



GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY®

Illinois Professional Development System

Family Specialist Credential Committee Meeting

March 4, 2016

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Minutes

Attendees:

Diane Scruggs*	Jamilah Jor'dan*	Kennye Westbrook	Stephanie Hellmer
Donna Emmons	Joni Scritchlow	Shauna Ejeh	Tami O'Daniel
Granada Williams			

*denotes co-chair

Welcome – *Jamilah Jor'dan and Diane Scruggs, co-chairs*

Announcements

- A list of direct and entitled route Family Specialist Credential recipients was shared with the committee. This list included 106 applicants who had indicated “yes” for a release of information.
- Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) changes to include Kindergarten in Professional Educator licensure with Elementary Education endorsement. There was a limited amount of time for public comment. Updates on this change to be shared during the April FSC meeting.
- National Black Child Development Institute (NBCDI) published *Being Black Is Not a Risk Factor: A Strengths-Based Look at the State of the Black Child*. Barbara Bowman from Erikson Institute wrote the foreword <http://www.nbcdi.org/resource>.
- Public colleges and universities throughout the state are heavily impacted by the FY16 budget impasse. Many institutions are operating on cash reserves and have given layoff notices. Students have become very active and accountable for voicing concerns to Governor Bruce Rauner.
- Entitled route credentials may be affected by the budget impasse if higher education institutions cannot offer coursework.
- Donna Emmons is retiring from ISBE effective the end of April 2016. Congratulations were given as well as recognition for her dedication to the Family Specialist Credential committee.

Approval of February 3, 2016 Minutes

- Motion to approve minutes made by Donna Emmons.
- Motion seconded by Kennye Westbrook.
- Motion passed and minutes approved.

Family Specialist Credential Final Report Draft

- Page 3—Update paragraph to include Gina Ruther’s involvement with the Department of Human Services (DHS) to approve the Family Specialist Credential (FSC) pilot.
 - Do the focus groups need to be included?
- Page 4—Include Baby TALK to models used in the development of the FSC. Remove Parents and Children Together (PACT). Jamilah Jor'dan will review her notes about the Cornell Model. Update consultant information to include the FSC committee facilitating the development of the

content areas and benchmarks. Shauna Ejeh will contact Gina Ruther in regards to the funding of the consultant for the FSC.

- Page 5—Granada Williams will include a summary of the Principles and Practices Family and Community Engagement subcommittee.
- Page 7—Do financial supports need to be included?
- Page 13—Donna Emmons will include a summary of the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) Family and Community Engagement framework.
- Page 15—Remove the final sentence in the second paragraph. It is a duplicate from the first sentence.
- Page 20—Include “two and four year” to higher education institutions. Change “successful” to “positive” in the second sentence. Add “dispositions” to third sentence. Change the final sentence from “The future of family workers in Illinois is bright” to “The future of family specialists and their continued professionalism strengthen Illinois families”.
- Add a Catalyst section before the Pilot Implementation section. This section will include the importance of sustaining the FSC.
- Appendix D—add FSC employer survey information.
- Appendix N—edit committee members to include active members and QPP members. INCCRRA staff will update professional titles and cross reference all meeting minutes to include active participants in the development of the FSC.
- INCCRRA staff will email the committee the FSC benchmarks and final report with changes listed above.
- Committee members will email INCCRRA staff by Friday, March 11, 2016 with revisions to the final report.

Family Specialist Credential Benchmark Revisions

- Non-leveled benchmarks has provided clear and consistent education and training requirements for all recipients of the Gateways Family Specialist Credential. A few edits can be found on pages 10, 11, 14, 20 and 21. These minor revisions strengthen inclusion of responsiveness of cultural and linguistic appropriate practices.
- These updates were made based on suggestions from FSC faculty during their meeting on January 29, 2016.

Family Specialist Credential Framework Recommendations

- FSC Level 2—all requirements remain the same.
- FSC Level 3—Update “6 semester hours of English, Social Science or any Math or Science. (These 6 credits must be credit bearing and non-developmental 100 level +)” to mimic other credential frameworks. Update work and practical experience to 20 hours of family related supervised experience. Remove observation hours.
- FSC Level 4—Increase to 21 points. Update “9 semester hours of English, Social Science or any Math or Science. (These 6 credits must be credit bearing and non-developmental 100 level +)” to mimic other credential frameworks. Increase work and practical experience from 75 to 100 hours of family related supervised experience.
- FSC Level 5—Possibly increase to 33 points. Include “Bachelor’s or Master’s degree in Social Work meets these requirements” across the Education requirements, Content Area Specific Education and Work and Practical Experience.
 - INCCRRA staff will email all FSC points earned for FSC Levels 2–5 recipients to finalize the framework for statewide implementation. The purpose of reviewing these points is

to verify the percentage of recipients who would be affected by increasing point requirements for Level 5.

- **ALL LEVELS:** Remove professional contributions from initial credential attainment-required upon renewal.
- Committee members will email INCCRRA staff by Friday, March 11, 2016 with revisions to FSC framework and benchmarks.

FSC Portfolio Review Update

The committee reviewed six portfolios and responded by Friday, March 11, 2016. The following are the results from the review:

Applicant	Yes	No	Result:
Entitled Route #19	IIII		Lake Land College – Approved FSC Level 4.
#79		IIII	Not approved – No FSC work experience. Family Child Care Provider with job statement included.
#101	II	II	HOLD – Committee split – Family Child Care Provider with job statement included.
#113	III	I	Approved FSC Level 5
#158	II	II	HOLD – Committee split.
#260	III	I	Approved FSC Level 4
CM #3	IIII		Approved FSC Level 5

FY16 Meeting Dates

- Friday, March 4, 2016 Face to Face 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- Wednesday, April 6, 2016 Telenet 9:00 am – 11:00 am
- Thursday, May 5, 2016 Telenet 9:00 am – 11:00 am

**June meeting TBD*

Target Dates for FSC Recommendations:

- Qualifications & Credentials – March 17, 2016 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
 - Back up – April 19, 2016 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm
- PDAC Steering – March 23, 2016 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
 - Back up – May 18, 2015 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- PDAC – April 29, 2016 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
 - Back up – June 17, 2016 10:00 am – 3:00 pm
- IDHS – June 2016

Attachments available upon request.