

## **Instruments 2a and 2b: Initial Meeting Questions**

- **Initial Meeting Questions**
  - [Instrument 2a: Professional Partner Group Discussion Questions](#)
  - [Instrument 2b: Parent Partner Group Discussion Questions](#)

## Instrument 2a: Professional Partner Group Discussion Questions

1. Warm-up questions
  - a. What is something that made you laugh this week?
  - b. All of us have a few children we've met across our career who will really stay with us. Who is someone like that for you, and why?
  - c. When you think about your skills and gifts as an early education professional, what would you say is your superpower?
  - d. What is one piece of advice that you'd give to a new professionals just starting out?
  - e. Looking back on your career, what is something you are really proud of?
2. Workforce-related questions
  - a. Share what type of child care or ECE setting you work in and how long you've been there.
  - b. What do you think is a strength of your ECE setting?
  - c. What's one thing you would like to see added or changed at your program?
  - d. What keeps you in your current role? (Probe for compensation, support, colleagues, career development/growth opportunities, environment, etc.)
  - e. When you think of colleagues who have left your programs, what were some of the reasons for this turnover?
  - f. In your experience, what are some things that programs, or systems could do to retain skilled professionals like yourselves? (Probe for compensation, support, planning time/environment, career development, etc.)
  - g. What do you think parents would say they'd like to see added or changed at your program?

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minutes per person per meeting of which there will be three. This is a voluntary collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB # is 0970-0531 and the expiration date is 09/30/2025. If you have any comments on this collection of information, please contact Judy Willgren, Office of Early Childhood Development, by email at [Judy.Willgren@acf.hhs.gov](mailto:Judy.Willgren@acf.hhs.gov).

## Instrument 2b: Parent Partner Group Discussion Questions

1. Warm-up questions:
  - a. What is something your child did this week that made you laugh?
  - b. What are you enjoying about this stage of parenting? What's something that's challenging right now?
  - c. What is one word you'd use to describe your child? Why did you pick that word?
  - d. Tell us about how your child got their name.
2. ECE setting-related questions
  - a. Share what type of child care your child under 5 is in. Have they always been in this program, or have they had multiple different programs/professionals?
  - b. Tell us about the process of finding a program for your child. Was it easy or difficult to find an opening in a program you liked?
  - c. How did you decide this program was a good fit for your child and family? (probe for whether program quality was evaluated or whether parents were stressed to simply find an opening)
  - d. What is the best part of your child's ECE program?
  - e. Do you feel your child's teachers know them as an individual? What is something they do or have done to respond to your child's unique needs?
  - f. Do you think your child's teachers have helped them grow and learn? Can you think of an example?
  - g. Which staff at your child's ECE program do you talk to on a regular basis?
  - h. What's something you've learned from your child's teacher/caregiver?
  - i. What's one thing you would like to see added or changed at your child's ECE program?

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