Early Childhood Essentials Framework

### Essential Educator Competencies

**Within the Learning Setting**
- Developmentally appropriate practice and environments
- Observation and assessment of development and learning
- Individualized supports and inclusion-based practices

**Supporting the Learning Setting**
- Family support and partnership
- Continuous improvement and professionalism

### Essential Child Skills

- Social-emotional development
- Cognitive development
- Language and literacy development
- Mathematical and scientific reasoning
- Physical development

### Foundational Conditions

**For Educators to Succeed**
- Facilitative leadership
- Competitive compensation and benefits
- Job-embedded professional development
- Paid planning and collaboration time
- Emotionally supportive environment

**For Children to Learn**
- Adequate nutrition
- Continuity of care
- Access to physical, dental, and mental health services
- Stable and safe housing
- Access to specialized educational supports