

APPENDIX A: HIGHER EDUCATION SURVEY INSTRUMENT

**Governor's Early Childhood Task Force
Early Childhood Higher Education Survey**

Your name: _____

Your title: _____

Your telephone number: _____

Your email address: _____

Department under which program is housed: _____

Website address: _____
(for program or department)

PLEASE REMEMBER: ANSWER THE QUESTIONS IN THIS PACKET WITH REGARD TO THE PROGRAM LISTED ON THE LABEL ON THE PREVIOUS PAGE.

1. Does your training program lead to some formal certificate, certification, or degree that prepares students to work with children in the range of birth through 5 years old? (*Check "yes" even if your program covers a broader age range than birth through 5 years old, such as birth through 8 years old.*)

_____ Yes (*continue with question 2*)

_____ No (*You are done with this questionnaire. Please return it in the postage-paid envelope. Thank you for your time.*)

2. Please indicate the percent of all students in your early childhood program who have the following racial or ethnic backgrounds. Percents should sum to 100.

Black, non-Hispanic	_____%
White, non-Hispanic	_____%
Asian or Pacific Islander	_____%
Hispanic	_____%
Race/ethnicity unknown	_____%
Refused to disclose race	_____%
Other: _____	_____%

Total = 100 %

3. What is the total number of faculty (full-time and part-time) currently in your program?

Total number of current faculty (full-time and part-time): _____

4. Please indicate the number of current full-time and part-time faculty who have the following racial or ethnic backgrounds. (Numbers should sum to the total number of faculty recorded in question 3.)

Black, non-Hispanic	_____
White, non-Hispanic	_____
Asian or Pacific Islander	_____
Hispanic	_____
Race/ethnicity unknown	_____
Refused to disclose race	_____
Other: _____	_____

Total = _____

5. Please indicate the number of current full-time and part-time faculty who have the following highest degrees. (Numbers should sum to the total number of faculty recorded in question 3.)

Doctoral degree	_____
Master's degree	_____
Bachelor's degree	_____
Associate's degree	_____
Less than Associate's degree	_____

Total = _____

6. Please indicate the number of current full-time and part-time faculty who have their highest degree or primary training in the following areas. (Numbers should sum to the total number of faculty recorded in question 3.)

Child Development	_____
Child/Developmental Psychology	_____
Human/Family Development	_____
Clinical/Counseling Psychology	_____
Early Childhood Education	_____
Special Education	_____
Early Childhood Special Education	_____
Early Elementary Education (K-3)	_____
Educational (or other) Administration	_____
Other _____	_____
Other _____	_____

Total = _____

- 7. How many FTE (full-time equivalent) teachers/faculty are in this program? (To compute FTE's: Divide the number of courses taught by the number of courses a full-time teacher/faculty member is required to teach. For example, if a full-time faculty load is 5 courses, then someone who teaches 1 course would be .20 FTE.)**

Total number of FTEs in program: _____

- 8. In your perception, over the last 3 years, has your program seemed to (select one):**

- _____ Lose money for the College/University
 _____ Break even
 _____ Gain money for the College/University
 _____ Don't know

- 9. Does your program offer courses for the Teacher Education and Compensation Helps (T.E.A.C.H.) program?**

- _____ Yes
 _____ No
 _____ Don't know

- 10. Please indicate the extent to which your program faces each of the issues listed below.**

	Not an Issue	Somewhat of an Issue	A Large Issue	Don't know
<i>Student-related</i>				
Students' competing work or family-related responsibilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students' lack of academic preparation or skill	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Students' difficulty passing PRAXIS exams	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Faculty-related</i>				
Lack of faculty with expertise in early childhood education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of faculty in general	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Poor faculty working conditions and salary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Difficulty attracting and retaining ethnically and linguistically diverse faculty	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

(Question 10, continued from previous page.) Please indicate the extent to which your program faces each of the issues listed below.

	Not an Issue	Somewhat of an Issue	A Large Issue	Don't know
<i>Institution-related</i>				
Problems with transfer of credits and matriculation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Lack of support from your college/university for programs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Inability to serve the number of students who want to enroll	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Problems marketing program/recruiting students	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Community-related</i>				
Lack of quality early childhood practicum sites (any that include ages birth through 5)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attracting and keeping students due to poor working conditions and wages in the field of early childhood	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>State-policy related</i>				
State funding for scholarships, Governor's schools, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. Do you think that the State of Pennsylvania needs to make changes for early childhood higher education at the state level?

- ___ Yes (*please answer question 11a*)
- ___ No (*go to question 12*)
- ___ Don't know (*go to question 12*)

11a. What changes should be made? (check all that apply)

- ___ More scholarships available for students enrolled in early childhood programs
- ___ More funding to colleges/universities to increase number/quality of faculty
- ___ More funding to colleges/universities to increase number of students that can be enrolled
- ___ More scholarships to attract people already working in the field to get a certificate/certification/degree from a college/university
- ___ Other (*please specify*) _____

12. What actions by the state government would help you to improve the education of early childhood educators? (Please use additional paper as necessary.)

