

Supporting Family Engagement Implementation in Early Childhood and School-Age Child Care Settings



NATIONAL CENTER ON

Parent, Family and Community Engagement

For State Administrators and Training and Technical Assistance Staff

Explore a set of resources designed to help build knowledge and strengthen practices for implementing family engagement. They may be used to support professional development for early childhood (EC) and school-age care and education professionals.

These resources are in line with the 2016 Child Care and Development Fund Final Rule and the *Parent, Family and Community Engagement (PFCE) Framework for Early Childhood Systems*.

Explore Family Engagement Resources

Find resources about implementing family engagement available for download on the Child Care Technical Assistance website.

- **Strategies for Family Engagement: Attitudes and Practices** build partnerships to address the strengths and needs of children, improve quality of care, and support family well-being.
- **Family Engagement and Cultural Perspectives: Applying Strengths-based Attitudes** emphasizes the importance of understanding the cultural beliefs, values, and priorities of families to work effectively with families.
- **Parent Involvement and Family Engagement** introduces the concepts of family engagement and parent involvement and offers examples.
- **Relationship-Based Competencies to Support Family Engagement** describe the knowledge, skills and practices that all early childhood professionals can use to support family engagement.
- **Family Outcomes Series** describes strategies that programs and providers can use to make progress toward four outcomes for families and children:
 - Family Well-being: Strategies to Support Family Safety, Health, and Financial Stability
 - Encouraging Strong Parent-Child Relationships
 - Early Childhood Transitions: Supporting Children and Families
 - Family Engagement and School Readiness: Building on Family Strengths to Promote Success

Family Engagement

Family engagement is an interactive process through which early childhood and school-age education professionals, providers, family members, and their children build positive and goal-oriented relationships. Successful family engagement efforts contribute to an effective workforce, higher job satisfaction for providers, and better results for children and families.



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Using These Family Engagement Resources

State, Territory, and Tribal Administrators and other individuals can use these family engagement resources to:

Prioritize a Vision of Family Engagement

- Inform goals for State Plans to meet CCDF Final Rule requirements for family engagement efforts.
- Generate a common language and understanding of family engagement terms and approaches across the professional development system in states in order to ensure that offerings about family engagement are aligned, effective, and consistently grounded in exemplary practices.
- Share these family engagement resources at State advisory council meetings.
- Inform content for web-based resources such as Early Learning Development Guidelines, School Standards, or EC Professional Competencies.
- Provide professional development activities, materials and resources that promote family engagement.

Increase Knowledge Across the Early Childhood Field

- Highlight these family engagement resources through newsletters and websites and recommend for use in programs. Programs may use these resources in many ways, such as in staff meetings, professional development, focus groups with families, and review of program offerings.
- Pair with *Consumer Engagement: An Orientation for Early Childhood and School-age Care & Education Professionals*. Provide to Child Care Resource and Referral (CCR&R) agencies, T/TA regional leads, State agencies responsible for consumer education, and other local implementing partners. Agencies and organizations can share with EC professionals (e.g. ECE, EI, and ECSE) through T/TA and community engagement efforts.

Training and Technical Assistance Staff can use these family engagement resources to:

Support Professional Learning for Providers to

- Broaden providers' understanding of family engagement and how they might enhance their efforts over time.
- Strengthen their understanding of how family engagement contributes to better outcomes for children and families.

Encourage Continuous Learning and Quality Improvement

- Build knowledge and connections with colleagues by exploring these family engagement resources in a learning community or sharing on social media.
- Inform conversations with EC professionals, such as family child care home providers, classroom teachers, administrators, and leadership.

For more information about this resource, please contact us:
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