

**For which issues will the Improving State Systems Committee  
research and provide advice to the ICC in 2025-2026**

**1. Strengthen intake and Service Delivery**

- a. Improve autism differential diagnosis to reduce bias and missed diagnosis.
- b. Expand access to a range of evidence-based interventions (ABA, RBI, DRI, parent coaching and infant mental health.
- c. Include parental mental health screening and support in the IFSP process (Make it more intentional rather than an afterthought).

**2. Insurance and System Impact**

- a. Continue examining how insurance access affects families and coordination of early intervention services system wide.

**3. Coordinated Child Find**

- a. Address the need for coordinated child find efforts among agencies that are mandated for child find to avoid duplication and confusion around accessing services.
- b. Increase consistency in family awareness of Early Start statewide.
- c. Research Child Find mandates across the board.
  - i. Can we improve existing relationship and strategies.
  - ii. What areas in the child find system are present and what are ones we need to improve?

**4. ICC Presentations and Updates**

- a. Provisional eligibility implementation update
- b. Regular DDS Autism Services Branch updates (Recommending as standing ICC agenda Item)
- c. Consistent screening for visual impairments including cerebral visual impairment.
- d. Workforce development strategies (Higher Education Partnerships, Health Care Collaborations, Diversity Initiatives)
  - i. Possible presentation from health plans such as CalOptima to share about what they are doing to support workforce development.

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- ii. Expand diversity in workplace. Look into some Service Access and Equity Grants and possible presentation from Special Needs Network in LA.
  - e. Federal Funding/Policy Shifts (Recommending as standing ICC agenda item):
    - i. Address impacts of federal funds being re-allocated for our California birth to three services.
    - ii. How do we advocate for the children and families as changes are occurring in all the different programs throughout California.
    - iii. Head Start update and address impact of federal funds being reallocated.
    - iv. Supporting families affected by anti-immigrant policies.
  - f. DDS Information Requests (Possible future presentation requests as well):
    - i. Clarify how Mental Health Services Act funding is being used for Early Start.
    - ii. Update on standardized IFSP development and implementation.
    - iii. Look at how the IFSPs are being written so they don't reflect "sets" of services that every child gets without recognizing specific needs and priorities.
    - iv. Improve transition planning at intake (Systemic Process Improvement).
    - v. Develop and implement a uniform approach to include foster care children in the regional center system (sign off process, authorization form)
- 5. **Address Client Cancellations and Absenteeism that impacts service providers.**
  - a. Identify solutions to address client cancellations and absenteeism that impact service providers (How are they paid, inconsistent with labor laws etc.)