***What Does It Take: A Convening of State Leaders to Identify Common Barriers and Craft Effective Solutions to Expanding Preschool***

Expect the Unexpected: Brainstorming and Defining Challenges

1. **Getting Oriented – 5 Minutes**
	1. Gather in your assigned small group (up to 6 people) consisting of the following:
		* 3-4 state leaders from different states
		* No more than 2 CEELO/NIEER/CCSSO team members
		* No more than 2 invited speakers
	2. Determine who will be the facilitator/time keeper – times for each section are suggested so try to keep on track but don’t cut important conversations short.
	3. Determine who will be the reporter
	4. A CEELO/NIEER/CCSSO team member will be the facilitator/time keeper.
2. **Personal/Professional Things in Common – 5 Minutes**

Introduce yourselves if you haven’t already. List 5 personal or professional things that you have in common:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

**III. Challenges States Face – 5 Minutes**

Each individual lists up to 3-5 challenges his or her state is facing in expanding publicly funded high-quality preschool programs.  You may have already heard some challenges in our plenary and earlier discussions, you may want to go deeper on any of these or pick a component of one but you may also want to list challenges that have not yet been discussed. Recorder will do a quick round robin to identify the top challenges.

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

Recorder lists all challenges on chart paper.

1. **Challenges in Common – 15 Minutes**
	1. Group members share and describe each of their challenges.
	2. Together agree on 3-4 challenges that you have in common that your group will define in greater detail.

1.

2.

3.

4.

1. **Defining the Challenges – 30 minutes**

After each challenge there are a series of possible questions that may or may not apply to the challenge you are discussing. As you define the challenge and how it effects pre-K expansion, recorder will put on chart paper.

**1st CHALLENGE:**

As you define and describe the challenge more deeply and broadly, please consider the following:

* *Does this challenge occur in just one sector in which preschool operates (e.g. public schools, Head Start agencies, specific age groups, etc.)?*
* *Does this challenge impact certain regions or communities in the state more, or in different ways?*
* *Do any other policies (e.g. legislation, other initiatives, funding) impact this challenge?*
* *Have attempted solutions failed/made the challenge worse?*

As a group, identify three characteristics of this 1st challenge:

1.

2.

3.

**2nd CHALLENGE:**

As you define and describe the challenge more deeply and broadly, please consider the following:

* *Does this challenge occur in just one sector in which preschool operates (e.g. public schools, Head Start agencies, specific age groups, etc.)?*
* *Does this challenge impact certain regions or communities in the state more, or in different ways?*
* *Do any other policies (e.g. legislation, other initiatives, funding) impact this challenge?*
* *Have attempted solutions failed/made the challenge worse?*

As a group, identify three characteristics of the 2nd challenge:

1.

2.

3.

**3rd CHALLENGE:**

As you define and describe the challenge more deeply and broadly, please consider the following:

* *Does this challenge occur in just one sector in which preschool operates (e.g. public schools, Head Start agencies, specific age groups, etc.)?*
* *Does this challenge impact certain regions or communities in the state more, or in different ways?*
* *Do any other policies (e.g. legislation, other initiatives, funding) impact this challenge?*
* *Have attempted solutions failed/made the challenge worse?*

As a group, identify three characteristics of the 3rd challenge:

1.

2.

3.

**4th CHALLENGE:**

As you define and describe the challenge more deeply and broadly, please consider the following:

* *Does this challenge occur in just one sector in which preschool operates (e.g. public schools, Head Start agencies, specific age groups, etc.)?*
* *Does this challenge impact certain regions or communities in the state more, or in different ways?*
* *Do any other policies (e.g. legislation, other initiatives, funding) impact this challenge?*
* *Have attempted solutions failed/made the challenge worse?*

As a group, identify three characteristics of the 4th challenge:

1.

2.

3.

This meeting is sponsored by the [Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes](http://ceelo.org/). One of 22 Comprehensive Centers funded by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes (CEELO) is designed to strengthen the capacity of State Education Agencies (SEAs) to lead sustained improvements in early learning opportunities and outcomes. CEELO will sunset on September 30, 2019; however our work will be sustained by the collaborating partners.

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The Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes (CEELO) is a partnership of the following organizations:

