

 **GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY**  
Illinois Professional Development System  
**Professional Development Advisory Council**  
**Steering Committee**  
**October 6, 2021**  
**Zoom Meeting Minutes**

Beth Knight	Julie Lindstrom	Rebecca Livengood
Carie Bires	Kate Connor	Rebecca Pruitt
Christi Chadwick	Lauri Morrison Frichtl	Shauna Ejeh
Elva DeLuna	Laurie Rhodes	Sinthu Ramalingam
Gail Nelson	Marcy Mendenhall	Stephanie Bernoteit
Johnna Darragh Ernst	Olga Torres	Teri Talan
Joni Scritchlow		

#### **PDAC Steering Welcome**

- Marsha Hawley, Johnna Darragh Ernst and Stephanie Bernoteit welcomed members to the meeting.

#### **Review and Approval of Minutes**

- August 4, 2021
  - Teri Talan moved to accept the minutes with corrections.
  - Marcy Mendenhall seconded the motion. Minutes approved.

#### **Financial Supports Committee Recommendation regarding Gateways Credential Fees (Attachment A)**

- **RECOMMENDATION:** The Committee recommends that the cost of processing all Gateways Credentials (new, renewal and level advance) become part of the core budget of INCCRRA, resulting in a zero fee to applicants.
  - **RATIONALE (including financial impact/monetary breakdown this recommendation would have if applicable):**

Implementation of this recommendation would eliminate passing the cost of a Gateways Credential on to a predominantly underpaid workforce. In the past, when fees were waived, Credentials experienced a significant increase in applications. In a five-month comparison, January – May 2020 when no waiver was in place compared to July – November 2020 when a fee waiver was in place, credentials experienced a 250% increase in applications received during the period that a waiver was in place.

This recommendation would advance equitable opportunities and impact our diverse workforce. This would also include the School-Age and Youth Development Credential, historically excluded from the fee waivers.

The cost implication to IDHS would be approximately \$250,000 per year in Gateways Credential supports, subject to annual review.

- The Recommendation was approved.
  - Cost estimate is included as requested by the Illinois Department of Human Services for any recommendation that has an associated expenditure.

### **PDAC Strategic Plan**

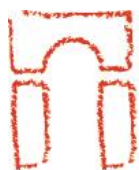
- The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) is reviewing the PDAC Strategic Plan.
- Staff is working with IDHS regarding their feedback, questions, and changes for the strategic plan. The final feedback from IDHS will be brought to Steering.
  - In the past PDAC has not had to make many changes to the plan, so we will work in partnership with IDHS regarding their feedback.

### **PDAC Annual Meeting**

- The PDAC Annual meeting will be held virtually on November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10:00 – Noon.
- The theme is Early Childhood Leading the Way. During the meeting we will celebrate the efforts of PDAC and highlight on-going work in the ECE field.

### **Adjourn**





# GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY®

## Illinois Professional Development System

Attachment A

### Professional Development Advisory Council (PDAC)

#### RECOMMENDATION FOR APPROVAL

DATE: 6/22/21

#### COMMITTEE MAKING RECOMMENDATION: Financial Supports Committee

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#### DISPOSITION:

##### PDAC Financial Supports Committee

Approved: X Date: 6/22/21

Disapproved: Date:

#### DISPOSITION:

##### PDAC Steering Committee

Approved: X Date: 10.6.21

Disapproved: Date:

#### DISPOSITION:

##### PDAC

Approved: Date:

Disapproved: Date: