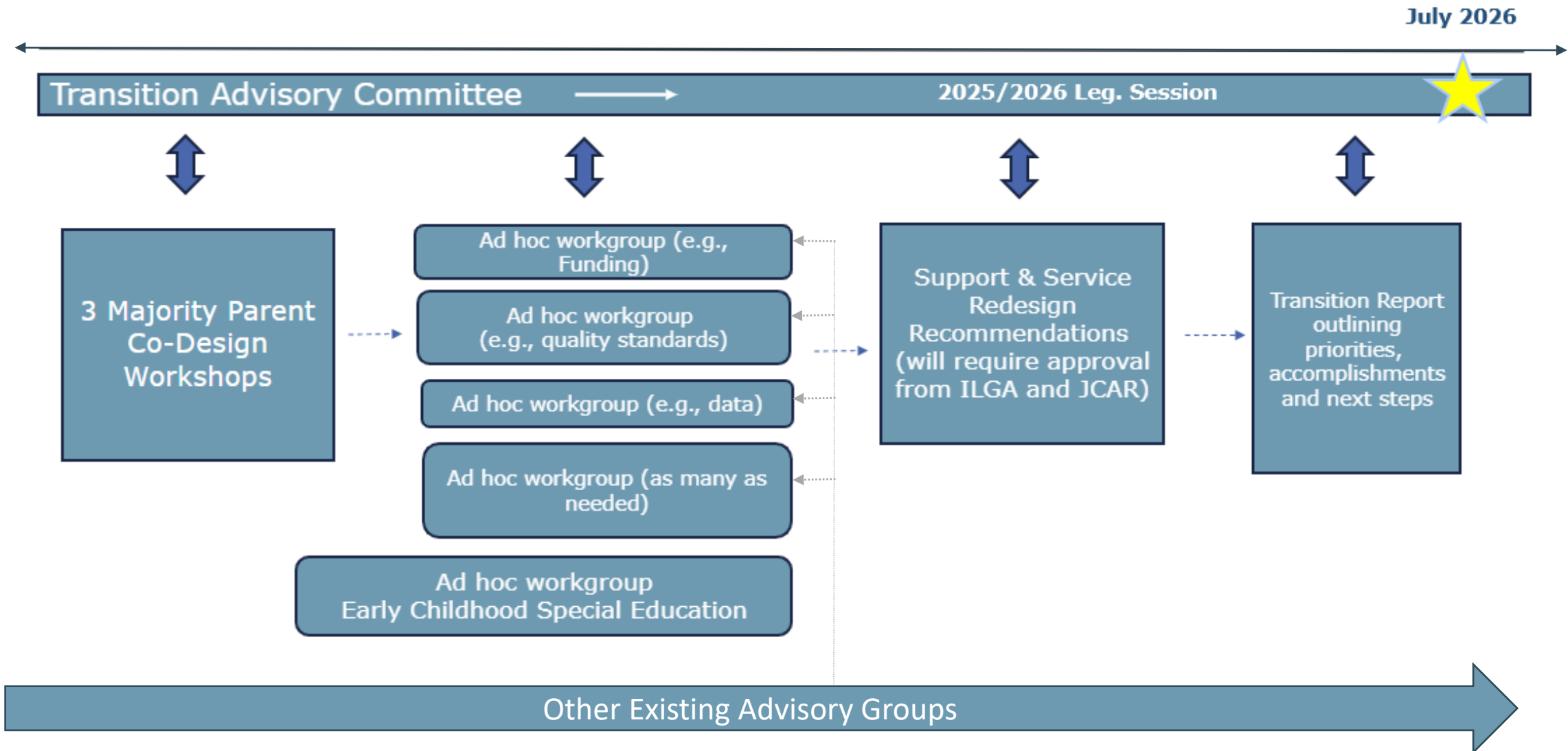
Early Childhood Transition TAC Charge

The state has established the **Transition Advisory Committee (TAC)**, comprised of representatives with diverse perspectives from across the state, to serve as an external advisory committee as the state moves toward a single ECE agency.

The TAC will **seek and help the state make meaning of stakeholder input** in preparation for the transition, with a **particular emphasis on understanding families' goals and needs** from a comprehensive ECE system for Illinois children.

The Transition Advisory Committee will work with the State's Early Childhood Transition Director, Ann Whalen, to **release a report by December 31, 2025.**

Phase 2 Approach to Redesign & Engagement



There are multiple opportunities to engage and gather input from diverse voices and perspectives.



 New opportunities to engage specifically around Transition and ECEC governance

Early Childhood Transition Updates

- Website:
 - <https://oecd.illinois.gov/early-childhood-education-and-care-transition-planning.html>
- Listening & Feedback and sign-up forms:
 - Survey Link (English):
<https://forms.gle/8fRk9Hv7tdZ9DaGY6>
 - Survey Link (Español):
<https://forms.gle/UbYhkd641ZjPgUnN8>



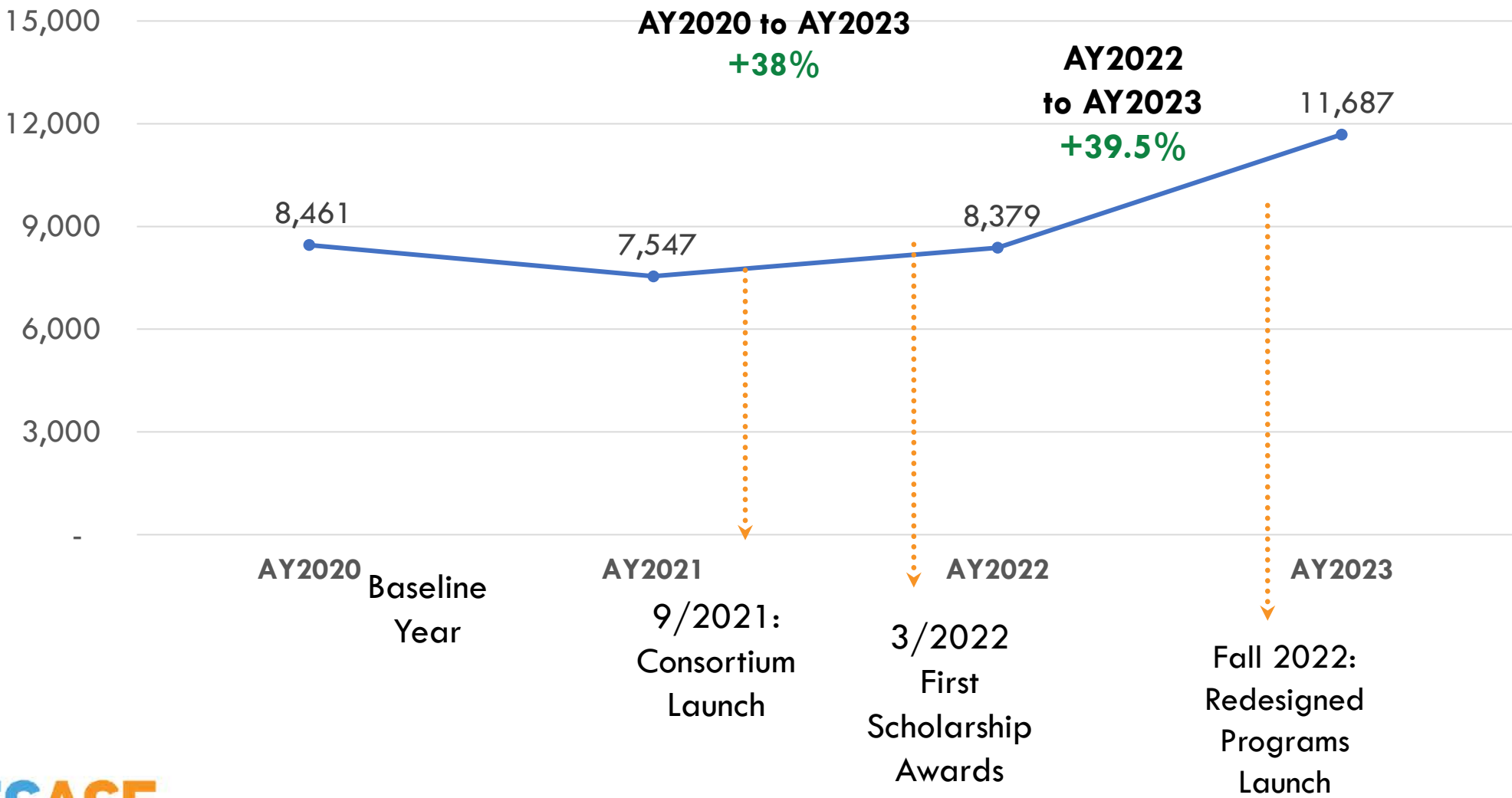


Please contact
Ann Whalen
EC Transition
Director
Awhalen@isbe.net

UPDATES

Consortium Reporting

Enrollment Rose 39.5% in Consortium Early Childhood Programs from AY22 to AY23 (all students, not incumbent)



Enrollment rates of Black and Latinx students outpaced that of white students

Enrollment Change from AY22 to AY23

Black: +48%

Latinx: +39%

White: 37%

Race/Ethnicity	Enrollment Change from AY22 to AY23		Enrollment Change from AY20 to AY23	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Asian	91	+40.1%	62	+24.2%
African American or Black	776	+48.0%	793	+49.6%
Hispanic or Latino	1,054	+38.9%	1,239	+49.0%
White	1,215	+37.4%	959	+27.4%
Other	172	+29.7%	173	+29.9%
Total	3,308	+39.5%	3,226	+38.1%

Annual Report

Next Report: 2nd Annual report

- Target for Release: Summer 2024

Some report contents:

- Progress towards goals
- Enrollment, persistence, and completions of incumbent workforce for AY 2023
- Outreach to and participation of the ECEC workforce and employers
- Tuition, net price, and student loans
- Evidence of responsiveness to the needs of employer partners
- Consortium budget
- Member contributions
- Institutions' work to support students (mentors, supports, etc.)
- Scholarship (not YET legislatively required)

Creative Course Delivery Working Group

Collaborative Course Delivery Work Group - Update

Working Group discussions have centered on:

- Identifying student needs and program priorities
- Understanding our institutional assets and strengths
- Considering where there are opportunities for institutions to collaborate
- Learning about course sharing systems and what they can offer:
 - ILCCO
 - More to come

Reporting Working Group - Update

Advise on a plan to address required reporting requirements in a way that both elevates the great work of institutions and seeks to minimize time and effort.

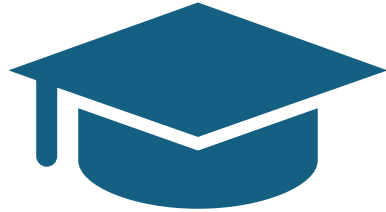
First meeting was on Friday.

- Discussed what worked well and challenges related to reporting.
 - **Went well:** Getting the data to understand student enrollment and progress. Addressing data collection issues internally. Elevating the work of ECACE within the institutions.
 - **Challenges:** Time consuming, changing forms/questions, better defining the data elements, technical assistance.

Planning to share recommendations at the June Consortium Meeting

ECACE Communications Campaign

The ECACE Effect Campaign



Inform early childhood education workforce of the benefits of continuing their education and how ECACE can streamline the process



Educate stakeholders about the positive impact the Consortium has made, and how their support will continue to benefit early childhood education

Launched in April and will run through June!



Campaign Reach

- Will deliver over 38.3 million impressions (i.e., views and listens)
- Targets adults across Illinois
 - Primary audience of the ECE workforce
 - Secondary audience of those with an active interest in the ECE field



Campaign Strategies

- Paid advertising on websites, social media, radio, streaming platforms
- Search engine marketing (i.e., paid search results)
- Email marketing



The ECACE Effect

ECACE is improving access to early childhood degrees and credentials for educators, enhancing academic programs to better serve working adults, and providing supports to improve student success in earning an early childhood degree or credential. That's the ECACE effect!

Explore what ECACE is doing to empower the early childhood workforce across Illinois and take the next step toward making your mark in early childhood education!

START HERE TO EARN YOUR DEGREE OR CREDENTIAL



[FIND A PROGRAM AT
AN INSTITUTION](#)



[HAVE QUESTIONS?
TALK TO SOMEONE](#)



[FINANCIAL AID](#)



[ABOUT ECACE & FAQ'S](#)



Digital Videos



Student Testimonials



Social Media Toolkit – Coming Soon!

- Graphics and text to use on your/your institution's social media channels
- Focuses on the stories of real ECACE students
- Sharable content for broad stakeholders



Upcoming Consortium Meetings

- June 26, 2024: In-person **Consortium Meeting**
- June 27, 2024: In-person **ECACE Event**
 - Time to celebrate, learn, share, and look forward to FY25
 - Beyond Consortium Representatives (~4/institution), to include navigators, mentors, state agency representatives
 - Springfield: Wyndham Hotel
 - Will be opportunities to share and showcase your work

please tell your fiscal department NOW that you will have a travel reimbursement coming on June 28!)

Public Comment
