

Nevada Early Childhood System

Summary of Potential Policy Priorities

**DRAFT**

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<b>Early Education and Care</b> <i>Quality preschools, child care, and early education and intervention programs to support cognitive and social development. This includes programs such as Head Start and Early Head Start, Child Care Subsidy, and Nevada Ready! PreK, among others.</i>		
<b>Domains</b>	<b>Policy/Strategy Opportunity</b>	<b>Alignment</b>
Parent Engagement		
Access to Quality Early Learning	Adopt adult/child ratios and group sizes that align with Early Head Start standards	ZTT
	State investment to expand access to Child Care & Development Program (subsidy), utilizing a Cost of Quality Care reimbursement model	PN3; P5 Fiscal Strategies Report; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
	State investment to expand access to Head Start and Early Head Start	ZTT; PN3; NIEER; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
	State investment to expand access to Nevada Ready! PreK	WestEd Report; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
	Presumptive eligibility for the Child Care & Development Program (subsidy) – <i>pending clarification of new rule from OCC released on March 1, 2024</i>	CLASP; OCC
Early Learning Facilities	State investment to establish a Child Care Facilities Fund in collaboration with a CDFI to support sustainability of fund through capital stacking	Access Capital Report; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
	Enact policies to restrict ability of HOAs to prevent the operation of home-based child care businesses, with some exceptions (such as age-restricted communities)	CCPAC
	Enact policies to restrict local governments from enacting zoning restrictions or requiring conditional use permit practices that are over-restrictive, expensive, or time-consuming for establishment of child care businesses (all types)	CCPAC
Early Intervention Services	Include “at-risk” and “very low birth weight” children in Part C/Early Intervention eligibility definition	ZTT; PN3
Workforce	Establish an Infant/Toddler Professional Credential	ZTT
	Revise NRS language regarding background checks for child care providers that restricts who can initiate the background check process	CCPAC

**Health, Mental Health, and Nutrition**

*Access to health and mental health screenings, regular medical check-ups, immunizations, and related health services to ensure both pregnant persons and children are healthy and growing well. This also includes programs to ensure pregnant persons and young children have access to proper nutrition. This includes program such as Medicaid and Nevada Check Up, WIC, NV Immunization Program, Nevada Early Intervention Services and more.*

<b>Domains</b>	<b>Policy/Strategy Opportunity</b>	<b>Alignment</b>
Health Care Coverage	Implement CHIP Maternal Coverage for Unborn Child option	ZTT
Maternal Health	State investment to establish, support, and expand access to Group Prenatal Care programs, with enhanced Medicaid reimbursement rate	PN3; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
Children's Health	Expand Medicaid coverage for Infant and Early Childhood Mental Health services in early childhood education settings	ZTT; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
Nutrition	Establish policies to streamline regulations and accessibility of the Child & Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) for child care providers	CCPAC; NV EC Obesity Prevention
Workforce		

**Family Supports**

*Programs to assist parents and caregivers in providing a nurturing and supportive environment for their children. This includes parenting education programs, home-visiting programs, family resource centers, child abuse prevention programs and others.*

<b>Domains</b>	<b>Policy/Strategy Opportunity</b>	<b>Alignment</b>
Parenting Education & Support	State investment to establish a statewide, evidence-based, Comprehensive Screening & Connection Program, including opportunities for Medicaid reimbursement for some services	PN3; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
Home-Visiting Services	State investment to expand access to evidence-based Home-Visiting Programs, including opportunities for Medicaid reimbursement for some services	PN3; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
Child Welfare & Safety		

**Economic Well-Being**

*Programs to provide financial support to families, as well as programs that focus on long-term economic stability. This includes programs such as credit counseling, job placement and training services, SNAP, TANF, and housing and utility assistance, among other programs.*

<b>Domains</b>	<b>Policy/Strategy Opportunity</b>	<b>Alignment</b>
Basic Needs Supports	Implement a TANF Work Exemption	ZTT
	Reduce administrative burden for SNAP with a 12-month certification period and simplified income reporting	PN3
Economic Stability	Establish a statewide Paid Family Leave Program of at least 6 weeks	ZTT PN3

Employment & Training		
<b>Early Childhood Systems - Governance &amp; Infrastructure</b>		
Insert description		
<b>Domains</b>	<b>Policy/Strategy Opportunity</b>	<b>Alignment</b>
Governance	Establish a Governor's Office or Department for Early Childhood Systems	ECAC; HRSA ECCS; Guinn Center Report; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
	Sustain funding for administrative support for the Nevada Early Childhood Advisory Council	ECAC; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
Data & Technology	State investment to establish a plan for development and implementation of an Early Childhood Integrated Data System	ECAC; Fiscal Gap Analysis Report
	Establish a statewide Coordinated Intake & Referral System (CIRS), including technology for a close-looped referrals and data sharing	HRSA ECCS; ECAC