

Charges of the Early Learning Council

The Early Learning Council (ELC) makes recommendations to the Governor, Children's Cabinet and legislature, including proposed legislation on how to effectively create a high-quality early childhood system in Minnesota in order to improve the educational outcomes of children. The council will advise on policy and resource development priorities and will suggest options. The council is also responsible for fulfilling the duties required by federal and state statutes and was created by Governor's Executive Order 11-05.

[Read the Governor's Executive Order.](#)

[View the Improving Head Start for School Readiness Act of 2007.](#)

[View Minnesota Statutes § 124D.141.](#)

The following is a summary of Council charges:

1. Conduct a periodic statewide needs assessment.
2. Identify opportunities for, and barriers to, collaboration and coordination among federally funded and state funded programs.
3. Develop recommendations for increasing the overall participation of children in programs.
4. Develop recommendations regarding the establishment of a unified data collection system.
5. Develop recommendations regarding statewide professional development and career advancement.
6. Assess the capacity and effectiveness of 2- and 4-year public and private institutions of higher education in the state toward supporting the development of early childhood educators.
7. Make recommendations for improvements in state early learning standards.
8. Make recommendations on the most efficient and effective way to leverage state and federal funding streams for early childhood and child care programs.
9. Review program evaluations regarding high-quality early childhood programs.
10. Make recommendations to the governor and legislature, including proposed legislation on how to most effectively create a high-quality early childhood system.
11. Create an inventory of early childhood services ([HF 1728](#), an additional duty added by the Minnesota State Legislature in May, 2009).
12. Make recommendations on how to screen early and comprehensively assess children for school readiness in order to provide increased early interventions and increase the number of children ready for kindergarten (private funding needs to be secured before beginning work.)