

System Scan Examples

System Characteristics	Examples	State Examples
<p>Components</p> <p>Range, quality, effectiveness, timing, and location of services, supports, and opportunities in the community</p>	<p>Aligned All early education settings across the state offer quality curriculum that meets the social/emotional needs of all children</p> <p>Unaligned Early education settings most used by low income families do not have quality social/emotional curriculum in place</p>	<p>To what extent does the range and array of early childhood programs address our targeted goals or outcomes?</p> <p>To what extent are early childhood services accessible to the most vulnerable families in our state? What is getting in the way of their accessibility?</p>
<p>Important Components Tips:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A system’s components include the programs, supports, services, informal opportunities, and other resources available within a community to meet a resident’s needs and aspirations. • The quality and availability of a system’s components are rarely distributed equitably across a community or state. 		
<p>Mindsets</p> <p>Attitudes, values, and beliefs that shape behavior</p>	<p>Aligned Stakeholders believe early life experiences influences children’s readiness for school and future outcomes</p> <p>Unaligned Stakeholders believe early life experiences are really not that important</p>	<p>What attitudes or beliefs do local professionals have that might be getting in the way of all kids being ready for school?</p> <p>What assumptions do people in our state make about why some children are not ready for school? What impact do these assumptions have on what our state is able to do?</p>

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Important Mindset Tips:

- Mindsets are one of the most powerful levers to shift within a system.
- Mindsets filter what we see, hear, and believe.
- Our mindsets often define what we believe to be the “truth”. Things that don’t fit within our mindsets are considered “lies” “untruths” and “false”.
- All mindsets are flawed – no one can know everything!
- We tend to see the flaws in other’s mindsets but not our own.

System Characteristics	Examples	State Examples
<p>Connections</p> <p>Relationships and exchanges between and across different actors, organizations and system characteristics (e.g. information, referrals, resources and learning). Also includes colocation of services, bundled services, bundled or joint funding efforts.</p>	<p>Aligned The State Departments of Public Health and Education have a joint agreement to mutually refer families to each others services.</p> <p>Unaligned Low income preschoolers with medical needs are not referred to the local public health department.</p>	<p>To what degree do service providers in local communities refer families to each other’s services? What at the state level is supporting service referrals? What, at the local level, is getting in the way of these referrals? What at the state level is getting in the way of these referrals?</p> <p>To what extent are there efforts at the state level to bundled early childhood services together across state departments? What is getting in the way of these collaborative, joint efforts?</p>

Important Connections Tips:

- Connections serve as the bridges linking different parts of a system together. When assessing connections think about what needs to flow into and out of a particular setting to help a program, unit, or effort operate effectively.

<p>Regulations</p> <p>Policies, practices, procedures, and daily routines that shape the behavior patterns of individuals, groups, and organizations)</p>	<p>Aligned Several state departments develop joint agreements to adopt and diffuse shared consent forms in their county-level agencies.</p> <p>Unaligned Policies impede information sharing across orgs</p>	<p>Are there any formal or informal policies or procedures getting in the way of all kids being ready for school?</p>
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Important Regulations Tips:

- Sometimes the most powerful regulations within a community are the informal ones – those that peers, co-workers, neighbors, and family members use to guide each other’s behaviors.

System Characteristics	Examples	State Examples
<p>Resources</p> <p>Human, financial, and social resources that are used within the system</p>	<p>Aligned State money invested into 0-3 prevention efforts</p> <p>State level staff understand the early childhood system and all of the resources available</p> <p>Unaligned 0-3 prevention money cut in proposed budget</p> <p>Staff unaware of different early childhood programs in other state organizations</p>	<p>To what degree do state level staff know about all the available programs and supports in your state for early childhood, including which families are eligible? What is currently done to promote awareness? What gets in the way of their awareness?</p>

Important Resources Tips:

- Systems always have resources that are unknown, untapped, or underutilized. These resources are often located within people and settings that are undervalued within the current context.
- Effective systems work to discover and leverage these important underutilized resources.

Power

How decisions are made, who participates in decision-making, whose voice matters, and the structures available to support inclusive voice

Aligned

Families authentically engaged in decision-making processes

Unaligned

Families asked for input, but ideas not used

To what degree do state-level organizations use input from families to guide decisions about their services? What gets in the way of using family voice?

To what degree do state-level organizations use input from local communities to guide decisions about their services? What gets in the way of using their voice?

Important Power Tips:

- It is important to consider stakeholders' capacity to value and incorporate all types of information and perspectives brought into a decision-making processes to prevent any participants from becoming marginalized.