

**PDAC Steering Committee Minutes  
February 1, 2023**

Beth Knight	Kate Connor	Olga Torres
Christi Chadwick	Lauri Morrison Frichtl	Rebecca Livengood
Gail Nelson	Laurie Rhodes	Rebecca Pruitt
Hollie Hoole	Marcus Brown	Shauna Ejeh
Johnna Darragh Ernst	Marsha Hawley	Sinthu Ramalingam
Joni Scritchlow	Mercedes Mondragon	Stephanie Bernoteit
Julie Lindstrom	Norma Moore	Teri Talan

**Welcome and Review of Minutes**

- November 2, 2022
  - Laurie Rhodes moved to accept the minutes.
  - Teri Talan seconded the motion.

**Recommendations (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. The lattice will be amended to add an additional line between TA4 and ESL/B4.
  
- **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 main difference between an SSN and ITIN is that SSN is issued to US citizens and authorized non-citizens, while ITIN is issued to the immigrant with resident status. The latter does not yet have an SSN, the ITIN is used to file and pay taxes.~~

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. The lined-out area will be removed from the rationale.

## Reports

- Illinois Board of Higher Education – Stephanie Bernoteit and Christi Chadwick
  - New Senate Committee on Early Childhood Education is chaired by Cristina Pacione Zayas with Ann Gillespie as the vice-chair.
  - The Illinois Board of Higher Education formally ratified a set of budget recommendations for higher education.
    - A 7.5% increase for the operations of public institutions.
    - A recommendation was made for an additional \$50 million to be allocated to the states need based financial aid program, Monetary Assistance Program (MAP). Goal is to continue to fund MAP with annual increases until full tuition support for any eligible Illinoisan who would like to go to college in the state is reached.
  - Continued support for the work for the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity (ECACE).
  - ECACE Scholarship eligibility update
    - Expanding eligibility for the ECACE Scholarship as of the fall.
    - Current eligibility for the scholarship is for those who are seeking associate degrees and credentials at two-year institutions, those at four-year institutions who have junior level status and are seeking bachelor's degrees, or bachelor's degree with a professional educator license.
  - The scholarship is being expanded in the fall for those who are freshmen and sophomore at four-year institutions seeking an early childhood bachelor's degree, for those who have a bachelor's degree but need a PEL, for early childhood endorsement, ESL Bilingual endorsement, early childhood special education, or those with a master's degree.
  - The application will not be available until later this spring.
  - Additional Information provided by Marcus Brown
    - For community colleges there will be expanded parameters that institutions will need to report soon for eligibility around scholarship.
    - The Associates Arts Degree is fairly generalized in the community college sector there will be some parameters on how community colleges will need to adjust in reporting to the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) on the structure and recommendations around the transferability pathway for those particular students. This guidance will be coming out shortly which will help support the expansion.
- Illinois Department of Human Services – Olga Torres and Hollie Hoole
  - Michelle Wood has joined as the Bureau Chief of Quality Initiatives.
  - Currently working with IBHE in building out data tracking the with the Navigators. Hope to have this up and running in quarter four to track their work.
- Illinois Head Start Association – Lauri Morrison Frichtl
  - FY23 budget was passed in December:
    - Received a 5% COLA.
    - Received \$262 million for quality improvement.
    - Received \$100 million for expansion for Early Head Start.
  - Head Start is still required to follow the vaccine mandate in Illinois.
  - Must have an evidence based COVID19 mitigation policy in place by mid-February.
  - Last week programs began to receive their under-enrollment letters. Programs that are under enrolled by 50% or less are now on a chronic under enrollment plan. The majority of programs that are on the list due to being unable to find teaching staff. The expectation is to be at 97% enrollment.
- Illinois Community College Board – Marcus Brown
  - Will continue to focus on educator pipeline between ICCB and IBHE.

- Recently presented at the Illinois Community College Presidents Council meeting regarding the Consortium.
- Illinois State Board of Education – Norma Moore
  - Currently, preparing for the release of the 2024 Request for Proposals for the Early Childhood Block Grant which includes: Preschool For All (PFA), Preschool for All – Expansion (PFA-E) and Prevention Initiative (PI).
  - Have released the RFP for the Early Childhood Block Grant: Early Childhood PFA/PFAE Training and Technical Assistance grant. Deadline is March 3, 2023.
  - Dr. Tony Sanders has been named the new State Superintendent of Education.
- INCCRRA – Joni Scritchlow
  - PDG B-5 final reports will be posted to the Gateways website before the end of the month.
  - The Infant Toddler Credential Pilot continues in 2023 with a few of the curriculum modules being reviewed and revised. The curriculum modules will be released later in the spring for faculty who wish to use in part or full for their coursework.
  - During The Illinois Director Credential Curriculum Project, faculty developed the curriculum for each of the competencies leading to the Illinois Director Credential. We do not have funding at this time to test the curriculum. We plan to release the curriculum, with the note that the curriculum was not vetted like the ECE and ITC curriculum.
  - Diverse Workforce Supports for Equity Project
    - All ECE Level 2 curriculum were translated into Spanish. Three higher education institutions piloted the Spanish ECE Level 2 with students.
    - Faculty reported the value of a “heavy human touch” that helped build interpersonal connections whether individual, in small coffee groups, zoom calls, or as part of their cohort group meetings provided support to learners when life became a challenge. Faculty noted the social emotional benefits of the project were powerful.
  - Prior Learning Assessment
    - Incumbent Workforce/Learner Comments that are part of the final PLA report include:
      - The PLA was an excellent opportunity to earn college credit.
      - I just bought right into it!
      - I greatly appreciated (college) credit... I have already told several individuals about this program.
      - (PLA) is user friendly and what the learners are looking for.
      - I love the technology and simulations as something different than just showing written work.
    - The PDAC Workforce Development and Pathways Committee will discuss a recommendation to support the statewide, standardized PLA to make this a priority among state agencies.
    - The American Institute for Research (AIR) is partnering with INCCRRA to inform a report they are preparing on prior learning.

## Announcements

- IDHS has signed off on the ESL Great Start recommendation.

## Adjourn





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.

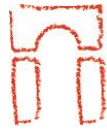
DISPOSITION:  
PDAC Qualifications and Credentials Committee  
Approved: X Date: 11/29/22  
Disapproved: Date:

DISPOSITION:  
PDAC Steering Committee  
Approved: X Date: 2.1.23  
Disapproved: Date:

DISPOSITION:  
PDAC  
Approved: Date:  
Disapproved: Date:

DISPOSITION:  
IDHS, Bureau of Child Care and Development  
Approved: Date:  
Disapproved: Date:





**GATEWAYS TO OPPORTUNITY®**

Illinois Professional Development System

**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 main difference between an SSN and ITIN is that SSN is issued to US citizens and authorized non-citizens, while ITIN is issued to the immigrant with resident status. The latter does not yet have an SSN, the ITIN is used to file and pay taxes.~~

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 - Revised**

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

**Disapproved:** **Date:**

**DISPOSITION:**

**PDAC Steering Committee**

**Approved:** X **Date:** 2.1.23

**Disapproved:** **Date:**

**DISPOSITION:**

**PDAC**

**Approved:**

**Date:**

**Disapproved:**

**Date:**

**DISPOSITION:**

**IDHS**

**Approved:**

**Date:**

**Disapproved:**

**Date:**