

# Nebraska Early Childhood Strategic Plan



## OVERVIEW

The Nebraska Early Childhood Strategic Plan is a dynamic plan by and for Nebraskans that seeks to ensure that all children have access to quality early childhood services.

The strategic plan is based on findings from a comprehensive statewide needs assessment conducted in 2019 and informed by input from families, early childhood providers, and other stakeholders representing communities across Nebraska and all sectors of the state's early childhood mixed delivery system.

The plan describes an intentional set of goals and objectives for improving the early childhood experiences of the more than 235,000 children, birth through age 8, who live in Nebraska today, with special emphasis on addressing significant disparities that exist across the state.

### Vision and Goals

The overarching vision of the Nebraska Early Childhood Strategic Plan is to provide all Nebraska children and their families with access to quality early childhood care and education and other essential services that support children's healthy development from birth through age 8.

The plan defines four interrelated goals, each with corresponding objectives. These goals are intended to create a more integrated early childhood system—and work on any one of the goals will impact and inform the other goals.

- **Goal 1: Access**—Each child and their family can access the quality early childhood care, education, and essential services they need to support each child's healthy development.
- **Goal 2: Quality**—All early care and education settings provide quality experiences for children.
- **Goal 3: Collaboration**—Communities coordinate a locally designed mixed delivery system that provides continuous care and meets the needs of families.
- **Goal 4: Alignment**—Statewide systems align to support communities in creating an integrated and comprehensive mixed delivery system for all children.

### Learn More

The vision, goals, and objectives provide an organizing framework and clear targets for the work ahead. In the coming months, stakeholders across the state will be engaged to continue the strategic planning process. Conversations will be held to seek additional information about opportunities and needs from the diverse communities and stakeholders across the state, informing the development of strategies and action plans for accomplishing the goals. The intent is to build on Nebraska's strengths—locally, regionally, and statewide—to ensure equitable access to quality early childhood services for all children birth through age 8. Learn more at [NEearlychildhoodplan.org](https://www.neearlychildhoodplan.org).

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