

ECAC QUARTERLY MEETING

MARCH 21, 2025



New York State Early Childhood Advisory Council Quarterly Meeting

March 20, 2025, 10:30am-3:30pm Location: The Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY, Meeting Rooms 2-3

Agenda Item	Торіс	Presenters	Time
Welcome & Announcements	 Introductions New appointed ECAC members: Kelly Escobar, Robin Hood Foundation Kelly Dodd, United Way NYS Strong Starts Court Initiative/ ECAC Liaison- Kelly Dodd, United Way NYAEYC Conference- April 2-4, 2025 Legal Challenges to Federal Actions- Elana Marton, Council on Children and Families 	Dona Anderson & Patty Persell	10:30am- 10:45am
Governor's Office	Executive Budget Update- Alyson Grant Tarek, Governor's Office	Alyson Grant Tarek	10:45am- 11:15am
State Agency Updates	 NYS Education Department, Office of Early Learning Office of Children and Family Services 	Erik Sweet Emily Meyer	11:15am- 11:45am
Advocacy Update	Early Childhood Advocacy Updates	Jenn O'Connor	11:45am- 12:00pm
Federal Actions	State perspectives on the potential impacts on early childhood policies and practice	All	12:00pm- 12:30pm
	Lunch 12:30pm- 1:30pm		
Quality Impact Project	Jessica Sullivan, US Policy Fellow, OCFS, Division of Childcare Services	Jessica Sullivan	1:30pm- 2:00pm
Committee Work Time	 Review recommendation cycle Development of recommendations Report outs 	ECAC Committees	2:00pm- 3:15pm
Next Steps	Next Steps Closing Remarks	Dona Anderson & Patty Persell	3:15pm- 3:30pm

INTRODUCTIONS



NEWLY APPOINTED ECAC MEMBERS

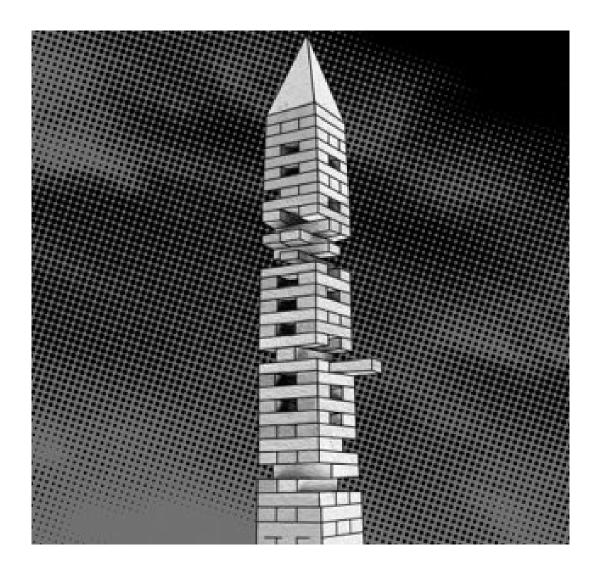
- Kelly Dodd, United Way NYS
- Kelly Escobar, Robin Hood Foundation

2025 NY ASSOCIATION FOR THE EDUCATION OF YOUNG CHILDREN CONFERENCE

April 2-4, 2025



FEDERAL ACTIONS SINCE JANUARY 20, 2025



- 89 executive orders
- ~130 lawsuits

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY

 January 20: <u>Executive order</u> directing directors of OMB and OPM and Attorney General to coordinate the termination of "DEI" and "DEIA" and "environmental justice" activities from executive branch agencies and for all federal agencies to terminate DEI programs, offices and positions, and "equity-related" grants and contracts.

 January 21: <u>Executive order</u> revoked an Equal Employment Opportunity EO in place since 1965; requiring federal grant recipients and contractors to certify that they do not operate DEI programs that violate anti-discrimination laws.

JOINT STATEMENT FROM NY AND 11 OTHER ATTORNEYS GENERAL

PRESIDENT TRUMP IS MISLEADING THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ON PURPOSE OF DEIA INITATIVES*

- "As state attorneys general representing tens of millions of American workers, we strongly
 oppose the President's attempts to weaponize decades-old policies, which have been
 supported by Democratic and Republican administrations alike, to combat historical inequities
 faced by underrepresented communities and the ongoing, insidious discrimination that still
 exists in our country."
- "As the chief law enforcement officers for our respective states, we are committed to enforcing federal and state civil rights laws to protect the rights of all our people against discriminatory practices. We condemn discrimination in any form, and we stand in strong opposition to the President's recent orders and the misleading narrative he has pushed to justify them."

