

Cohort 1 Meeting

June 5, 2024

(Meeting was not recorded due to technical difficulties.)

- Update on MELDs and training opportunities
 - Update from Nicole Madore
 - [Maine Early Learning and Development Standards \(MELDS\)](#)
 - Infant/Toddler (ITMELDS) – 3 year olds
 - Preschool MELDS - 3-5 year olds
 - There are visual resources that you can ask for to support these standards in classrooms and schools. Contact Nicole Madore (Nicole.Madore@maine.gov)
 - These standards have been revised and updated.
 - These resources are intended for a broad audience
- Toileting – everything you need to know
 - This is on the agenda because it is not uncommon for a child entering PreK (and K), the Early Learning Team often fields questions about rights and responsibilities.
 - A child's toileting independence is not related to their enrollment.
 - Schools cannot make a decision about a child's enrollment based on this factor.
 - Resources that we can share to support staff in their work with children: [TOILETING RESOURCE FINAL 10.13.2022.pdf \(maine.gov\)](#) and [Guidance on PPE Toileting Restraint Seclusion 8.12.20 1.pdf \(maine.gov\)](#)
 - It is recommended that the DOE send a priority notice to superintendents reminding them that toileting is not a requirement for enrollment in PK/K.
 - Sometimes there are cultural differences in terms of when parents begin toilet-training
- CINQ Training - June 17th 11:30-1:00
 - If you need access to CINQ, please send an email to Jen Hopkins: Jennifer.L.Hopkins@maine.gov
- Training on evaluations for Developmental Delay. TBD
 - Evals:
 - DAYC-2 Developmental Assessment of Young Children 2
 - Battelle Developmental Inventory 2
- CDS Support and Service Hubs
 - By July 1, 2024 – The Commissioner of Education will designate which SAUs are approved to assume the child find and FAPE obligations. For that to occur, SAUs must complete and submit:
 - Participation Agreement (through docusign)
 - Preschool Assessment
 - SAU Meetings

- Each SAU's reps will meet with Maine DOE and CDS staff to identify what they can provide (i.e., they plan to include 3 year olds in their PK classrooms or work with private providers) to determine what they will need from CDS support/service hub for Sept 1, 2024-June 30, 2025 (year 1 will be shorter because we are setting FAPE to start after SAUs can get their money).
 - The CDS Support and Service Hubs will be in transition and the services they provide will be somewhat different from site to site and region by region.
 - The Maine DOE puts together an MOU using the standard MOU template for each SAU and CDS/DOE
- Questions and needs (White Board brainstorm)
 - How will money be handled?
 - A child is a level 3 student who is 4 years old and will be attending a SPPPK for the first time in August. The student has a
 - Does the SAU need to have a contract with the SPPPK?
 - The program is going to be billing for Section 28, what is the responsibility of the SAU with regard to MaineCare?
 - Referral for a preK student who is from another town. Who is responsible for child find and FAPE?
 - Must also consider if the IEP team determined that the private school placement was the Least Restrictive Environment?
 - If a referral comes into CDS after July 1, is the SAU responsible?
 - If a referral comes in after July 1, CDS will process and hold the intake meeting and then transfer that to the SAU.
 - If the parent makes the referral directly to the SAU, the SAU takes on the intake.
 - Directors and Superintendents need updates about referrals in CINQ so they are not responsible for checking every day.
 - Is parent choice going to be allowed?
 - Initial allocation calculation will include
 - Gen ed
 - Special ed (1.5x) rate
 - If there have already been placements/determinations about students being placed in a SPPPK or other costs (i.e. nurse)
 - Will we need to use CINQ?
 - What if CDS needs to bill for MaineCare? Wouldn't they need to get service logs in CINQ to be able to bill?
 - How soon can we begin evaluating students who are in referral on our CINC list if we have availability to evaluate over the summer? We would like to

complete identifications ASAP. We have quite a list of students who are in limbo.

- This will be dictated by the MOU; if the SAU can assume child find and FAPE earlier, it will be outlined in the MOU.

- Next steps/next meeting

- We will hold our meeting on June 12; this meeting will have a fiscal focus
- Working on a central location for information
- Please email us with questions and observations/requests:
 - Erin Frazier – erin.frazier@maine.gov
 - Sandy Flacke - J.Sandy.flacke@maine.gov
 - Megan Welter – megan.welter@maine.gov