Part 2: [DEGREE] SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

1. Is this [DEGREE] program accredited or certified by a State, regional, national, or other accrediting body?

- Yes (please answer question 1a)
 No (go to question 2)
 Don't know (go to question 2)

1a. What is the name of the accrediting agency? (check all that apply)

- PA Department of Education
 Middle States (accreditation for institution)
 NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education)
 NAEYC (National Association for the Education of Young Children)
 ACEI (Association for Childhood Education International)
 CEC (Council for Exceptional Children)
 Other (please specify) _____
 Don't know
 Other (please specify) _____
 Don't know

2. How many credit hours are required to complete this [DEGREE]? _____ hours

3. Do your [DEGREE] program students have an early childhood practicum requirement in which they work with children in the range of birth to 5 years old? *We define early childhood practicum as supervised work in a care or educational setting with children in the range of birth through 5 years old. Using our definition, practicum is the same as field placement or student teaching. However, practicum must include more than observation.*

- Yes (please answer question 3a)
 No (go to question 4)

3a. How many total practicum hours are required for the entire program? _____ # hours

4. Is it possible for someone who is employed full-time from approximately 8am to 5pm to complete the [DEGREE] program?

- Yes (please answer question 4a)
 No (go to question 5)

4a. What percentage of students are employed full-time? _____ %

5. Please indicate how much coverage students have received in each of the content areas listed below by the time they complete the [DEGREE]. For the first three content areas, please also indicate if practicum coverage is required or not.

	Amount of coverage			Required practicum coverage?	
	None	<u>Part of one or more required course(s)</u>	<u>One or more Entire required course(s)</u>		
Education and care of infants and toddlers (birth to 35 months)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	No
Education and care of children ages 3-5 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	No
Education and care of young children with disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	No
Working with families	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Promoting successful transitions between early childhood programs and school	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Early number skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Early literacy skills (reading, writing)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Early language skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Social-emotional development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Behavior management (discipline)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Developmental domains (physical, cognitive, language, etc)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Developmental assessments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Program development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Health and safety practices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Professionalism and leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Early childhood program administration (fiscal, business, and personnel) and supervision skills (monitoring and mentoring staff)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Classroom management/organization of a group of children	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		

6. How many new students are typically enrolled each year in your [DEGREE]? _____
7. How many students typically graduate or receive a certificate/certification/degree from your [DEGREE] each year? _____
8. In general, has enrollment in the [DEGREE] during the past 3 years (*check one*):
- ____ Increased
 ____ Decreased
 ____ Stayed the same
 ____ New degree (no experience)
 ____ Don't know
9. Approximately how long does the average student actually take to complete the [DEGREE]? (*Indicate number of months if time is less than 12 months.*)
 _____ months OR _____ years
10. What percent of the graduates in the [DEGREE] are employed in the following settings within one-year after graduating? *Please make your best guess.*

Work in an early childhood <u>center</u> (including preschool and Head Start) for children in the range of birth through preschool/kindergarten years?	_____ %
Work in an early childhood <u>family or group home</u> for infants through preschool/kindergarten years?	_____ %
Work in a <u>public or private</u> school <u>Kindergarten</u> ?	_____ %
Work in a <u>public or private</u> school classroom <u>beyond Kindergarten</u> ?	_____ %
Work with children birth to 5 years old who are <u>not</u> in an early childhood center or home or Kindergarten program?	_____ %
Work in an infant/toddler early intervention program?	_____ %
Work in a preschool early intervention program?	_____ %
Go on to provide pre-service or in-service training or education in the early childhood field (including teaching at higher education institutions).	_____ %
Do not go on to work with children?	_____ %
Go on to a [NEXT-LEVEL DEGREE] program?	_____ %

11. What percent of the [DEGREE] graduates who go on to work with children birth to 5 typically remain in Pennsylvania? (Please make your best guess.) _____ %

12. For a full-time, full-fee paying student (e.g., does not receive grants or scholarships), what is the approximate total cost for tuition and fees to obtain this [DEGREE]?
\$ _____

13. Of those students enrolled in the [DEGREE] program, at any one time, approximately what percent receive the following (or their cash equivalents):

A full tuition waiver plus some living expenses	_____ %
A full tuition waiver	_____ %
A partial tuition reduction (scholarship or grant less than the cost of full tuition)	_____ %
No scholarships or fellowships at all	_____ %

Total = 100 %

14. Have changes been made to the [DEGREE] requirements within the last three years?

_____ Yes (please answer question 14a)

_____ No (go to question 15)

_____ Don't know (go to question 15)

14a. What changes were made? (check all that apply and indicate nature of change for each)

_____ Changes to course content (write what changed to course content in the space below)

_____ Don't know what was changed

_____ Changes to number of course credits required to complete program (check one below)

_____ Increased number of credits required

_____ Decreased number of credits required

_____ Other (please specify) _____

_____ Don't know

_____ Changes to number of practicum or student teaching required hours (check one below)

_____ Increased number of practicum or student teaching required hours

_____ Decreased number of practicum or student teaching required hours

_____ Other (please specify) _____

_____ Don't know

_____ Changes to student:faculty ratio (check all that apply below)

_____ Increased number of faculty

_____ Increased number of students

_____ Decreased number of faculty

_____ Decreased number of students

_____ Don't know

_____ Other change(s) (please specify) _____

_____ Don't know what changed

15. Do graduates in this [DEGREE] have difficulty paying back school loans because of low compensation?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

16. Is more than one literacy/reading/language arts course required for completion of course work in the [DEGREE]?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know