

## **Responsibilities of the ECICC based on Statutes relating to the ECICC**

### **Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council Act (*State Statute*) Chapter 43: Infants and Juveniles Sections 43-3401 to 43-3403**

With respect to the Early Intervention Act, the Quality Child Care Act, and Section 79-1101 to 79-1104, the Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council shall serve in an advisory capacity to state agencies responsible for early childhood care and education, including care for school-age children, in order to:

- 1) Promote the policies set forth in the Early Intervention Act, the Quality Child Care Act, and section 79-1101 to 79-1104.
- 2) Facilitate the collaboration with the federally administered Head Start program.
- 3) Make recommendations to the Department of Health and Human Services, the State Department of Education, and other state agencies responsible for the regulation and provision of early childhood care and education programs on the needs, priorities, and policies relating to such programs throughout the state;
- 4) Make recommendations to the lead agency or agencies which prepare and submit applications for federal funding;
- 5) Review new or proposed revisions to rules and regulations governing the registration or licensing of early childhood care and education programs;
- 6) Study and recommend additional resources for early childhood care and education programs; and
- 7) Report biennially to the Governor and Legislature on the Status of early intervention and early childhood care and education in the state. Such report shall include (a) the number of license applications received under section 71-1911, (b) the number of such licenses issued (c) the number of such license applications denied, (d) the number of complaints investigated regarding such licenses, (e) the number of such licenses revoked, (f) the number and dollar amount of civil penalties levied pursuant to section 71-1920, and (g) information which may assist the Legislature in determining the extent of cooperation provided to the Department of Health and Human Services by other state and local agencies pursuant to section 71-1914.

**Early Intervention Act –Infants with Disabilities** (*State Statute*)**Chapter 43: Infants and Juveniles Sections 43-2501 to 43-2516**

With respect to the Early Intervention Act, the Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council and the collaborating agencies shall make recommendations to the lead agency or agencies relating to:

- 1) The general administration, supervision, and monitoring of programs and activities receiving federal funds under the federal early intervention program to ensure compliance with federal law;
- 2) The identification and coordination of all available resources within the state from federal, state, local, and private sources;
- 3) The development of procedural safeguards including procedures for complaints and appeals, to ensure that services coordination is provided to eligible infants and toddlers with disabilities or possible disabilities and their families in a timely manner pending the resolution of any disputes among public agencies or service providers;
- 4) The entry into formal interagency agreements meaningful cooperation and coordination; and
- 5) The coordination of interagency rules and regulations pursuant to the Early Intervention Act.

## **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act [IDEA] (U.S. Law)**

### **2011 Part C Regulations: Subpart G--State Interagency Coordinating Council**

#### §303.605 Authorized activities by the Council.

The Council may carry out the following activities:

- (a) Advise and assist the lead agency and the SEA [State Education Agency] regarding the provision of appropriate services for children with disabilities from birth through age five.

#### §303.605 Authorized activities by the Council.

The Council may carry out the following activities:

- (b) Advise appropriate agencies in the State with respect to the integration of services for infants and toddlers with disabilities and at-risk infants and toddlers and their families, regardless of whether at-risk infants and toddlers are eligible for early intervention services in the State.

#### §303.604 Functions of the Council--required duties.

- (a) Advising and assisting the lead agency. The Council must advise and assist the lead agency in the performance of its responsibilities in section 635(a)(10) of the Act, including--
  - (1) Identification of sources of fiscal and other support for services for early intervention service programs under Part C of the Act;
  - (2) Assignment of financial responsibility to the appropriate agency;
  - (3) Promotion of methods (including use of intra-agency and interagency agreements) for intra-agency and interagency collaboration regarding child find under §§303.115 and 303.302, monitoring under §303.120 and §§303.700 through 303.708, financial responsibility and provision of early intervention services under §§303.202 and 303.511, and transition under §303.209; and

#### §303.604 Functions of the Council--required duties.

- (a) Advising and assisting the lead agency.
  - (4) Preparation of applications under this part and amendments to those applications.

#### §303.604 Functions of the Council--required duties.

- (b) Advising and assisting on transition. The Council must advise and assist the SEA and the lead agency regarding the transition of toddlers with disabilities to preschool and other appropriate services.

#### §303.604 Functions of the Council--required duties.

- (c) Annual report to the Governor and to the Secretary.
  - (1) The Council must--
    - (i) Prepare and submit an annual report to the Governor and to the Secretary on the status of early intervention service programs for infants and toddlers with disabilities and their families under Part C of the Act operated within the State; and
    - (ii) Submit the report to the Secretary by a date that the Secretary establishes.
  - (2) Each annual report must contain the information required by the Secretary for the year for which the report is made.

#### §303.605 Authorized activities by the Council.

The Council may carry out the following activities:

- (c) Coordinate and collaborate with the State Advisory Council on Early Childhood Education and Care for children, as described in section 642B(b)(1)(A)(i) of the Head Start Act, 42 U.S.C. 9837b(b)(1)(A)(i), if applicable, and other State interagency early learning initiatives, as appropriate.

**Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007** (*U.S. Law*)**Public Law 110–134—Dec. 12, 2007 121, Stat. 1411-1413****Section 642B: State Early Education and Care** (State Advisory Council)

(D)(i) The State Advisory Council shall, in addition to any responsibilities assigned to the Council by the Governor of the State—

- (I) conduct a periodic statewide needs assessment concerning the quality and availability of early childhood education and development programs and services for children from birth to school entry, including an assessment of the availability of high-quality pre-kindergarten services for low-income children in the State;
  - (II) identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among Federally- funded and State-funded child development, child care, and early childhood education programs and services, including collaboration and coordination among State agencies responsible for administering such programs;
  - (III) develop recommendations for increasing the overall participation of children in existing Federal, State, and local child care and early childhood education programs, including outreach to underrepresented and special populations;
  - (IV) develop recommendations regarding the establishment of a unified data collection system for public early childhood education and development programs and services throughout the State;
  - (V) develop recommendations regarding statewide professional development and career advancement plans for early childhood educators in the State;
  - (VI) assess the capacity and effectiveness of 2- and 4-year public and private institutions of higher education in the State toward supporting the development of early childhood educators, including the extent to which such institutions have in place articulation agreements, professional development and career advancement plans, and practice or internships for students to spend time in a Head Start or prekindergarten program; and
  - (VII) make recommendations for improvements in State early learning standards and undertake efforts to develop high quality comprehensive early learning standards, as appropriate.
- (ii) The State Advisory Council shall hold public hearings and provide an opportunity for public comment on the activities described in clause (i). The State Advisory Council shall submit a statewide strategic report addressing the activities described in clause (i) to the State Director of Head Start Collaboration and the Governor of the State.
- (iii) After submission of a statewide strategic report under clause (ii), the State Advisory Council shall meet periodically to review any implementation of the recommendations in such report and any changes in State and local needs.