



Responsibilities of Early Childhood Iowa State Board Members

Legal Responsibilities (Iowa Code, Chapter 256i.4)

- Promote a vision achieved through strategic planning, funding identification, guidance, and decision-making authority for a comprehensive early care, education, health, and human services system in the state
- Promote collaboration among state and local early care, education, health and human service systems
- Oversee state and local efforts
- Provide oversight of early childhood Iowa areas
- Approve the geographic boundaries for the early childhood Iowa areas and approve any proposed changes in the boundaries
- Create a strategic plan, updated annually and distributed to the public, with extensive community involvement, that supports a comprehensive system of early care, education, health, and human services
- Adopt common performance measures and data reporting requirements for services, programs and activities provided by area boards
- Make recommendation to ECI areas in linking with child welfare and juvenile justice decategorization projects
- Coordinate and respond to requests from an area board
- Develop and implement a levels of excellence rating system for use with the state board's designation process for area boards
- Authority to determine an ECI area's readiness to effectively utilize the grant monies and designate ECI area boards.
- Adopt rules adopted in accordance with Chapter 17A, with input from area boards, as necessary for designation, governance, and oversight of area boards and the administration of Iowa Code, chapter 256i, including at a minimum:
 - Identify indicators of the effectiveness of ECI areas, area boards, and the services provided.
 - Identify minimum standards to further the provision of equal access to services subject to the authority of area boards.
 - Identify core functions for family support services, parent education programs, preschool services provided under the school ready children grant.
 - Develop guidelines and standards for state-supported family support programs.
- Develop guidelines for recommended insurance or other liability coverage of area boards

- Coordinate with ECI Administrator to submit to the Governor and General Assembly an annual report including the status and results of the early childhood Iowa initiative.
- Integrate statewide quality standards and results indicators adopted by other boards and commissions into the state board's funding requirements for investments in early care, health, education, and human services.
- Ensure alignment of other state departments' activities with the ECI strategic plan.
- Develop and keep current memoranda of agreements between the state agencies represented on the ECI state board to promote system development and integration and to clarify the roles and responsibilities of partner agencies.
- In collaboration with the ECI office, work to build public-private partnerships for promoting the collaborative early care, education, health and human services system.
- Support and align the ECI internet with other agencies and improve internet communication.
- Address other measures to advance ECI, which may include:
 - Advancement in the development of integrated data systems
 - Expansion of efforts to improve quality and utilize evidence-based practices.
 - Further develop kindergarten assessment approaches that are tied to state early learning standards.
- Coordinate with the early childhood stakeholders alliance to address the early care, health, and education systems that affect children ages 0-5 years in Iowa.
- Submit an annual report to the governor and general assembly
- Disclose conflicts of interest.

Fiscal Responsibilities

- Manage and coordinate the provision of grant funds and other monies available to early childhood Iowa areas by combining all or portions of appropriations or other revenues as authorized by law.
- Develop guidelines for recommended insurance or other liability coverage and take other actions to assist area boards in acquiring such coverage at a reasonable cost.
- Coordinate and respond to Community Empowerment Areas on the following:
 - Waivers for existing rules, federal regulations, or amendment of state law, or removal of other barriers.
 - Pooling and redirecting of existing federal, state or other public or private funds.
 - Seeking federal waivers.
 - Consolidating community-level committees, planning groups, and other bodies with common memberships formed in response to state requirements.

Individual Parameters

- Terms of office for citizen members are three years.
- A citizen board member shall serve no more than two terms of their own term, but are eligible to complete a term not completed by previous member.
- Citizen members are deemed to have resigned if they do not attend three consecutive meetings.

- Citizen members are deemed to have resigned if they attend less than one-half of the regular meetings within any period of twelve calendar months, beginning July 1 or January 1.
- Board officers are elected by the voting members of the board.
- Officers shall be elected for a two-year term.