

**Professional Development Advisory Council
March 1, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

Anne Pradzinski	Joni Scritchlow	Patricia Steinhaus
Barbara Volpe	Julie Lindstrom	Rebecca Livengood
Barb Christmas	Kate Connor	Shauna Ejeh
Bela Mote	Lauri Morrison-Frichtl	Sherial McKinney
Beth Knight	Laurie Rhodes	Sheryl Robin
Brooke Walker	Leslie Layman	Sinthu Ramalingam
Cindy Berrey	Marcus Brown	Stephanie Bernoteit
Connie Shugart	Marcy Mendenhall	Stephanie Hellmer
Denise Monnier	Marie Donovan	Tamara Notter
Emma Vibber	Marsha Shigeyo Hawley	Tammy King
Gail Nelson	Mercedes Mondragon	Teri Talan
Heidi Elliott	Miranda Lin	Thomas Pavkov
Joan Longtin	Natalie Vesga	Tina Wiegel
Joellyn Whitehead	Nichole Miller	Tom Pavkov
Johnna Darragh	Norma Moore	Wendy Connell
	Pam Womack	Wendy Shenk-Evans

Welcome

- Stephanie Bernoteit, Shauna Ejeh, and Johnna Darragh welcomed members to the zoom meeting.

Review of Minutes

- December 7, 2022
 - Pat Steinhaus moved to accept the minutes.
 - Marcus Brown seconded the motion.
 - Minutes approved.

Recommendation from Qualifications & Credentials (QC) Committee (Attached)

RECOMMENDATION: The Qualifications & Credentials (QC) Committee is recommending the addition of the Gateways ESL & Bilingual Credential onto the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) approved Gateways Career Lattice.

RATIONALE: This recommendation supports the addition of the ESL & Bilingual Credential on the IDHS approved Gateways to Opportunity career lattice. The career lattice shows the ECE Credential as the foundation for the Gateways FCC, ITC, IDC, TA, and ESL/Bilingual Credentials. The career lattice gives clarity of pathway(s) to add to gaining higher levels of Gateways Credentials.

- The recommendation was approved.

Recommendation from Financial Supports Committee

RECOMMENDATION: For INCCRRA administered, Gateways programs add the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) as acceptable documentation for program eligibility.

RATIONALE: As a committee we are working to support a multi-lingual workforce. One obstacle for foreign status and immigrants to accessing Gateways programs and services is accepting only a Social Security Number (SSN). By accepting the ITIN for tax purposes, it will allow greater access to programs and services. The Committee agrees that the ITIN should not be a barrier to program participation and would encourage that Gateways programs and services recognize the ITIN as needed, consistent with policy from other state programs. This aligns with the equity focus of the strategic plan of PDAC and the goals of the Financial Supports committee addressing Goal 2 and Goal 5 (build out financial incentives for Illinois early childhood workforce and create a suggested pay differential for multi-lingual workforce).

- The recommendation was approved.

Governor Pritzker's Budget Address

- Governor Pritzker budget proposal adds \$250 million to early childhood programs.
- The Governor proposed a four-year plan called Smart Start Illinois that will create an additional 20,000 seats in preschool programs.
- \$75 million increase was proposed regarding the Illinois State Board of Education's Early Childhood Block Grant.
- The budget included proposed \$130 million for Childcare Workforce Compensation Contracts aimed at increasing salaries of child care workers.

Reports

- Illinois Board of Higher Education – Stephanie Bernoteit
 - Budget proposed additional money including \$2.8 million dollars to enhance Minority Teachers of Illinois Scholarship Program administered through the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC).
 - Currently launching work to support mental health and well-being through higher education institutions working with the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) and the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Division of Mental Health to announce the establishment of a behavioral health workforce center to create opportunities for people who are working in mental health fields to continue to advance their learning and credentialing to ensure we have qualified mental health and behavioral health professionals available to communities in Illinois.
 - The Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act will assist public institutions to expand access to services for students as well as faculty/staff.
 - Have shared with the Governor's Office of Early Childhood Development (GOECD) the completion of the Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five (PDG-B5) Early Childhood Credential Completion Cohort grant. Across the five partner higher education institutions they were able to support and upskill more than 400 working professionals in the field. The 400 working professionals earned more than 638 different credentials (e.g. Gateways Credentials, Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) licensure, Early Childhood Special Education).
 - In partnership with IDHS, ICCB, ISBE, and ISAC eligibility for the ECACE Scholarship has been expanded.
- Illinois State Board of Education – Norma Moore
 - New PDG-B5 vendor meeting will be held on March 9th to review next steps and answer questions.
 - Have released the RFP for the Early Childhood Block Grant: Early Childhood PFA/PFAE Training and Technical Assistance grant.
 - At the previous PDAC meeting questions were asked regarding the content test. Per ISBE colleagues the recommendation to examine the test scores are in the process of being reviewed by the new State Superintendent. No action has been taken at this time.
- Illinois Head Start Association – Lauri Morrison Frichtl
 - 5.6% COLA raise for Head Start and Early Head Start.

- Quality Improvement dollars sees an increase of \$280 per Head Start child and \$420 per Early Head Start child.
- \$100 million for Head Start and Early Head Start expansion.
- Enrollment continues to be low, expect many programs to go into a chronic unenrollment plan.
 - Some programs are writing new plans to reduce enrollment.
- National Early Care and Education Workforce Center link: <https://www.acf.hhs.gov/media/press/2023/hhs-launches-first-national-early-care-and-education-workforce-center>
- Illinois Community College Board – Marcus Brown
 - Approved amendment for the Credit for Prior Learning Policy – approved and published in the Registry volume 47 issue 7 as part of Administrative Rule 1501.311. Gives space for providing credit for the CDA and amends the rule so an institution does not have to wait for the student to accumulate 15 credit hours to award credit for prior learning. Still enshrines that institutions must assure students meet residency requirements in their programs.
 - Amendments regarding changes in the Dual Credit Quality Act; proposed changes in administrative rules are still in process/under review.
 - The next Consortium meeting will be held in person on April 24th. Details on location will be shared soon.
 - The next Advisory Committee meeting will be held virtually on May 23rd. Report highlights include information on scholarship and changes coming for the scholarship, engagement with the workforce, supports for students and recruitment strategies.
 - The ECACE Scholarship has had almost 2,500 applicants with nearly 1,100 recipients of the ECACE Scholarship.
 - More than \$15 million dollars has been awarded in scholarship.
 - Demographics show for the current cycle of recipients accessing the ECACE scholarship:
 - Almost 50% white
 - 40% other
 - 12% unknown
 - Demographics regarding location indicate:
 - 12% Chicago
 - 34% collar counties
 - 53% downstate
- INCCRRA – Joni Scritchlow
 - Preschool Development Grant Birth through Five
 - All of the project reports are available on the Gateways website: [INCCRRA Reports and Papers - Gateways to Opportunity \(ilgateways.com\)](https://www.ilgateways.com)
 - Infant Toddler Credential Pilot
 - In 2022, eight institutions piloted the Gateways Infant Toddler Credential competencies with hundreds of students testing the modules during the pilot.
 - Feedback was collected from faculty and students, from that information slight modifications are currently being made with the release of the modules in early summer for faculty.
 - Illinois Director Credential Curriculum Project
 - In 2022, faculty at higher education institutions developed specific curriculum for each of the Gateways Illinois Director Credential competencies.
 - Unsure at this time of the funding for the curriculum to be piloted. Looking at alternative funding sources to test the curriculum. Will know by the end of April if funding is available. It will either be put forward for testing or released to faculty.
 - Diverse Workforce Supports for Equity
 - Spanish ECE Level 2

- Developed ECE competency curriculum modules in 2020, piloted in 2021 and released to faculty in 2022. Took the ECE Level 2 and translated it along with resources into Spanish. Three institutions tested the Spanish Level 2 curriculum modules with students. The Spanish ECE Level 2 modules will be released to faculty in early summer.
- Prior Learning Assessment Pilot
 - Almost 50% of higher education institutions were involved in the development phase of the Prior Learning Assessment in 2021. The scenarios were piloted in 2022 with eight higher education institutions. PLA work will continue this year with higher education institutions.

PDAC Strategic Plans

- PDAC Committees launch planning for the next PDAC Strategic Plan (timeframe of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2027) in fall 2023.

Announcements

- House Bill 2495 can be found at [HB2495 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY \(ilga.gov\)](https://ilga.gov/legislation/103/bills/2000-2499/HB02495_01.htm).

Adjourn





GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY® Illinois Professional Development System

Professional Development Advisory Council (PDAC)

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL

DATE: November 29, 2022

COMMITTEE MAKING RECOMMENDATION: Qualifications & Credentials (QC) Committee

RECOMMENDATION: The Qualifications & Credentials (QC) Committee is recommending the addition of the Gateways ESL & Bilingual Credential onto the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) approved Gateways Career Lattice.

RATIONALE: This recommendation supports the addition of the ESL & Bilingual Credential on the IDHS approved Gateways to Opportunity career lattice. The career lattice shows the ECE Credential as the foundation for the Gateways FCC, ITC, IDC, TA, and ESL/Bilingual Credentials. The career lattice gives clarity of pathway(s) to add to gaining higher levels of Gateways Credentials.

DISPOSITION:

PDAC Qualifications and Credentials Committee

Approved: Date: 11/29/22

Disapproved: Date:

DISPOSITION:

PDAC Steering Committee

Approved: Date: 2.1.23

Disapproved: Date:

DISPOSITION:

PDAC

Approved: Date:

Disapproved: Date: 3.1.23

DISPOSITION:

IDHS, Bureau of Child Care and Development

Approved: Date:

Disapproved: Date:





Professional Development Advisory Council (PDAC)

RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL

DATE: August 30, 2022

COMMITTEE MAKING RECOMMENDATION: Financial Supports Committee

RECOMMENDATION: For INCCRRA administered, Gateways programs add the Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) as acceptable documentation for program eligibility.

RATIONALE:

As a committee we are working to support a multi-lingual workforce. One obstacle for foreign status and immigrants to accessing Gateways programs and services is accepting only a Social Security Number (SSN). By accepting the ITIN for tax purposes, it will allow greater access to programs and services.

The Committee agrees that the ITIN should not be a barrier to program participation and would encourage that Gateways programs and services recognize the ITIN as needed, consistent with policy from other state programs. This aligns with the equity focus of the strategic plan of PDAC and the goals of the Financial Supports committee addressing Goal 2 and Goal 5 (build out financial incentives for Illinois early childhood workforce and create a suggested pay differential for multi-lingual workforce).

DISPOSITION:

PDAC Financial Supports Committee

Approved: X **Date:** 8/30/22

Disapproved: **Date:**

DISPOSITION:

PDAC Steering Committee

Approved: **Date:**

Disapproved: X (sent back to committee)

PDAC Financial Supports Committee

Approved: X **Date:** 1/24/23

Disapproved: **Date:**

DISPOSITION:

PDAC Steering Committee

Approved: X **Date:** 2.1.23

Disapproved: **Date:**

DISPOSITION:



PDAC

Approved: X

Date: 3/1/23

Disapproved:

Date:

DISPOSITION:

IDHS, Bureau of Child Care and Development

Approved:

Date:

Disapproved:

Date:

