


## Braiding Funding Practice Profile Self-Assessment

Core Component	Contribution to the Outcome	Expected Use in Practice 	Developmental Use in Practice	Unacceptable Use in Practice
Description of this component	Why this core component is important to achieving the outcome	Description of practitioner behavior	Description of practitioner behavior	Description of practitioner behavior
<p>1. Review potential funding sources and whether it is possible to use the funds based on its rules.</p>	<p>Early childhood programs using multiple funding sources must assess needs, demographics, legal requirements in-order to effectively braid funds</p> <p>Think about the child first (is it beneficial to all kids?)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research and acquire knowledge to braid funds i.e., use of ECTA tool kit, (ECTA website) to articulate or explain about them to others</li> <li>• Identifying programmatic and eligibility requirements for costs of implementing an ECE program and the cost of offering a high-quality program (CEELO's cost of quality tool)</li> <li>• All members commit to the mission and vision statements and to take action to implement a particular funding strategy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some members buy in to include the mission and vision statements and make the commitment to act</li> <li>• Identify funding sources</li> <li>• Be familiar with models of effective funding plans</li> <li>• Understand specific rules and monitoring requirements tied to each funding source, including capacity to implement</li> <li>• Seek and gather info on other funding sources that may be available (i.e. groups and community resources)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Available funding sources not identified</li> <li>• Rules and monitoring requirements surrounding funding sources are not explored</li> <li>• Program needs not explored</li> <li>• How the use of the funds is not explored</li> </ul>
<p>2. Plans are developed to get ready for using new funding stream</p>	<p>Structural supports necessary to initiate the program are put in place.</p> <p>These include ensuring the availability of funding streams, human resource strategies, and policy development as well as creating referral mechanisms, reporting frameworks, and outcome expectations.</p> <p>Additional resources may be needed to realign current staff, hire new staff members to meet the qualifications required by the program or practice, secure appropriate space, purchase needed technology (e.g., cell phones, computers), fund un-</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate and communicate with identified stakeholders about decisions</li> <li>• Create and or deliver a guide to show how the funding works</li> <li>• Develop an action plan that includes identified activities, individuals responsible and timelines</li> <li>• Develop a strategic plan that includes goals and strategies for the use of the funds</li> <li>• Strategic plans are shared with stakeholders</li> <li>• Policy review to ensure equitable opportunities, participation, equal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a project management document that includes identified elements for using the funding stream</li> <li>• Communicate with identified stakeholders about decisions and the scope of the project</li> <li>• Provide guidance/PD on requirements of the funding source(s) to create the systems (e.g. allowable and disallowable activities, monitoring, licensing, term of the grant for renewal)</li> <li>• Access guidance aligned to funding source requirements</li> <li>• Assign roles and responsibilities to develop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Communication is limited to select member of the program</li> <li>• Action plan not developed</li> <li>• No support is accessed regarding the funding stream selected.</li> </ul>

	reimbursed time in meetings with stakeholders, and fund time for staff while they are in training.	application of funding, universal access to options	the action plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify data that will need to be monitored</li> <li>• Consider changes needed to physical space and staffing</li> <li>• Document allowable and disallowable use of funds</li> </ul>	
3. Skillfully use the funds	Beginning to use the funds should support program goals  Is a benefit to the organization and the participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integration of multiple funding sources that provides for equitable access to available services</li> <li>• Programs share and use data and are accountable for results</li> <li>• Communication takes place between funding agencies and the program and the community</li> <li>• 12 Indicators of quality Program Guidelines: <a href="https://cms.azed.gov/home/GetDocumentFile?id=5879561caadebe0c98a80509">https://cms.azed.gov/home/GetDocumentFile?id=5879561caadebe0c98a80509</a></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of new and existing funding sources</li> <li>• Programs collect data and reflect on results</li> <li>• Feedback is gathered regularly about activities and experiences of program personnel</li> <li>• Responses are developed (e.g., more training, schedule changes, policy changes, procedure changes, increase in equitable opportunities)</li> <li>• Information about activities is shared regularly with stakeholders</li> <li>• Consistently and correctly use a system that will monitor and track finances</li> <li>• Support and train staff as it relates to funding, quality, access, participation, inclusion</li> <li>• All stakeholders are participating or implementing activities as planned/designed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No system or plan has been implemented or in place regarding data collection, monitoring, and feedback</li> <li>• No changes are considered or made when challenges arise from the use of the new funding stream</li> <li>• No system for monitoring and tracking finances</li> </ul>

<p>4. Involves ensuring that the funding streams and programming initiatives are established, adequate are sustainable to support funding for the program</p>	<p>Programs that adopt and implement new practices may determine additional activities are necessary to accomplish goals for quality of participation and equal access to early childhood education to keep using the funds. Programs may extend adopted activities to include more sites, more participation, collaboration around participation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing review/exploration of current data to identify potential new improvement strategies</li> <li>• Braiding funding results in maximizing efficient and effective use of funds, e.g., multiple funding streams enable access, supports and meaningful participation to quality educational opportunities</li> <li>• Share the successful use of adopting new funding streams and practices with other programs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review whether action plan is being followed “follow the rules”</li> <li>• Use feedback from staff and families to identify any new needs</li> <li>• Maintaining established activities if applicable</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No commitment for financial sustainability has been established</li> <li>• No review of the plan to determine if it is worth doing</li> <li>•</li> <li>• No decision is made about expanding or replicating the model</li> </ul>
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\*ECQUIP stands for Early Childhood Quality Improvement Process. More information available at <http://www.azed.gov/ece/early-childhood-assessment/>