

Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children

As the state affiliate of the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC), Indiana AEYC is a statewide, nonprofit 501 (c) 3 organization with more than 2,000 members and 10 chapters. Indiana AEYC has a 58-year history and mission of promoting high-quality learning for each and every child, birth through age 8, by connecting practice, policy, and research. We advance a diverse, dynamic early childhood profession and support all who care for, educate, and work on behalf of young children. Our mission is carried out offering professional development for those in the early childhood profession, offering support and recognition for early childhood programs through national accreditation, and championing public policy pertinent to young children and families. Our vision is that each and every child thrives and learns in a society dedicated to ensuring they reach their full potential.

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Leading Through the Change and Planning for Our Future!

Please Join Us:

To Lead Through the Change for Children, Families and Educators

Support an early childhood system centered on equity, diversity and belonging to advance quality, accessibility and affordability built on a mixed delivery model by connecting practice, policy, and research.

Advance the early care and education profession and workforce by exemplifying excellence with investments specifically for educators' competence and compensation.

Support the increased social-emotional supports and access for young children, families and educators while supporting the health and safety for each and every child.

Support a reformed early childhood and out of school learning financing structure that supports each and every child.

Support a Kindergarten Readiness Instrument (KRI) that provides assessment information to the families of young children, educators, and systems to support their success in reaching their full potential.

Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children 2023 Public Policy Agenda

- 1. Support an early childhood system centered on equity, diversity and belonging to advance quality, accessibility and affordability built on a mixed delivery model by connecting practice, policy, and research.**
 - Support a system that identifies clear goals and quantifiable results for children birth through age eight. These goals will identify skills and knowledge that children should demonstrate across the various domains of development, and will take into consideration the child, family, and community conditions that promote such development.
 - Support state grants and contracts to increase accessibility and affordability for historically underserved populations (poor, rural, people of color, infant/toddlers, immigrant families, non-traditional working hours) to early childhood and child care programs.
 - Support the expansion and increase of On My Way Pre-K eligibility removing the local county match.
 - Support increased financial incentives for early childhood programs reaching the highest-level of Paths to QUALITY™.
- 2. Advance the early care and education profession and workforce by exemplifying excellence with investments specifically for educators' competence and compensation.**
 - Incentivize the recruitment and retention of early childhood educators', especially educators of color and multilingual.
 - Support education salary incentives for educators working directly with children to attract and maintain the "best and brightest with the youngest" through the implementation of a WAGES® INDIANA project.
 - Support an early childhood workforce career pipeline and pathway linked to certificates, credentials, and degrees to recruit, advance and retain early childhood educators.
- 3. Support the increased social-emotional supports for young children, families and educators while maintaining the basic health and safety for each and every child.**
 - Support mentally healthy children who reach developmental and emotional milestones and learn healthy social skills and how to cope when there are problems.
 - Support mentally healthy educators to have a positive quality of life and can function well at home, at work, and in their communities.
 - Eliminate the use of suspension and expulsion in early childhood education while providing social-emotional supports for families and programs.
- 4. Support a reformed early childhood and out of school learning financing structure that supports each and every child.**
 - Support increased child care market rates using the true cost of care.
 - Support an equitable school funding formula for early childhood programs (Preschool Special Education).
 - Increase the use of contracts based on the cost of quality and enrollment to provide more financial stability for child care programs. Incentivizing infant and toddler opportunities for families of young children.
 - Support the review and revision of all child care regulations to increase the quality, accountability, and relevance of the regulations.
- 5. Support a Kindergarten Readiness Instrument (KRI) that provides assessment information to the families of young children, educators, and systems to support their success in reaching their full potential**
 - Adopt Indiana State Board of Education KRI that provides student level results to educators, families, and policymakers.
 - Adopt a KRI that is linked to other Indiana adopted assessments (I-SPROUT, I-LEARN, and I-READ).