



Frontiers of Innovation (FOI)

Next up from the FOI community is a first in a series of webinars responding to interest in the topic of **executive function (EF)** skills. The webinar will be co-hosted by Deborah Phillips (Georgetown University) and Phil Zelazo (University of Minnesota). The webinar will take place on **Friday, February 17 from 1pm–2:30pm EST**. Initial topics covered will include what executive function skills are, how ER develops, how its develop-

ment can be derailed, and how adults can support its healthy development. You can join the webinar on Friday simply by [clicking here](#).

Hopefully by now everyone has had the opportunity to accept the invitation to join the Frontiers of Innovation community—the invitation was sent by Steffanie Clothier to your inbox just after our kick off meeting in Tampa. Frontiers of Innovation community includes policy-makers, researchers,

practitioners, and philanthropists and is designed to catalyze cross-sector, cross-disciplinary collaboration and high-impact strategies for innovation in the field of early childhood policy and practice. Launched in May 2011, FOI draws on the expertise of the Early Childhood Innovation Partnership, a collaborative effort of the [Center on the Developing Child at Harvard University](#), [NCSL](#), [NGA](#), and the [True-Point Center for High Performance and High Commitment](#).



Development. Continue to check you inboxes as registration information will be emailed to you in about a month.

We continue to seek your feedback if you have a suggestion for an upcoming webinar please let us know!

Webinar Wrap—UP

It is our hope that you would agree that our first webinar *Best Practices in Early Learning from Other States* was a great start to the webinar series. Your feedback and thoughts will allow the webinar series to improve as we move forward. Therefore if you have not yet taken the time to complete our evaluation survey we are requesting

you take a few moments to do so by [clicking here](#). An archive of the webinar and resources including Power Point Presentations can all be accessed by [clicking here](#).

Next on Friday, April 13, 2012 at 3pm EST Ron Haskins and Jack Shonkoff will discuss *Expanding on the Science: Foundations of Early Childhood*

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Save the Date—Webinar Series

Friday, April 13, 2012 3pm ET: *Expanding on the Science: Foundations of Early Childhood Development.* Confirmed speakers include Ron Haskins, Brookings Institute and Jack Shonkoff, Center on the Developing Child Harvard University

Friday, June 8, 2012 3pm ET: *Revolutionizing Early Childhood Teaching.* Confirmed speaker includes Bob Pianta, Dean Curry School of Education Center for Advanced Study of Teaching University of Virginia

Friday, August 8, 2012 3pm ET: Topic and speaker to be confirmed soon.



State Early Childhood Data Systems—Investing in Results for Young Children

Please anticipate a LegisBrief entitled “State Early Childhood Data Systems—Investing in Results” to be published in March 2012.

In tough economic times, state legislators are looking to data to guide them in maximizing resources for early childhood programs. The “State Early Childhood Data Systems - Investing in Results for Young Children” LegisBrief provides examples of how states are utilizing resources and opportunities to build effective data systems that inform program and policy decisions to ensure young children are prepared for school readiness and success. More information to follow shortly.



Videos for Thought...

Here are a couple videos that might be of interest to you!

Listen and learn about the science of early brain development and how that affects learning, behavior, and health for a lifetime. [HERE](#)

Learn how acquiring skills at a young age enables children to more effectively learn new skills later in life. [HERE](#)

2012 Introduced Legislation Early Childhood Education and Care

In January 2012, 31 states have introduced more than 150 bills relating to early childhood education and care issues. Bills focusing on child care issues such as licensing, facilities, subsidies and quality make up the bulk of new legislation introduced, followed by bills pertaining to preschool quality and access.

Search over four years of early childhood education and care legislation by topic, state and year by visiting our [database here](#), including up-to-date 2012 legislation for 50 states and U.S. territories.

Highlighting a Fellow



On the heels of our kick off meeting in Tampa, Representative Gabel initiated an ongoing group in her district of early childhood stakeholders, which includes agency representatives, coalitions and community foundations to assist in developing legislation. At

the first meeting, she shared with the group information and handouts from our Tampa meeting and of particular interest was the Louisiana model of incentivizing quality. Rep. Gabel knows that Illinois has a strong history in early childhood policy and this group will make sure to understand the policies and activities that already exist. “This group wants to make a difference in improving early childhood,” says Gabel. “We don’t want to

repeat what has already been done, but more, think of cutting edge policies that can take Illinois to a higher level.”

Earlier this month, Rep. Gabel introduced an early intervention bill that would change the definition for eligible infant and toddlers from 36 months to 60 months of age with specified conditions for early intervention services. The proposed bill also allows an individual family service plan to be the child’s individualized educational plan (IEP) until an IEP is developed and implemented, if an IEP is not developed by the child’s 3rd birthday.

If you have a piece of legislation or policy work to highlight in the next Fellows newsletter, please email alison.may@ncsl.org.