Timeline Tuesday
Data Snapshot: Early Care and Education

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EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION TIMELINE

1965
- Head Start: A federally funded school readiness program — Head Start — is created rooted in the idea that parents are their child’s most important teachers; in Delaware ECAP expanded the state’s capacity to serve low-income children in 1994.

2001

2009
- Delaware Stars: Delaware Stars for Early Success (STARS) — the state’s voluntary quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) — is codified into law.

2011
- QRIS: State funding for the QRIS is first approved, linking purchase of care (POC) reimbursement rate to STARS rating and providing financial incentive to providers with higher quality ratings.

2012
- OEL: Office of Early Learning (OEL) is established to coordinate work of multiple departments in Delaware involved with early care and education system.

next
- GOALS: Implementation of next steps toward a comprehensive, sustainable early childhood system that serves all Delaware children based on strategic plan.

Biden School of Public Policy & Administration
www.bidenschool.udel.edu
Delaware’s Early Childhood (EC) System
Families of B-5 children have a range of early childhood programming and supports, which operate under various departments and have differing eligibility requirements

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<th>Delaware’s ECE System of Programs and Supports for Families</th>
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<td>Health, Mental Health and Nutrition Services</td>
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<td>K Transitional Supports</td>
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Operate privately and publicly under various departments...
- DOE
- DHSS
- DSCYF
- Private Organization

With differing eligibility requirements....
- Age Requirements
- Income Requirements
- Developmental / Disability Requirements
- Other Requirements
EC System Experience for Families

Delaware’s EC programs/services are difficult to navigate for both professionals and families, and force multiple transitions.

**ECCE Programs and Services by Ages Served**

**Settings**
- Programs at a Center or Family Care Facility
  - Private Center Child Care
  - Private Family Child Care
  - Early Head Start Centers
- Home Visiting
  - Healthy Families America (HFA)
  - Nurse Family Partnership (NFP)
  - Parents as Teachers (PAT)
  - Early Head Start (Home Visiting)
- Programs at a School District
  - ECAP School District Programs
  - Part B 019 School District Programs

**Screening and Special Ed Services**
- Early Childhood Special Education: Birth to 3
- Child Developmental Watch
- Developmental Screening Services from Medical Providers
- K readiness teams

**Resource and Referrals**
- AccessCare (private organization through DHSS)
- Health Care 2-1-1 (private organization through DHSS)
- Maternal, Infant, and Children’s Health (MMCH)
- Medicaid / Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- Family-Based Mental Health Services (FBMHS)
- Other Mental Health Services (PGCT, Cognitive Therapy, Community Based Treatment Services, Intensive Family Consultation)

**Health, Mental Health and Nutrition Services**
- Primary Care Services at Medical Providers
- Purchase of care (POC)

**Legend: Department Ownership**
- DOE
- KIDS
- DHSS
- Private Organization

*Developmental screenings services are often administered at third-party medical providers through Pediatricians, Family Physicians, Nurses, Physician Assistances, and Nurse Practitioners or at home by families themselves.*
Program locations generally align with population density; as a result, families located in rural areas may have to travel further to access programs/services.

Source: Delaware Stars Database (2019), OCCL Program Data (2019), Census Bureau
Delaware’s Early Childhood Program Types

There’s a supply of ~1k full-time licensed early childhood programs in Delaware, family care professionals represent ~65% of all programs, but account for only 15% of seats.

Delaware early childhood programs have a total capacity of ~41k, with ~85% of capacity in centers and ~15% in family care programs.

Note: Individual programs provide services across multiple age groups and operational hours. Source: CFF Database.
Delaware’s B-5 EC workforce is large and somewhat new to their positions; from a demographic perspective, DE center-based professionals are older and more diverse than national averages.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>Female 93%</th>
<th>Male 7%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>Age 21-29 32%</td>
<td>Age 30-49 35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Racial/Ethnic Composition</td>
<td>White 51%</td>
<td>African American 39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tenure</td>
<td>&gt; 1 year 43%</td>
<td>1 year 19%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Summary Statistics of B-5 ECCE Professionals [Center-based Care]

- ~8,000 ECCE professionals at licensed B-5 center-based programs
- 93% are female
- 56% are over 30 years old
- 46% are a minority
- 2 years average tenure at facility
- $29K avg. DE preschool comp.*

Note: Data is not consistently tracked for family child care professionals

*includes preschool and kindergarten teachers in both public and private settings Source: Focus database (2019), NAEYC P2P Report (2016), Delaware Department of Labor
Translation to Child and Family Experience

Families experience the disjointed eligibility landscape as they search for affordable care and services to meet their children’s needs. Children feel the effects of inconsistency when they reach kindergarten.

Source: IDEO User Experience Needs Assessment
Cost for Families

In order for families to work, many must seek early care. Market rates can be higher than the cost of in-state college tuition.

*Costs represent the 75th percentile of 2018 market rates. The 75th percentile is used as the benchmark for POC reimbursement to provide equal access, and therefore consistently analyzed across materials.

