

Funding Our Future: Introduction to State & Local Tax and Ballot Measures

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Speakers

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Agenda

- Welcome, Objectives and Introductions!
- Introduction to State and Local Tax Options and Guiding Questions
- Approaching the Work: Action Planning

Welcome, objectives and introductions

- Objectives:

- Provide an orientation to:

- state and local tax options
 - guiding questions for selecting tax mechanism
 - ballot initiatives
 - action planning steps

- Introductions

- What prompted you to come to this discussion?

Why focus on state and local revenue generation?

1. Political and policy relevance of ECE is on the rise.
2. Success begets success.
3. Gap between what is and what is needed is significant, especially for infants and toddlers.

Tax Policy Areas

Tax policy areas

1. Corporate and Business Taxes
2. Estate and Inheritance Taxes
3. Personal Income Taxes
4. Property Taxes
5. Sales Taxes
6. Sin Taxes
7. Special District Governments

Guiding Questions

1. What jurisdiction will levy the tax?

There are many potential entities that can tax and collect revenue:

- State
- City
- County
- School district
- Other level of government

2. Is the tax legally feasible?

- Who has the authority to levy the type of tax you are exploring?
- Who decides to have the tax?
 - Legislative body?
 - Voters through ballot/referendum?

3. Can the tax be dedicated to early care and education?

- Is dedication possible?
- Is it necessary to team up with other issues to have early childhood be included as one of the areas of expenditure?

4. Is the tax politically feasible?

- What support and political opposition do you face? This may include analyzing the following:
 - How hospitable has your state or community been to raising tax revenues in the past?
 - What tax proposals are most likely to achieve success in the current political climate?
 - What partners can you count on as champions of the effort?
 - What is the current appetite of policymakers for generating new revenue?
 - What other major interest groups are currently seeking to generate revenue?

5. Is the tax progressive or regressive?

- Who pays? How this is related to income and consumption patterns?

6. Does the tax have communication power related to early care and education?

- Is there a connection between the funding mechanism and funding use?

7. Who pays for the tax? Who benefits from the tax?

- What taxpayers does the tax disproportionately impact? How does this outcome advance or compromise your policy goal?

8. Is the tax timely?

- Have you considered any new opportunities that may have developed from the passage of recent legislation or are made possible given the local or state context? Are there constraints based on the current context?

9. How does the projected generated revenue fit into the near- and long-term strategy for meeting the need for quality early care and education?

- How does this fit into the plan to fully fund access to high-quality early care and education?

Action Planning