



Year Five Management Plan Summary | October 1, 2016- September 30, 2017

CEELO employs four strategies to provide technical assistance to state education agencies (SEAs). These are outlined below, along with specific tasks to support each strategy.

RESPONSIVE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA)

CEELO responds to information requests and technical assistance requests from SEAs, in partnership with Regional Comprehensive Centers and other technical assistance centers. Each state is assigned a [CEELO Liaison](#).

- **Collaborate with SEA early childhood staff and leaders through the National Association of Early Childhood Specialists in State Departments of Education (NAECS-SDE).** CEELO team members meet with and support the [NAECS-SDE Executive, Policy, and National Roundtable Program Committee](#).
- **Collaborate with Regional and Content Comprehensive Centers.** CEELO hosts quarterly webinars with the [Regional and Content Comprehensive Centers](#) typically focused to encourage deeper capacity-building and sharing.
- **Leverage Education Department-funded TA.** CEELO Project Directors are members of the [RTT-ELC TA](#) and Preschool Development and Expansion Grant (PDEG) Consortium, meeting with them monthly.
- **Research-Based Response to Information Requests.** CEELO responds to information requests from SEAs and other state offices of early learning, and their partners. Research-based responses are developed, aligned to specific state goals, and some are disseminated as [FastFacts](#) and other publications.

STRATEGIC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Strategic TA aims to build the capacity of SEAS to develop, implement, scale up, and sustain initiatives that can achieve measurable improvements of children's early learning outcomes.

- **National Roundtable.** The 2017 [National Early Childhood Roundtable](#) will focus on *Ensuring High Quality Education for Every Child, Every Year*, addressing state-identified issues, such as high-performing state offices of early learning, SEA and LEA leadership, sustaining early gains in K – 3, and ESSA-enabled early learning opportunities.
- **New Jersey Early Childhood Leadership Academy.** Supporting 23 districts through meetings, systematic data collection and analysis, peer coaching and cross-district support, the project aims to enhance the capacity of district and school staff to implement state policies related to effective classroom teaching and learning practices.
- **Peer Exchanges on State Policy Promoting Effective Teaching and Learning.** In partnership with the BUILD Initiative, CEELO hosts peer learning with state teams to support high quality early learning programs. Teams convene face-to-face and in webinars with national experts, and are supported by a TA lead to assist in achieving their goals.
- **Leadership Academy.** CEELO's [Early Education Leadership Academy](#) builds the capacity of state leaders to lead their state's early education vision by supporting Fellows in implementation of a timely job-embedded policy project aligned to their state's goals for children from birth through third grade. Fellows from the following states will participate in 2016-2017: AL, CO, GA, HI, IL, IN, NE.
- **Strengthening Capacity of State Offices of Early Learning (SOEL).** CEELO will provide customized, intensive TA to 2-3 states, in partnership with their Regional Centers, and the Building State Capacity and Productivity to build capacities and competencies of highly effective SOELs,
- **Strengthening K-3rd Grade Quality.** In partnership with the Education Commission of the States (ECS), CEELO will provide TA to improve the quality of K-Grade 3 as outlined in State's ESSA plan and other strategic plans/priorities of the SEA.

- ***Preschool Development & Expansion Grantee (PDEG) Peer Exchanges and Communities of Practice.*** CEELO will invites PDEG states to participate topical peer exchanges, including in-person and online convenings, to address common priorities and challenges to implementing high quality preschool. ***Data Driven TA: Costs of Quality Preschool.*** CEELO staff provide TA on cost tools that assist SEAs in making data-driven decisions on the cost of quality preschool and effective early education interventions. CEELO will develop a communication toolkit for state agency staff, advocates, business leaders and others that focuses on effectively communicating data on costs and funding to drive data-based policy making for high quality preschool.
- ***Implementing the College and Career-Ready Standards (ICCS).*** CEELO partners with CCSSO to provide TA and facilitate cross-state sharing of senior SEA staff and early childhood leaders in a strategic planning process focused on priorities to improve outcomes for children birth through third grade.
- ***Early Childhood Education Collaborative on Assessments & Standards—ECEA-SCASS.*** CEELO collaborates with CCSSO on three 2-day meetings of SEA early childhood leaders from 10 states. The SCASS builds SEA leadership capacity on early childhood-3rd-grade child and program assessment policy issues, and this year will focus on supporting states on integrating early childhood education into the states' ESSA plans.

INFORMATION RESOURCES

- ***ESSA Resources:*** CEELO, in partnership with CCSSO, the Comprehensive Center Network, and other national organizations, will develop a series of resources to support states in implementing early learning priorities in ESSA state plans.
- ***Ensuring High Quality Education for Every Child, Every Year: Summary of the 2017 National Roundtable.*** Drawing on expert presentations, materials and dialogue at the 2017 National Roundtable, CEELO will develop a high level synthesis of the meeting's key findings, including resources, best practices in current state efforts, and recommendations for SEA early childhood leaders.
- ***Policy Brief: How Local Programs Use Federal, State and Local Funding to Expand Access to High Quality Preschool Programs.*** CEELO will build on a policy brief exploring the impact of PDEG funding through case studies of local sub-grantee in selected states. The brief identifies how local entities use state, federal, and local funds, to offer high quality preschool programs, in mixed delivery settings, to children from varied economic backgrounds. Other publications and tools will explore topics such as funding adequacy, efficiency and equity.
- ***Building Local Leadership Capacity: Peer Learning Toolkit.*** CEELO will develop a model "learning academy" template for PDG grantees and other state and local leaders interested in building and sustaining local leadership through regional early learning academies. The toolkit will include an overview of the background and benefit of building local capacity through peer learning communities, and share resources of other state models.

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORTED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ***Information Resources.*** CEELO produces information resources that address gaps in knowledge and provide research-based data on the most timely and critical policy decisions states are making to improve early learning opportunities and outcomes. Products are posted on our [website](#).
- ***Resource Library*** The CEELO Resource Library is a digital [repository](#) of managed and organized resources. The CEELO staff abstract and enter materials and documents relevant to CEELO's five areas of focus.
- ***State-by-State Pages*** CEELO's [state pages](#) include links to all states and territories, birth to age 3, preschool, Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd early learning and development standards, program standards, and teacher competencies, certification standards, assessment data, and pre-k evaluations.