*New York State Attorney General Press Release (January 31, 2025)

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DIVERSITY OFFICERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION ET AL V. TRUMP ET AL (D.MD.2025)

 Plaintiffs <u>moved</u> for a TRO and preliminary injunction against enforcement of the EOs claiming the following **constitutional violations**:

- Separation of powers
- 5th Amendment (due process vagueness)
- 1st Amendment (free speech)
- Spending clause.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DIVERSITY OFFICERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION ET AL V. TRUMP ET AL

Defendants filed response, arguing that Plaintiffs' claims fail on the merits and some of the Plaintiffs lack standing.		stating that "Plai	nted the nction in large part, intiffs' irreparable videspread chilling	Judge denied Def to stay the injunct appeal.		
	18 Feb.		24	Feb.	6 Mar.	
13 Feb. Plaintiffs filed su support of a prel		21	Feb.	3 N	lar.	
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NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF DIVERSITY OFFICERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION ET AL V. TRUMP ET AL

- Fourth Circuit <u>granted</u> government's petition for a stay of the preliminary injunction pending appeal, i.e., Trump allowed to reinstate two EOs targeting DEI. Two of the three judges ruling in this case offered warnings and pro-diversity statements:
- "...my vote to grant the stay comes with a caveat. What the Orders say on their face and how they are enforced are two different things. Agency enforcement actions that go beyond the Orders' narrow scope may well raise serious First Amendment and Due Process concerns, for the reasons cogently explained by the district court." (Judge Pamela Harris)
- "And despite the vitriol now being heaped on DEI, people of good faith who work to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion deserve praise, not opprobrium. For when this country embraces true diversity, it acknowledges and respect the social identity of its people. When it fosters true equity, it opens opportunities and ensures a level playing field for all. And when its policies are truly inclusive, it creates an environment and culture where everyone is respected and valued. What could be more American than that?" (Judge Albert Diaz)

LETTER TO HEAD START AGENCIES (MARCH 14, 2025)

"Now, it's ok if you're not feeling quite as hopeful as I am, but take some time to feel what you are feeling, and then get ready for the journey forward. No matter what happens, we have work to do and the children need us to be at our best."

- Executive director, National Head Start Association

EXECUTIVE BUDGET UPDATE



Alyson Grant Tarek, Assistant Secretary, Human Services, Governor's Office

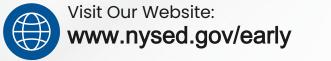
State Agency Updates

NYS Department of Education, Office of Early Learning

Office of Children and Family Services, Division of Child Care Services



NYSED Office of Early Learning Update 3/20/25: Executive Director, Erik Sweet







UPK Collaboration Council

- A joint committee, put together by NYSED and OCFS; tasked with making recommendations on how to improve the UPK collaboration requirement.
- ✓ Includes over 30 members, representing school districts and childcare/daycare settings.
- Has met three times and identified several challenges around funding, curriculum alignment, teacher certification/qualifications, and laws/regulations.
- ✓ Will put forth final recommendations by the end of summer 2025







Collaboration Council Meeting October 2024

VORK Office of Children STATE and Family Services

UPK Consolidation Study

Recommendations

- ✓ Create one law that merges all universal prekindergarten laws
- The Department will complete an analysis of per pupil rates for UPK
- ✓ Advocate for additional funding for expansion seats, with a priority given to districts that serve the highest amounts of students in poverty and English Language Learners
- The Department will complete an analysis of funding requirements for both UPK and Special Education PreK funding, to provide guidance in the use of blending and braiding of funds

Cultural Education and Early Learning

Cultural Connections

A framework and resource kit for P-3 learning

Explore the arts, science, and social studies of New York State through cultural education!

Young learners thrive by sharing time and cultural education experiences together. Experiential learning boosts brain power while cultivating a sense of understanding and belonging in the world. Use this simple framework and thoughtfully curated resource kit to support your P-3 learning environment.

Bring experiential programming into your classroom!

Connect with field trips, virtual field trips, traveling programs



NYSED Literacy Resources



New York State Education Department Prekindergarten - 3rd Grade Literacy Instructional Best Practices New York State EDUCATION DEPARTMENT Knowledge > Skill > Opportunity

New York State Education Department K-3 Literacy Curriculum Review Guide







NYS Library and P12 Early Learning Collaborative Webinar

Libraries Supporting Literacy Best Practices

The New York State Library and Office of Early Learning are pleased to announce a webinar event focused on supporting the State's latest Literacy Initiatives. Participants will explore the key components of how public libraries can support young readers and families to increase literacy opportunities. An overview of resources available from the New York State[®]Education Department will be provided.

