

October 9, 2025

Chair Erickson, incoming Chair Estes, and members of the Education Funding Task Force:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback to inform your important work. The Kansas State Interagency Coordinating Council, or SICC, is established by both state and federal law (K.S.A. 74-801 and Public Law 105-17). The Council's role is to advise and assist in the delivery of services to children birth through age 5 with developmental delays. The Council's makeup includes appointed parents, providers, general public members, legislative members and agency representatives. The Council works to ensure a comprehensive service delivery system of integrated services is available in Kansas to all children with or at risk for developmental delays from birth through age 5 and their families.

As the Education Task Force reviews and considers adjustments to state special education funding, we are writing to encourage that the Task Force review and account for the impact any potential change would have on funding for Part C programs. Kansas Early Childhood Developmental Services is the program that serves children with developmental delays and/or disabilities from birth to the age of three. The lead agency in this collaborative effort is the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). In 2024, local Part C programs served 11,492 children and their families.

Part C programs assure as a condition of receiving funding from the Kansas Department of Health and Environment that they will make maximum use of all available funding sources in implementing Infant Toddler Services to help meet requirements in 34 CFR § 303.225. This currently includes:

- Part C programs partner with local educational agencies (LEAs) to claim state special education categorical aid for special teacher reimbursement.
- Part C programs partner with local educational agencies (LEA) to pay for Infant Toddler special teacher mileage to deliver services as specified in an Individualized Family Service Plan. As Part C services are typically delivered in a family's home, this is an important consideration for service delivery.

The State Interagency Coordinating Council would be well equipped to share additional information or solicit feedback on proposed changes to special education funding as it relates to Part C moving forward. Please do not hesitate to contact the State Interagency Coordinating Council Chair, Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer, if the Council can be of assistance.

Sinc@rely

Kathy Kersenbrock-Ostmeyer

Chair, Kansas State Interagency Coordinating Council