



The new Preschool Development Grant B-5 opportunity as noted in the Every Student Succeeds Act is intended to help states coordinate **existing** early care and learning programs and services based on identified needs--not to create new early care and learning programs. The PDG B-5 grant initiative can assist in coordination of existing early care and learning services and funding streams to provide equal access to more children birth through age five in a mixed delivery model. See here for more information.

Getting Started: Assessing Your State's Strengths and Assets of the Early Childhood System

- Does your state have a unifying, state-wide vision, strategic plan or goals for young children? Could you propose to *develop, update, or implement a plan that facilitates collaboration and coordination among existing programs of early childhood care and education in a mixed delivery system*? If a plan already exists, when was the plan developed, by who? What is the current status?
- Does your state have a definition of school ready, shared goals for young children 0-5, a logic model or other framework to guide all stakeholders in a common vision for young children?
- Have you tracked any progress in access, outcomes, resources, disaggregated by subgroups (e.g. income, disability, race).
- Does your state have a State Early Childhood Advisory Council? How active, is it broadly representative of child care, head start, state prek, home visiting, mental health, etc.

Getting Started: Identifying Priorities of Partners:¹

1. What are three areas that coordination among existing programs of early childhood care and education in our mixed delivery system that could be improved? If it were up to your agency how would you improve the areas defined? Of the three, what is your top priority?
2. What are three ways in which collaboration among early childhood care and education in your state could be improved? How would these improvements prepare low-income and disadvantaged children to transition to kindergarten successful and ready to learn? Of the three, what is your top priority?
3. In what ways could we improve in coordinating the delivery models and funding streams existing in the State's mixed delivery system?
4. What are three strategies that could be incorporated into a strategic plan that would allow the following:
 - a. Increase participation in a mixed delivery system of Federal, State, and local early childhood education programs
 - b. Increase program quality while maintaining availability of program choices for families

¹ These questions are drawn from a document developed by Indiana.