

PreKindergarten Education Implementation Committee

WORKGROUP PROPOSAL

This proposal outlines the goals, topics, roles, participation and process that will guide the Prekindergarten Education Implementation Committee's work outside of full Committee meetings from February - June, 2024.

Goals

Given the scope of work that the Prekindergarten Education Implementation Committee is charged to complete before December 1, 2024, Workgroups provide a strategy to break up work into manageable pieces, distribute load across Committee members, and support in-depth explorations to happen simultaneously.

Workgroups will focus on the considerations outlined in H.217, Section 2(c), including:

1. the needs of both the State & local education agencies;
2. the minimum number of hours that shall constitute a full school day for both prek & kindergarten;
3. whether there are areas of the State where prek education can be more effectively & conveniently furnished in an adjacent state due to geographic considerations;
4. benchmarks & best practices to ensure high-quality prek education;
5. measures to ensure capacity is available to meet the demand for prek education;
6. special education services for children participating in prek in both public & private settings;
7. any necessary infrastructure changes to expand prek;
8. costs associated with expanding prek, including fiscally strategic options to sustain an expansion;
9. recommendations for the oversight of the prek system; and
10. any other issue the Committee deems relevant.

Workgroups will explore and document issues, resources and perspectives related to these considerations, and report these to the full Committee.

Roles

<i>Workgroup Members</i>	Prepare for, attend and provide input during Workgroup meetings; gather research, resources, and stakeholder feedback to explore workgroup topics; document and report issues and possibilities back to the full Committee
<i>Full Committee</i>	Integrate Workgroup reports into decisions and recommendations
<i>Facilitator</i>	Facilitate and support broad participation during meetings; guide Workgroup goals and focus; develop agendas, supporting materials and minutes for meetings; facilitate integration with full Committee

Topics

Although highly interconnected, the considerations above can be grouped into three overarching topics. Three Workgroups will operate simultaneously to explore each of these topics in depth:

Systems-level Considerations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Needs of both the State and local education agencies 3. Whether there are areas of the State where prek education can be more effectively & conveniently furnished in an adjacent state due to geographic considerations 9. Recommendations for the oversight of the prek system
Capacity & Funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. The min # of hours that shall constitute a full school day for both prek and K 5. Measures to ensure capacity is available to meet demand for prek 7. Any necessary infrastructure changes to expand prek 8. Costs associated with expanding prek, including fiscally strategic options to sustain expansion of prek
Program Quality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Benchmarks and best practices to ensure high quality prek education 6. Special educ. services for children participating in prek in public & private settings * Changes necessary to transition children who are three years of age from the 10-hour prek benefit to child care & early education¹

Process

All Committee members will participate in one of the three Workgroups. Workgroups will meet monthly for 90-minutes from February - June, 2024 to focus on the following:

<i>February</i>	<p>Launch with review of topic area and specific considerations</p> <p>Develop a work plan to guide the subsequent three months of exploration</p>
<i>March</i>	Explore issues and perspectives related to each consideration in the topic area
<i>April</i>	Gather relevant information, data, research, and feedback on each consideration
<i>May</i>	Document information to share with the Committee
<i>June</i>	Synthesize issues and perspectives to inform Committee's decision process

Workgroup attendance will be capped at ten Committee members. Committee members can attend meetings of Workgroups they are not assigned to if their presence does not count toward a full Committee quorum (11 Committee members). Once ten Committee members are in attendance at a Workgroup meeting, Committee members not assigned to the Workgroup will not be permitted to join the meeting.

In addition to meeting monthly, each Workgroup will report monthly at Committee meetings. From March through June, Committee meetings will focus on progress updates from each Workgroup, as well as integrating reports across Workgroups. Workgroup members will take turns reporting to the full Committee about the previous month's work, responses to questions or suggestions posed by committee, and any needs for feedback or information.

Workgroup meetings will be warned and conducted according to open meeting law. Agendas, committee information, resources and documents will be available on the Agency of Education [Prekindergarten Education Implementation Committee website](#).

¹ From H.217, Section 2(c) Powers and duties.