

Child Care Planning Committee Ad hoc Fiscal Year 2024-2025

The Child Care Planning Committee (Planning Committee) Ad hoc are limited to members and alternates and meet virtually as needed throughout the fiscal year. The Ad hoc are voted in by the Planning Committee during the first meeting of the year and out during the last meeting of the year. The information below summarizes the need and rationale to establish the Ad hoc, the proposed goals, and possible activities.

Governance Ad hoc

Purpose: To oversee the Planning Committee governance and reporting processes and review proposed changes to the Planning Committee Member Policies and Procedures Manual.

Proposed goals for 2024-25:

- Inform the membership application process, develop the fiscal year 2025-2026 membership slate, and review and present LPC state reports to the Planning Committee for approval.

Activities may include:

- The review of the LPC Annual Summary and Self-Evaluation Findings Report Survey and presentation of the report to the Planning Committee for approval.
- Informing the membership application process and identifying an outreach plan to reach prospective applicants.
- The development of the membership slate for the fiscal year 2025-26 and presentation of slate to the Planning Committee for approval.

Family Access Ad hoc

Purpose: To assess families' early care and education (ECE) needs and preferences, barriers to access, and utilization rates of early care and education services.

Proposed goals for 2024-25:

- Guide the development of a report on strategies to increase families' awareness of ECE options, to be shared with stakeholders by June 2025. This report will support the planning of a centralized ECE platform, focusing on enhancing user experience, integrating stakeholder feedback, and identifying effective outreach methods.

Activities may include:

- Partnering with a consultant to review a study of existing centralized ECE referral and enrollment platforms focusing on user experience and accessibility for parents, ECE providers, and administrators.
 - Partner with a consultant to review reports and identify effective marketing strategies to reach families in Los Angeles County with 3- and 4-year-old children.
 - Develop an advisory process to ensure parents, ECE providers, and trusted messengers are part of developing a centralized referral and enrollment system.
- Create a distribution plan for the ECE Needs Assessment Brief and ensure it is disseminated to the public by February 2025.

Activities may include:

- Developing a toolkit to share information, e.g., infographics, action cards, social media, listserv, etc.

- Identify and coordinate distribution strategies to share the brief with child welfare representatives and family engagement networks to foster cross-sector connections and collaboration.

UPK Workforce Ad hoc

Purpose: To support planning for the early care and education workforce serving preschool children, ensuring alignment with Universal PreKindergarten (UPK).

Proposed goal for 2024-25:

- Draft landscape analysis by June 2025 that maps existing professional development and workforce supports for early educators, specifically focusing on those working with 3- and 4-year-old children.

Activities may include:

- Partnering with Quality Start Los Angeles and a consultant to map existing professional development and workforce supports.
- Identify gaps in services and critical access points within the ECE professional development system, including workforce support offered through Local Education Agencies.
- Develop strategies for prospective UPK programs to meet UPK quality standards, including community-based center programs, Family Child Care Homes (FCCH), and Family Child Care Homes Education Networks (FCCHEN) to expand community-based UPK services.

Activities may include:

- Explore existing UPK service delivery models that successfully integrate community-based center programs, FCCHs, and FCCHENs.
- Identify professional development and workforce support needed for community-based center programs and FCCHs to meet UPK quality standards.
- Explore the administration of FCCHENs in Los Angeles County and the potential for expansion of FCCHENs through partnerships with California State Preschool Programs.

Special Needs and Inclusion Ad hoc

Purpose: To promote the inclusion of children at risk for disabilities or with special needs in early care and education environments that are the least restrictive.

Proposed goal for 2024-25:

- Advise on the development of a landscape analysis of special needs and inclusion services and supports by June 2025.

Activities may include:

- Collaborate with a consultant and existing programs such as Help Me Grow Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Office of Education Inclusive Early Education Expansion Program, and Regional Centers to obtain information about available services and supports.
- Identify gaps in services.

For more information on the ad hoc groups, please contact Zenaida Meza at zmeza@ph.lacounty.gov.