Note: Annual market rates reflect conversation daily rates paid by private-paying families and assume an average of 22 workdays per month. The 2018 Market Rate Study report provides data only at a county level. In this analysis, state-wide rates were proxied from the MRS 2018 report using a weighted average for the count of facilities by county. Source: 2018 Market Rate Study, The US and the High Cost of Child Care 2018 Report, OCCL Program Data (2019), Census Bureau, 2018 American Community Survey, college tuition compare.com

For Comparison:

The US national average for cost of B-5 child care is $10,408 for centers and $8,889 for family child care.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Delaware Higher Education</th>
<th>In-state Tuition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delaware Technical</td>
<td>$4,904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community College</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delaware State University</td>
<td>$7,868</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wilmington University</td>
<td>$11,210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Delaware</td>
<td>$13,680</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Impact on Families by Income Level

The high cost of care is felt across income levels, representing a significant portion of household income for both the middle class and families who qualify for subsidies but forced to pay for POC +

Delaware household distribution by household income compared to the cost of care and the POC eligibility cutoff

*The POC Plus rate was calculated as the difference between the POC reimbursement rate and the 2018 market rate of care (65% the 2018 market rate)

**A household income of $42K represents 200% of the Federal Poverty Level cutoff for a household of 3 persons, however eligibility standards change by the size of household

Source: 2018 Market Rate Study, IPUMS Data, US Census Bureau, 2018 American Community Survey, DHSS website

Families below 200% FPL will have care fully covered or pay a portion of the cost of care depending on the type of POC offered by the program (POC vs. POC plus)

A household with > $42K** annual income would likely fall outside POC eligibility standards, and have to pay the private market rate for child care

At 100% of the federal poverty line (FPL), even families who qualify for POC may have to pay ~22% of household income on a program offering primarily POC plus* seats

At the 50th income percentile, cost of care for one child at a child care center makes up ~20% of household income

At the 80th income percentile, cost of care for one child at a child care center makes up ~10% of household income

POC eligible (200% FPL) for a household of 3

% of Delaware’s population
Opportunities: Map

The needs assessment identified opportunity areas to achieve Delaware’s early childhood system aspiration.

Delaware commits to all children and families having access to an integrated early childhood system, from birth through third grade, which provides high-quality services and an environment that supports their growth, development, and learning, and prepares them for success in school and life.

To do so, Delaware must help families with…

- Availability of programs/services
- Quality of programs/services
- Affordability of programs/services
- Identifying and navigating programs/services

These opportunities are supported by enabling conditions:

- Unified governance for consistent program and service delivery
- High-quality, stable educator workforce
- Data for the workforce and governance to understand child/family needs

Note: Vision is as stated in the PDG B-5 Grant application.
When government tries to make things better for its citizens, it **starts with a policy**. Government translates this policy’s intent into new and updated processes. Those processes define the way citizens experience the policy.

People see it in exactly the opposite way. As the government’s “customers,” they **first experience a service**. Underneath that service experience lies a process. If the process is carried out in a quality, responsive way, they can discern the policy’s intent.
MOMENTS THAT MATTER FOR FAMILIES

- Learning ways to support your child’s early learning, growth and development
- Choosing a care/learning environment that fits your goals for you and your child
- Securing care that works for your unique life situation
- Seeking help/advice when issues arise
- Managing the daily logistics of care
- Transitioning between different care/learning environments

MOMENTS THAT MATTER FOR PROFESSIONALS

- Caring for and educating children and families, especially those with high need
- Navigating rules and regulations for my career
- Growing professionally in my career
COVID-19 and Child care

15 students
11 staff

Connected with Delaware’s child cares* were COVID-19 positive from 9/1 to 10/8 cumulatively

* Associated with child care if they were in-person at a school or childcare facility while potentially infectious

Most updated comments Dr. Karyl Rattay, Director of the Division of Public Health (Oct. 14, 2020):

- Limited spread of infection in child care; we are seeing cases pop up but not enough to confirm rapid spread within centers
- Seem to be exposures taking place outside of school/child care setting, then being brought in

18 children treated by Nemours
2 Delaware residents

The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) outlines a schedule of periodicity through their Bright Futures program. This schedule includes Recommendations for Preventive Pediatric Health Care, noting a multitude of screening measures and ages at which each assessment should be carried out.

Delaware’s Early Childhood Priorities
How do we prioritize what our families and EC professionals need and value for their B-5 children through our policies and budgets?
DECC Strategic Plan Release

Delaware Early Childhood Council

Please Join Us
2020-2025 Strategic Plan Virtual Release Event

Strengthening Early Success: Building Our Future Together

October 21
10:30am-12pm

Celebrate Delaware’s Progress in Early Childhood and Launch the Vision for the Future

Featuring
Governor John C. Carney

Dr. Tony Allen, President, Delaware State University

Delaware State Teacher of the Year
Rebecca Vitelli
Caitlin Gleason
Office of Early Learning (OEL)
Delaware Department of Education

Caitlin.Gleason@doe.k12.de.us
## Appendix A
Definitions from the PDG B-5 grant process (1/2)

### Delaware’s Early Childhood Care and Education System

Delaware’s existing birth through age five mixed delivery system includes a wide range of public and private early childhood care and education programs, such as: center-based care; family child care; informal care providers (“kinship care”); Early Head Start and Head Start; Parents as Teachers (PAT); Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting (MIECHV) implemented statewide and locally; Part C and Section 619 of Part B of IDEA; Early Childhood Assistance Program (ECAP) state-funded preschool; and programs implemented by local educational agencies (LEAs). A broader set of public and private services are connected to these programs, like health care, Medicaid, Delaware Healthy Children Program, Title V Maternal and Child Health Programs, Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), and the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC). Three Delaware state departments comprise the governance structure that supports these programs and services: Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS), Department of Education (DOE), and Department of Services for Children, Youth, and Their Families (DSCYF).

