

Delaware Early Learning Challenge Implementation Plan

Accelerating and Advancing Our Children's Early Learning

GOAL 1:

Expand Comprehensive Screening & Follow Up for Young Children

Strategy 1:

Engage health care providers to conduct more screenings
Project 1

Success Measure: Number of children screened increases from 22,755 to 25,000

Strategy 2:

Link more families to Follow-up services
Project 1

Success Measure: Number of children with high needs who receive follow-up services increases from 4,900 to 5,400

Strategy 3:

Strengthen young child mental health services
Project 2

Success Measure: Double the capacity of Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation services

GOAL 2:

Expand Number of Stars Programs and High Needs Children in Stars

Strategy 1:

Provide financial incentives for Stars programs serving high needs children
Project 3

Success Measure: 100% of centers (about 450) are in Stars

Strategy 2:

Support programs moving through Stars
Projects 4,5,6,7,8

Success Measure: Stars programs increase from 130 to 940 (7X); Stars Level 3-5 programs increase from 36 to 580 (16X)

Strategy 3:

Provide financial incentives for education and retention of Stars educators
Project 9

Success Measure: 24% (1,930) of early educators advance on the new Career Lattice; Educators who obtain new specialized credential go from 0 to 790

GOAL 3:

Build Connections Between Early Learning and K-12 Schools

Strategy 1:

Implement Delaware Early Learner Survey
Project 10

Success Measure: All kindergarten teachers use the survey with all children

Strategy 2:

Create Early Learning Teams in high-needs communities to foster early childhood/K-12 links
Project 11

Success Measure: Local strategies are developed and implemented

Strategy 3:

Link high school and college professional development for early learning educators
Project 12

Success Measure: Aligned curriculum supports career pathways for early educators

GOAL 4:

Sustain a Thriving Statewide Early Learning System

Strategy 1:

Use data to inform quality improvement and sustainability
Projects 13,14,15

Success Measure: New Stars measurement tool; Evaluation of Stars; Improve data systems for tracking enrollment

Strategy 2:

Engage community leaders, including parents, as informed advocates for early learning
Project 16

Success Measure: Percentage of high needs children in Star level 3-5 programs increases from 5% to 58% (12X)

Strategy 3:

Provide leadership for system development and sustainability
Project 17

Success Measure: Office of Early Learning established; strong stakeholder engagement; progress toward a sustainable early learning system