

# **DEL Update to the Early Learning Advisory Council**

## **State Advisory Council application**

**February 1, 2010**

[www.del.wa.gov](http://www.del.wa.gov)

Kids' potential,  
our purpose



# State Advisory Council (SAC)- ARRA funding

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- Federal ARRA grant for states to implement an Early Childhood Advisory Council
- Governor to designate ELAC as the Washington “SAC”
- Council purpose: to develop high quality early childhood system and to ensure statewide collaboration and coordination
- Washington is eligible for \$1.5 million
- Funds to be used over three-year period
- Must contribute a 70% state match (approx. \$3.5 million)
- Requires some new membership on ELAC

# State Advisory Council (SAC)

## Some Key Responsibilities

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- Conduct a periodic statewide needs assessment (including assessment of availability of Pre-K services for low-income children)
- Identify opportunities for collaboration and coordination
- Develop recommendations for increasing participation of children in existing programs (Federal, State, child care, etc.)
- Develop recommendations regarding statewide professional development
- Make recommendations regarding improvements to our ELD Benchmarks.

# State Advisory Council Activities to-date in WA

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- DEL working with consultant team to develop application
- Convened State Advisory Council (SAC) Task Force to provide expertise and input
- Convening subcommittee of SAC Task Force to develop three-year plan for activities
- Building an application that aligns and supports the Early Learning Plan
- Begin to work with National Governors Association (NGA) on Technical Assistance efforts
- Plan to submit: February 2010

# State Advisory Council

## Key Focus Areas for WA

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- **Governance**
  - Statewide
  - Local/Regional
  - Coordination/Collaboration
  - Early Learning Plan integration
  - Build on existing ELAC
- **Infants and Toddlers**
- **Professional Development**
- **Systems Initiatives** (policy, finance, indicators)
- **Early Learning and Development Benchmarks**