



April 15, 2024

Marquita Grenot-Scheyer
Chair
California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
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RE: Public Comment on Item 3A: Educator Preparation Committee Child Development Permit Workgroup Update - CTC Meeting April 17-18 2024

Dear Chair Grenot-Scheyer and Commission Members,

Early Edge California would like to thank the Commission and the Child Development Permit Workgroup for its efforts to develop recommendations to revise the Child Development Permit. We appreciate the work to identify recommendations that are not only informed by but also aligned with the current needs in the field and the goals outlined in the Master Plan for Early Learning and Care.

We thank the Commission for creating two ad hoc committees focused on multilingual learners and infants and toddlers. These are two populations that often overlap and are in need of dedicated supports in Early Learning settings. The [majority of California's infants and toddlers are children of color](#), and nearly 60 percent of children under 6-years-old speak a language other than English at home. To ensure our youngest, multilingual learners are supported, we believe the Child Development Permit must include competencies focused on serving infants and toddlers, as well as serving children from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

The Master Plan for Early Learning and Care includes a requirement for preschool programs who serve a large population of Dual Language Learners sharing a common home language to establish a bilingual teacher and bilingual program. In order to be able to implement this recommendation, it is critical that the Child Development Permit include a 6-unit bilingual specialization on multi and bilingual instruction to prepare educators for bilingual settings, which would equip educators with the necessary knowledge and skills needed to effectively promote bilingualism and biliteracy for our youngest children. Furthermore, we must ensure we are supporting our bilingual staff in obtaining their child development permits while also compensating bilingual educators for their additional skills and abilities.

We also align with the results of the focus groups and survey that found that 68 percent of respondents believe that Associate Teacher Permit should be renewable after 10 years. While we support all educators' continued growth and aspirations to achieve higher-level permits, we also want to support associate teachers who would like to stay in their current roles and have gained vast experience during their tenure as an educator. Allowing the Associate Teacher

Permit to be renewable after 10 years ensures that we are able to equitably retain our existing and highly relied upon workforce and provide stability for providers and the families they serve.

Thank you for continued work on revising the Child Development Permit to ensure it provides a foundation that effectively supports and prepares California's Early Learning educators.