**Early Learning Policy Questions**

**(5/17/16)**

**ELS Goal 1: The early learning system is aligned, coordinated, and family-centered**

**1. Access to Early Learning Services**

***Key Question:*** *Are early learning investments prioritized to reach those furthest from opportunity?*

***Sub Questions:***

1.1 Where are state-funded and affiliated early learning services located?

1.2 How are early learning services engaging children and families furthest from opportunity?

1.3 Do the demographic characteristics of children and families receiving early learning services indicate

 that early learning investments are reaching those furthest from opportunity?

1.4 Are the demographics of participants similar to those of the community, region, or state?

1.5 What are the barriers that prevent some children and families furthest from opportunity from

 participating in state-funded services?

**2. Early Learning System Coordination**

***Key Question:*** *Are early learning services aligned, coordinated, and family centered?*

***Sub Questions:***

2.1 How do early learning organizations align and coordinate family services?

2.2 Are children and families able to navigate and seamlessly transition among early learning services?

2.3 What are the barriers to an effectively coordinated and aligned early learning system?

2.4 How are resources blended and braided to achieve collective impact within the early learning

 system?

2.5 Are culturally-specific community-based organizations and services effectively integrated

 partners in the early learning system?

**ELS Goal 2: Children are supported to enter school ready to succeed**

**ELS Goal 3: Families are healthy, stable, and attached**

**3. Quality and Impact of Early Learning Services**

***Key Question:*** *Are state-funded and affiliated services improving healthy development for*

 *young children and families furthest from opportunity?*

***Sub Questions:***

3.1 How have early learning services impacted children’s developmental progress?

3.2 What is the real-world significance of observed changes on valid outcome measures?

3.3 How have early learning services impacted children and families from the parents’ perspective, and

 are parents actively engaged?

3.4 Are early learning services delivered in a culturally relevant manner?

3.5 How have early learning services differentially impacted children and families furthest from

 opportunity and have disparities been reduced?

3.6 What are the processes for programs’ continuous quality improvement?

3.7. How can technical assistance by the ELD be improved to enhance early learning services.