Thursday, May 22, 2025







Scan to register

.Agency Name 20

2024-2025 Webinar Series

Early Learning 2024-2025 **BEST PRACTICES IN PREKINDERGARTEN** EBINAR SER Click or scan the OR code next to each webinar to register.





November 6, 2024 3:00-4:00pm Science Everywhere is an initiative designed specifically for PreK students that emphasizes Inquiry-Based Learning. Spearheaded by NYSED's Office of Early Learning and Office of Cultural Education, the initiative aims to cultivate a love of science and nature in young children through hands-on learning while fostering important critical thinking and problem-solving skills.



FOSTERING POSITIVE BEHAVIOR IN PREK February 5, 2025 3:00-4:00pm



Fostering Positive Behaviors in the Prekindergarten Classroom. Participants will delve deeper into the implementation of strategies used to address current challenging behaviors and further their understanding of how to build a positive learning environment.



SUPPORTING EMERGENT MULTILINGUAL LEARNERS IN PREK March 5, 2025 3:00-4:00pm



Participants will learn about the importance of cultivating a culturally and linguistically responsive learning environment for Emergent Multilingual Learners (EML), identify practices that nurture language development for EML students, and hear examples of practical applications for supporting EML students from New York State school districts.





INCLUSION IN PREK: WHY IT MATTERS AND BEST PRACTICE May 14, 2025 3:00-4:00pm

Learn why creating inclusive PreK classrooms benefits all children, explore best practices, and gain practical strategies to foster a welcoming and supportive learning environment for every child.



https://www.nysed.gov/early-learning/office-early-learning-webinar-series



Thursday May 8th, 2025 Albany, NY

Save the date for our annual Navigating PreK Day! District administrators and business officials can join us for a day of inspiring speakers, engaging workshops, and valuable networking opportunities.



Please Subscribe

OEL P 3 Newsletter



UPK Newsletter

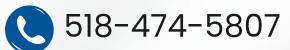


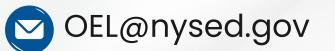


Contact Us



www.nysed.gov/early-learning









DIVISION OF CHILD CARE SERVICES ECAC MEETING UPDATE



2025 STATE OF THE STATE & EXECUTIVE BUDGET

2025 STATE OF THE STATE AND EXECUTIVE BUDGET

Governor Hochul's 2025 State of the State and Executive Budget included numerous initiatives to support and expand child care in NYS

Child Care Construction Grants

- \$100M in capital grants for child care centers, counties, and municipalities to help ensure child care deserts continue to be addressed.
- \$10M in funding to help family child care programs cover renovations and repairs.

Launching a Substitute Pool

- Create a substitute pool for child care providers to reduce barriers to keeping child care programs open every day.
- \$3M in Executive Budget for the administration of the substitute pool

NY Coalition for Child Care

- Partnership between business, unions, tax and revenue experts, and child care providers to identify a path toward funding universal child care.
- \$1M in Executive Budget to support Coalition's work.

2025 STATE OF THE STATE AND EXECUTIVE BUDGET

Expanding mental health care in after-school settings

- Provide youth mental health first aid training to all Statefunded after-school providers.
- Partner with SUNY to match social work graduate students with local Stateunded afterschool programs to complete their required fieldwork and support youth.

Launching the Parent Partnership Project (P3)

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- Launch a parent resource center webpage to provide information on child developmentand school readiness;
- Make state resources available in OBGYN and pediatrician offices across the state tchelp parents better understand range of supports available, includingchild care subsidies and home visiting services;
- Work with the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation to launch an outdoor literacy program in the summer of 2025.

CCAP UPDATES

2025 Published Policies

- 25-OCFS-ADM-02 Child Care Assistance Direct Deposit and Garnishments for Child Care Providers
- 25-OCFS-ADM-03 Continued Implementation of the Online Child Care Assistance Application (CCAA)
- 25-OCFS-ADM-04 New Reporting Requirement for the New York State Child Care Block Grant Program
- 25-OCFS-INF-02 Anticipated Changes to the Child Care Assistance Program Due to 2024 Federal Final Rule
- 25-OCFS-LCM-01 State Minimum Wage Increase and Its Effect Upon Child Care Assistance
- 24-OCFS-LCM-16-R3 New York State Child Care Block Grant Allocations October 1, 2024-September 30, 2025 (Revised February 28, 2025)

STAY CONNECTED

2025 STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS & NEWSLETTER

- Upcoming stakeholder meetings: March 25, 2025 and May 9, 2025
- Please submit your questions to <u>ocfs.sm.dccsinfo@ocfs.ny.gov</u>.
- Please put "Stakeholder" in the subject line.
- More information posted at: <u>https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/presentations/</u>

Child Care Newsletters & Dear Provider Letters

https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/news/newsletters.php https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/letters.php



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🐔 COGNOS 11 🛛 🔌 Office of Children a 🛁	Intranet Home OC 📘 LATSnet Home 🌓 SFS 🔹 New York Codes, Ru 🕒 Home CFSR Inform 🕒 Welcome to the Mu 🗲
Division of Child	Care Services
Search for Child Care	Letters to Providers
Paying for Child Care	
Child Care Availability Task Force	
Workforce Development	2024
Starting a Child Care Program	2024
✓ Information	Dear Provider Letters – September 2024
Resources for Families	September 3, 2024 – Brendan's Law
Info for Parents	Dear Provider:
Info for Providers	This letter is being sent to all day care centers to share information about Brendan's Law. In 2010, two-year- old Brendan McCarthy died after becoming entangled in the cord of a window blind while playing with his
Letters to Providers	brother. In response to this tragedy, Brendan's Law was enacted in New York State. Effective December 28,
> Health and Safety	2024, this law requires all new or replacement window coverings installed in day care centers to be cordless or have inaccessible operational and inner cords. All window coverings already in place in day care centers that include window and door blind cords, ropes, wires, and other strangulation hazards must be secured

https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/newsletter/2025Mar-DCCS-Newsletter.en.pdf https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/assets/newsletter/2025Mar-DCCS-Newsletter.es.pdf

CHILD CARE DATA WEBPAGE

This page provides information on child care data, including:

- Child Care Facts and Figures
- Child Care Provider Data
- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) Data
- Other Child Care Related Data Resources
- Key Terms

https://ocfs.ny.gov/programs/childcare/data/



The Division of Child Care Services (DCCS) has created this resource in an effort to provide timely and convenient access to a range of child care data sources, including OCFS data on licensed and registered child care and the Child Care Assistance (CCAP), as well as links to other relevant child care data. Data on this page will be refreshed as it becomes available, so please check back for the most up to date information.

Child Care Facts and Figures

STATE and Family Services

Child Care Facts & Figures 2024

Number and Capacity of Licensed and Registered Child Care Providers by Modality and Region*:

	Region	Center-Based		Home-Based		Total	
	Region	Day Care	School Age	Family	Group Family	Total	
Number	New York City	2,262	1,568	736	5,569	10,135	
of	Rest of State	2,068	1,252	1,666	2,957	7,943	
Providers	Total	4,330	2,820	2,402	8,526	18,078	
	New York City	143,276	234,214	5,622	84,851	467,963	
Maximum Capacity	Rest of State	184,096	100,296	13,267	46,538	344,197	
Capacity	Total	327,372	334,510	18,889	131,389	812,160	

The Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) (Federal Fiscal Year 2024)

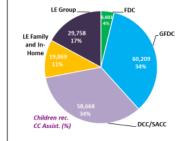
NYSCCBG funding available: \$1.8 Billion for FFY2024 (Includes rollover), of which \$0.9B is GF, \$0.3B is CCDF, and \$0.6B is TANF. Approximately 174,000 children in 104,000 families

- received child care assistance in FFY 2024 (annual).
- Approximately 120,000 children in 70,000 families received child care assistance <u>each month (on</u> <u>average)</u>.

There are approximately 11,600 legally exempt

income cases).

Approximately 60% of children served are from NYC.
 Approximately 19% of children with child care
 assistance wree in families receiving Temporary
 Assistance, while 81% were not in receipt of TA (low



Number of providers caring for one or more children with child care assistance in FFY2024.

	Licensed or Registered			Legally Exempt Enrolled			Total
	DCC/SACC	FDC	GFDC	LE Family	LE In-Home	LE Group	Total
New York City	1,151	446	4,663	716	1,975	130	9,081
Rest of State	3,230	1,663	3,119	4,856	3,269	78	16,215
Total	4,381	2,109	7,782	5,572	5,244	208	25,296

After School Programs: For SFY 2023-24, for the Advantage After-School Program, \$28M supported 127 contracts and for Empire State After-School Program, \$45.3M supported 64 contracts. In 2024, \$97.5M in Learning and Enrichment After-School Program Supports (LEAPS) grants awards were announced for 239 afterschool program sites, with about 36,000 children ages 4-12 expected to be served. The 2024-2025 Executive Budget included nearly \$100,2MM in after-school funding and also combined the Advantage and Empire State After-School Programs into a single program. LEAPS.

Pre-K 2023-24: NYS state-funded prekindergarten served over 119,000 4-year-olds and 5,800 3-year-olds.

