

The Early Childhood Comprehensive System (ECCS) program is a system-building initiative that brings together state maternal and child health programs with partners in education, human services, juvenile justice, child care and many more public and private agencies.

The main goal in NC is to expand partnerships among five critical components of a comprehensive system to ensure that children that are healthy and ready to learn at school entry.

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### Goals Included the North Carolina's Early Childhood Comprehensive System Plan

- Goal 1: Share accountability for an effective, comprehensive, and integrated early childhood system in NC in a multi-agency, state-level partnership.
- Goal 2: Evaluate success at all levels of the early childhood system using the set of shared indicators for school readiness developed by the Shared Indicators for School Readiness Project.
- Goal 3: Develop a shared early childhood data system.
- Goal 4: Ensure that providers in the early childhood system have core competencies in early childhood (based in developmental science) and the practical strategies and community relationships necessary to provide effective services to children and families.
- Goal 5: Build a philanthropic/government partnership for early childhood health and development.
- Goal 6: Build broad-based support for investing in efforts to produce positive child outcomes.
- Goal 7: Improve our systems of care by using evidence-based practices to positively affect child outcomes for all critical components of a comprehensive early childhood system.

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### Goal 2: Evaluate success at all levels of the early childhood system using a set of shared indicators for school readiness

- Partnership between NC ECCS grant program and NC SPARK (Support Partnerships to Assure Ready Kids)
- Work Group of varied stakeholders reviewed relevant material, debated about potential indicators and agreed on an initial set for review by a larger group of stakeholders
- Cross agency data group inserting baseline data for each indicator




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## Framework to Guide Process

- Ready Children
- Ready Families
- Ready Schools
- Ready Communities
- Ready States

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## Refining Set of Potential Indicators

- Is there an existing data source or one under development?
- Is there strong evidence that the indicator is linked to school readiness?
- Is there general agreement among state and local partners to keep the indicator?

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## Ready Children

- % 2 to 4 year olds with normal BMI
- % of children entering kindergarten with:
  - Normal BMI
  - Adequate or corrected vision
  - Adequate or corrected hearing
  - Adequate dental care
  - Appropriate fine and gross motor skills

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## Ready Children, cont.

- % of children entering kindergarten with developmentally appropriate skills and behaviors in the:
  - \_ Social-emotional domain
  - Cognition and general knowledge domain
  - Language and communication domain
  - Approaches toward learning domain

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## Ready Families

- % of children entering kindergarten with a regular source of primary care
- % of children (0-5) with a medical home
- % of children entering kindergarten with up-to-date immunizations
- % of children with required immunizations by age 2
- % of mothers who receive adequate prenatal care
- % of mothers with at least a high school education

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## Ready Families Cont. Maltreatment Cluster

- Rate of substantiated abuse and neglect
- Rate of families with a finding of "services needed"
- % of parents reporting that they have insulted a child
- % of parents reporting that they have left a child alone
- % of parents reporting that a child did not receive all medical care needed
- % of parents reporting that a child skipped a meal because there wasn't enough money for food

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## Ready Families, cont.

- % of children 0 – 5 who are read to every day
- % of mothers who experienced abuse before, during or after pregnancy
- % of mothers who used alcohol during pregnancy
- % of mothers who have someone they can talk with about problems
- % of mothers experiencing depression

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## Ready Communities, Health

- % if children born at a healthy birth weight
- % of children less than 6 who were screened and had elevated blood lead levels
- % of children with public or private health insurance
- % of children receiving well child care

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## Ready Communities, Early Care and Education

- Of the regulated early care and education programs, % at 3, 4 and 5 star level
- Of the children 0-5, enrolled in regulated early care and education programs, % in 3, 4 and 5 star programs
- Of the children 0-5 receiving care subsidy, % in 3, 4 and 5 star programs
- % of children enrolled in special education not previously enrolled in Early Intervention and/or pre-school special education services
- Of children under 6 eligible for subsidy, number still waiting
- Turnover rate among teachers in regulated public school and early care and education programs
- % of at-risk four year olds enrolled in high quality pre-k programs the year before they entered kindergarten

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### Ready Communities, Environmental Conditions

- % of children eligible for free or reduced lunch

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### Ready Schools

- Under Construction
- Ready Schools Task Force
- Funded by Kellogg
- Began work March 2006
- Scheduled to through Spring 2007
- Goals include selecting shared and measurable indicators for ready schools

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