

Center on Enhancing Early Learning Outcomes



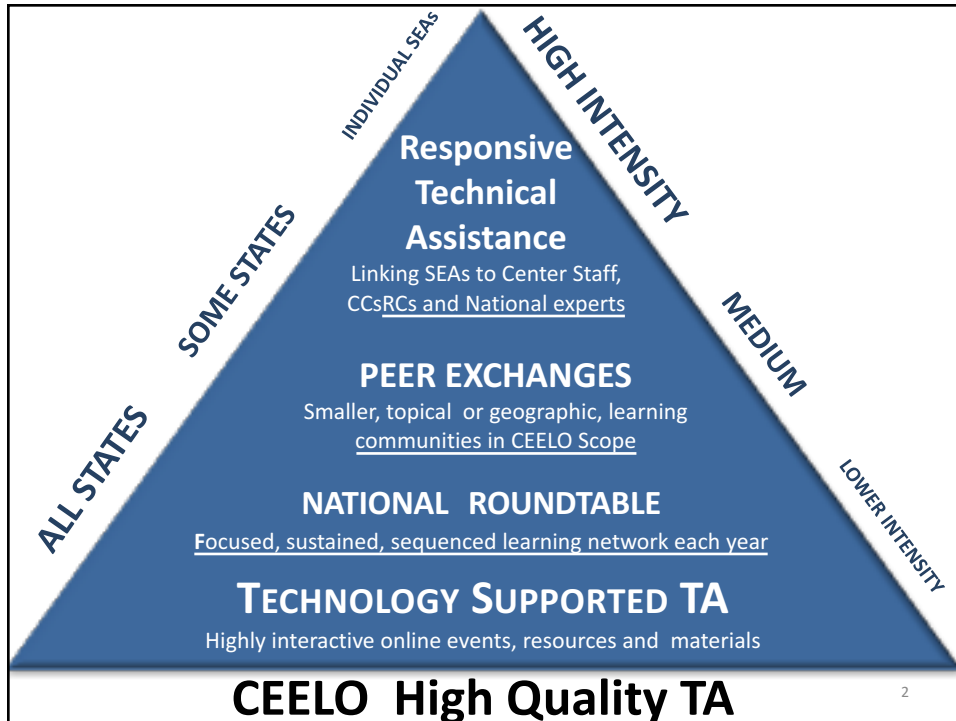
Mission: Strengthen the capacity of State Education Agencies (SEAs) to lead sustained improvements in early learning opportunities and outcomes.

Goals:

- Improve states’ knowledge about and use of early childhood comprehensive assessment systems
- Enhance the use of assessment data and other information to improve program quality
- Increase the knowledge and skills of the early learning workforce
- Strengthen the alignment of birth through 3rd grade educational policies and systems
- Increase the coordination of resources and policies across statewide systems



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Year 5 Strategic Activities

- Build on on-going projects, CEELO Leadership Academy, CEELO Annual RoundTable, Preschool Development Grantee TA, NJ Early Childhood Leadership Academy
- Targeted focus on financing, leadership/organizational capacity, PK quality, K-3rd grade, and using ESSA, and other funding to address equity/reduce achievement gaps



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ESSA Resources and TA

- 50 State Scan of State Websites and strategies to engage EC stakeholders
- Brief, targeted resources on key topics to ensure early learning is addressed
- TA ? Focus on implementing state plans, e.g. Capacity of Office of Early Learning, strategic planning for new PDG funding, principal professional development for P-3, use of Title 1 for PreK



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BUILDING CAPACITY OF STATE OFFICE OF EARLY LEARNING

- Building leadership capacity
- Identifying core competencies & capacities of SEA staff



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Overview of CEELO Cost-Quality Tool

Goals and Objectives

- Positively influence how states think about expanding their early learning programs
- Improve states' understanding of the total funding necessary to support, implement, expand, and/or improve the quality of early learning programs
- Accommodate states' needs to estimate the cost to support a realistic rate of expansion and improvement over time
- Build a foundation allowing for user modifications to fit specific state needs

How?

- By providing a ready-to-use tool pre-populated with quality benchmarks, cost guidance, and demographic information
- By layering state-level infrastructure in support of quality preschool programs with previous work on site-level provider services costs
- By providing a multi-year window for implementation planning, and
- By providing a means for side-by-side comparisons
- By avoiding unnecessary complexity
 - Excel based
 - "White-box," i.e., no protected cells or macros
 - Numerous design considerations promoting flexibility and customization



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Improving Quality K-3rd Grade

- In partnership with ECS, and other national orgs, developed a 50 state Policy Database
- Action Guide for SEA and LEA
- Funding guide
- Technical assistance to selected states



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KEY RESOURCES

- CEELO - <http://ceelo.org/>
- CEELO on ESSA - <http://ceelo.org/ESSA>
- CEELO on SEA Office of Early Learning Capacity Building – <http://ceelo.org/SOELcapacity>
- Cost to Quality Tool – <http://nieer.org/publications/research-instruments>



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