



ECRC Executive Committee FAQ

This document aims to answer frequently asked questions regarding the Every Child Ready for Chicago's Executive Committee.

1. Why is this committee being created?

On January 26, 2023, we articulated a north star vision for a governance structure for the ECRC Advisory Council with multiple committees with formal charges and processes in place. That work takes time, especially when it is co-created. This next phase in the process of formalizing the council is to stand up an Executive Committee. The Executive Committee's role is to provide expanded leadership and vision for the future so that subsequent decisions about committees, processes, bylaws, etc. are made together as an early childhood community.

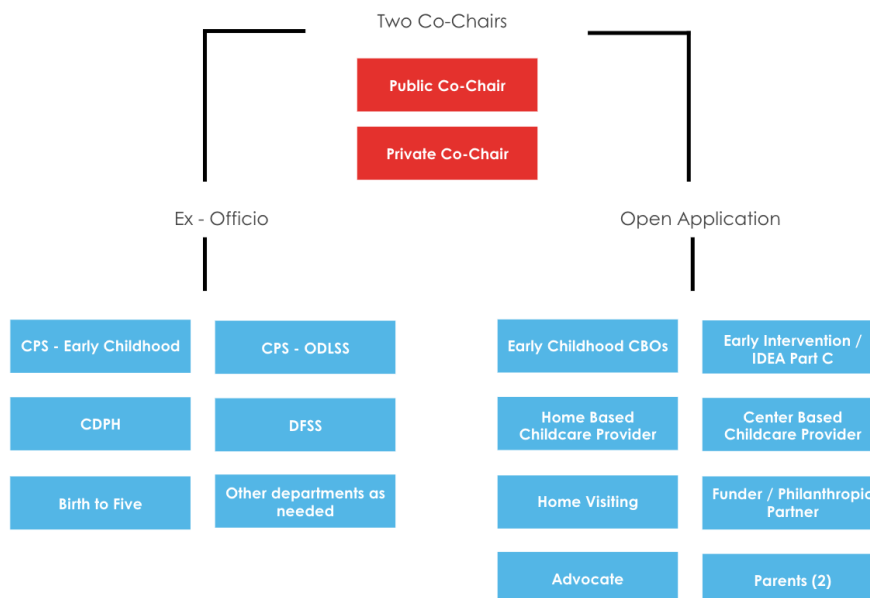
2. Who is staffing the ECRC Executive Committee?

The Executive Committee as well as the Advisory Council will continue to be staffed by Start Early. Start Early is committed to staffing the committee and Council through the next year. Sustainable staffing is an important issue that the Executive Committee will need to discuss and make recommendations on.

3. What is the structure of the ECRC Executive Committee?

The committee will have two co-chairs, one public and one private. There will be ex-officio committee members who represent public city agencies that administer early childhood programs and services. There will also be open-application roles that aim to cover the breadth of leaders in Chicago's early education and care landscape.

Below is a diagram to show the distribution of ex-officio and open-application seats.





4. Is the Executive Committee replacing the ECRC Advisory Council?

No, the Executive Committee would act as a leadership body to help provide strategic leadership and direction to ensure the sustainability of the ECRC Advisory Council and that it is meeting its purpose and role.

5. What happens if ECRC is not picked up by the new mayor?

The purpose of the Executive Committee is to ensure that regardless of mayoral transitions, there is a space for thought leaders in the early care and learning landscape to convene, share information, provide feedback to city agencies, inform and recommend the vision for Chicago's early care and learning system to the Mayor's Office as initially intended.

6. What about the other strategic committees?

As of now, the only other strategic committees that are standing are the Access and Enrollment through Birth to Five Illinois and Family and Community Engagement Committee. It will be part of the Executive Committee's role to identify possible governance structures, feedback loops, etc. for other priority committees to stand up in the future including Data & Research, Quality, Workforce Health, Funding, etc.

7. How can we ensure that the executive committee is representative of Chicago's birth to five and early childhood community with the seats available?

Because the Executive Committee is a leadership body intended to advise on the strategic direction of the ECRC Advisory Council, it is best practice to have 15-17 seats given the size of the council body. This Executive Committee group will change over time to ensure a diverse representation of opinions, and we encourage those of you in the network who represent the community and understand the issues surrounding early childhood education and care to self-nominate or nominate someone who would be a good committee member candidate. As we review submissions, we will keep an eye out to ensure that representation of geographic, racial, ethnic, and other diversities of the city are present in the committee members.

8. What if we have more questions?

Feel free to reach out to Harold@cospéroconsulting.com, Young@cospéroconsulting.com, or ECRC@cityofchicago.org.