### Quality Early Childhood Care and Education

Experiences, programs, and services that: support children’s healthy development and success across developmental domains; are based on evidence and implemented with fidelity; are provided by a highly qualified and adequately compensated workforce; are located in appropriate facilities that are approved and fully accessible to all children and families; are designed around the needs of children and families to offer continuity of services and comprehensive supports; and align and integrate with the K12 education system facilitating smooth and efficient transitions for children and families.

### Early Childhood Care and Education Availability

Experiences, programs, and services for children from birth to age five that are currently functioning in Delaware and the extent to which they can be accessed by children and their families, including the range and kind of providers, affordability, geographic location, and alignment with family needs.
Delaware’s Early Childhood Care and Education System

Each and every child is vulnerable and has a right to quality early childhood care and education. Experiences, programs and services can be adapted to meet the needs of children and families representing demographic and geographic variables such as the following:

► Children living in poverty (including children living in deep poverty and on the brink of poverty)
► Children in foster care
► Children experiencing homelessness
► Children with a diagnosed or suspected disability
► Children living in families receiving public assistance
► Children experiencing trauma including living in neighborhoods experiencing violence
► Children born to teenage mothers
► Children in the care of the elderly, such as grandparents
► Children involved with protective services
► Children living in families with significant risk factors (e.g., unemployment, substance abuse, mental health concerns, domestic violence)
► Children living in the most remote areas of the state
► Children of military families, including families with members previously or currently deployed
► Children of migrant and seasonal workers
► Low birth weight infants
► Children who were born prematurely
► Children who have a significant medical issue or who are medically fragile
► Children of a foreign adoption
► Children who are English Language Learners
► Children who are racial and ethnic minorities

Underserved Children

Underserved children are those for whom the current services are insufficient to meet the child’s and/or family’s needs, whether they are or are not receiving services from one or more programs

Children in Rural Areas

Children living in areas of Delaware that have been officially designated as rural by the US Census Bureau. Our most heavily rural regions are in the southern and western areas of the state in Sussex and Kent Counties. US Census data indicates that approximately 17% of Delawareans reside in a designated rural area. For Kent and Sussex Counties the percentage of the population living in a designated rural area is approximately 27% and 41%, respectively.
# Appendix B
## Delaware EC program and service definitions

### Programs at a Center or Family Care Facility
- **Child care centers** offer child care and education in a business location to a variety of age groups and can be either publicly or privately run.
- **Family child care** provides child care and education in a licensed home or nonresidential setting for up to 9 children depending on their ages.
- **Large family child care** provides child care and education in a licensed home or nonresidential setting for up to 14 children depending on their ages.

### Programs at a School District
- **IDEA Part B 619 schools** provide child care and education through school districts to children ages 3 to 5 who have an identified disability.
- **ECAPs (Early Childhood Assistance Program) at school districts** provide preschool services to income eligible families with children age 3 to 5. Programs are offered in both public and private settings, with many slots being offered through school district programs.

### Home Visiting Programs
- **Home visiting programs** offer at-risk families care - prenatal support, parent-child interaction coaching, and activities designed to promote child-development skills and school readiness.
- Delaware currently offers 4 evidenced-based home-visiting models: Healthy Families America, Parents as Teachers, Nurse-Family Partnership and Early Head Start.

### Screening and Special Ed Services
- **Child Development Watch (CDW)** provides early intervention services for children, birth through age three, with disabilities and developmental delays.
- **Child Find** offers developmental screening services through school districts for children 3 to 5.

### Licensing
- **Licensed child care programs** have been issued a child care license from the office of child care licensing (OCCL) by demonstrating compliance with the regulations, applicable codes and laws. A child care license is a basic permit required to operate a center, family child care or large family child care program.

  Programs at school districts are not required to be licensed, however some programs may choose to get licensed.

### Delaware Stars / QRIS
- **Delaware Stars**: Delaware Stars for Early Success is a Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) used to assess, improve and communicate the level of quality in early care and education.

  Centers, family child care, and school district programs can all participate in Stars, however

### Family Subsidies
- **Purchase of Care (POC)** is a subsidy program that helps low-income families pay for their child care. POC care options are available at select licensed child care programs, preschools, after school programs and summer camps. POC can be offered in the form of basic POC, POC plus, or self-arranged.

See also: [https://www.mychildde.org/glossary/](https://www.mychildde.org/glossary/)