<u>DCC</u> = <u>Day Care Center</u> – provides care to an enrolled group of 7 or more children at a facility other than a personal residence. Maximum capacity is driven by square footage allowance. This fact sheet presents data on permitted group child care programs in NYC, within the category DCC.

• FDC = Family Day Care Home – provides care to more than 2 non-relative children in a residence. Max. capacity: 8 children / caregiver.
• GFDC = Croup Family Day Care Home – provides care to more than 2 non-relative children in a residence. Maximum capacity: 16 children / caregivers.

 <u>SACC = School Age Child Care</u> – provides care to an enrolled group of 7 or more children in a non-residence facility outside normal school hours. Maximum capacity is drive by square footage allowance.

LE = Legally Exempt Enrolled - providers caring for children receiving child care assistance, who are not required to be licensed or registered, but who meet minimum health and safety standards required for enrollment.

*Note, beginning in 2024, provider data was taken from NY Open Data, which includes providers in certain enforcement statuses not counted in prior years. The difference is about 100 providers and 8,500 child care slots.

https://ocfs.ny.gov

Revised 1/28/2025



NEW YORK STATE and Family Services

Advocacy Updates

Jenn O'Connor, Ed Trust NY



FEDERAL ACTIONS



LUNCH





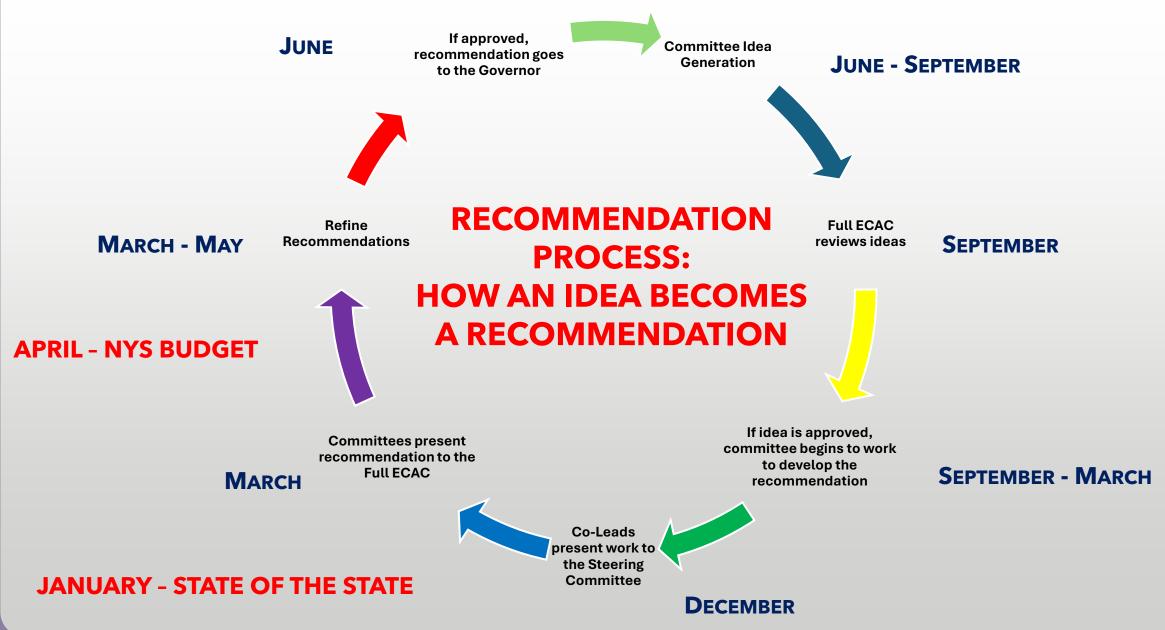
ECAC QUARTERLY MEETING

MARCH 21, 2025

QUALITY IMPACT Project

Jessica Sullivan, PhD. NYS Office of Children and Family Services, SRCD US Policy Fellow

SUMMER - RECS SHARED WITH CHAMBER



Report Outs

•What are the top 3 topics that your committee is formulating recommendations around?



Early Childhood Advisory Council

ECAC Next Steps

Next ECAC Meetings:

June 12th 10:30am- 3:30pm The Empire State Plaza 100 S Mall Arterial, Meeting Rooms 2-3 Albany, NY 12242

September 25th 10:30am- 3:30pm The Empire State Plaza 100 S Mall Arterial, Meeting Rooms 2-3 Albany, NY 12242

December 11th

10:30am-3:30pm

Virtual



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ECAC Meeting Survey





NEW YORK STATE Advisory Council