

10-Year Roadmap Activity Work Plan

READINESS: Early Learning

Challenge Area	Student Readiness
Planning Activity	Actions to contribute to the needs for early learning.
Lead Members	Scott Brittain, Ray Lawton, Constance Rice
Staff Team	Randy Spaulding (Lead) 360-753-7823, randys@wsac.wa.gov Noreen Light Jim West
External Workgroup Members	Bette Hyde, Department of Early Learning Bob Butts, Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction Kathy Goebel, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges Jane Sherman, Council of Presidents, Vi Boyer Independent Colleges of Washington Bryan Wilson and Justin Montermini, Workforce Board Melissa Beard, Education Research and Data Center Gena Wikstrom, Northwest Career Colleges Federation Phil Venditti, Faculty Association of Community and Technical Colleges TBD, Department of Health staff TBD, Professional Educators Standards Board staff

Scope

Policy Issue(s): Improve the health, social-emotional, and cognitive outcomes for all children from birth through 3rd grade, so that all children, particularly those with high needs, are on track for graduating from high school college- and career-ready.

To enhance the quality of programs and services and improve outcomes for children from birth through 3rd grade, including children with disabilities and those who are English Learners, the state should promote initiatives that increase access to high-quality programs, improve the early learning workforce, develop and implement comprehensive early learning assessment systems, and ensure program effectiveness and accountability¹.

Question(s) to be Addressed:

1. How does availability of high quality pre-k programming vary by region and by family demographics? What is the potential for technology in addressing gaps in access or quality?
2. How do the needs of the Pre-K population impact student achievement through K-12, postsecondary education, and workforce readiness?
3. What are the roles of the parents, the state, pre-school and child care providers, and higher education institutions in supporting early learning programs?
4. Are changes required in higher education programs in health, social service, and education to increase knowledge and awareness of early learning issues among graduates?

¹ Adapted from US Department of Education Early Learning Initiative. <http://www.ed.gov/early-learning>.

Methods

Quantitative: Early Childhood Data Collaborative state and national results.

Qualitative: Review State Early Learning Plan and other existing research and analysis to identify best practices in early childhood education and examine the relationship between early learning and college success.

Key Stakeholders: Governor's Office, Superintendent of Public Instruction, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, Public and Private College and University Presidents, Washington PTA, Washington Teachers Association, American Federation of Teachers, Washington Education Association Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, Postsecondary students, Head Start, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Ballmer Foundation, Lumina Foundation, Stewart Foundation and Raikes Foundation.

Schedule: Identify key project tasks and determine their completion dates. Use the "Challenge Area Schedule" and "Agenda Item Report Process" as "fixed" milestones and requirements.

Task	Complete by
Review work plan with policy coordinator and communications staff.	1/30
Review Work plan with Council Leads (phone meeting)	2/1
Workgroup Meeting: Review work plan and assignments.	2/14
Workgroup member feedback / reporting out via email	2/21
Draft issue briefing available for review by Workgroup and Lead Council members	2/26
Workgroup meeting: Review issue briefing outline	3/1
Revised issue briefing Council and stakeholder review	3/8
Final Edits	3/14
Draft briefing transmitted to Council and posted to Web	3/19
Panel presentation to Council	3/26
Workgroup Meeting: Review of Council discussion and Stakeholder feedback.	3/29
Workgroup member reporting out (meeting and briefs from members)	4/10
Workgroup Meeting: Review Draft policy recommendations	4/23
Revised policy recommendations for review by council and stakeholders.	5/3
Final Edits	5/10
Draft briefing transmitted to Council and posted to Web	5/16
Recommendations presented to Council	5/23