Equity Starts Early: Strategies to Promote High-Quality Early Education

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Background

Equity Starts Early:
How Chiefs Will Build High-Quality Early Education
Road Map

• How well are young children doing in early learning and development?

• 5 action steps for states to prevent achievement gaps in the early learning years
Disparities in Early Vocabulary Growth

Gaps in Reading & Math at Kg. Entry

Percent of Kindergarteners Passing Proficiency Levels in Fall

Maternal Education

- Less than HS
- HS
- Some College
- BA

Letter Recognition, Beginning Sounds, # & Shapes, Relative Size

(NCES, 2000)
What Do You Think?

- Are educators sufficiently informed, alarmed and focused on early achievement gaps?
- Does it make sense to delay reporting on child outcomes until the end of 3rd grade?
- What can states do to prevent early achievement gaps?
Action Steps for States

- Engage families & communities
- Connect ece programs and schools
- Improve ece program quality
- Build a high-performing ece workforce
- Increase investment in voluntary, high quality early childhood education
How State Legislators Can Lead

- Track progress on how young children are doing.
- Make it easier for parents and local agencies to use multiple early childhood programs.
- Connect early childhood and K-12 goals, planning, data to build shared accountability.