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## EI/ECSE Standards Alignment with DEC Recommended Practices (birth - 5) and CEC High Leverage Practices (5-8)

EI-ECSE Standards	DEC Recommended Practices*	CEC High Leverage Practices**
learning and development on assessr developmental sequences and variat disabilities, and other direct and indir	<b>Early Learning:</b> Candidates understand the impact of diment, curriculum, instruction, and intervention decision ions, individual differences within and across the range rect contextual features that support or constrain childrelinguistic diversity are considered when facilitating meaninests.	s. Candidates apply knowledge of normative of abilities, including developmental delays and en's development and learning. These contextual
1.1 Candidates demonstrate an understanding of the impact that different theories and philosophies of early learning and development have on assessment, curriculum, intervention, and instructional decisions.	A3 Practitioners use assessment materials and strategies that are appropriate for the child's age and level of development and accommodate the child's sensory, physical, communication, cultural, linguistic, social, and emotional characteristics.  A10 Practitioners use assessment tools with sufficient sensitivity to detect child progress, especially for the child with significant support needs.  INS4 Practitioners plan for and provide the level of support, accommodations, and adaptations needed for the child to access, participate, and learn within and across activities and routines.	HLP5 Interpret and communicate assessment information with stakeholders to collaboratively design and implement educational programs.  HLP13 Adapt curriculum tasks and materials for specific learning goals.

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1.2 Candidates apply knowledge of normative sequences of early development, individual	A3 Practitioners use assessment materials and strategies that are appropriate for the child's age and level of development and accommodate the	HLP 3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.
differences, and families' social, cultural, and linguistic diversity to support each child's development and learning across contexts	child's sensory, physical, communication, cultural, linguistic, social, and emotional characteristics.  F1 Practitioners build trusting and respectful partnerships with the family through interactions that are sensitive and responsive to cultural, linguistic, and socio-economic diversity.	HLP4 Use multiple sources of information to develop a comprehensive understanding of a student's strengths and needs.
	INS2 Practitioners, with the family, identify skills to target for instruction that help a child become adaptive, competent, socially connected, and engaged and that promote learning in natural and inclusive environments.	
	INS4 Practitioners plan for and provide the level of support, accommodations, and adaptations needed for the child to access, participate, and learn within and across activities and routines.	
	INS11 Practitioners provide instructional support for young children with disabilities who are dual language learners to assist them in learning English and in continuing to develop skills through the use of their home language.	
1.3 Candidates apply knowledge of biological and environmental factors that may support or constrain children's early development and learning as they	A4 Practitioners conduct assessments that include all areas of development and behavior to learn about the child's strengths, needs, preferences, and interests.	HLP7 Establish a consistent, organized, and respectful learning environment.

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plan and implement early intervention and instruction.	INT1 Practitioners, with the family, identify each child's strengths, preferences, and interests to engage the child in active learning.	HLP10 Conduct functional behavioral assessments to develop individual student behavior support plans.
1.4 Candidates demonstrate an understanding of characteristics, etiologies, and individual differences within and across the range of abilities, including developmental delays and disabilities, their potential impact on children's early development and learning, and implications for assessment, curriculum, instruction, and intervention.	A3 Practitioners use assessment materials and strategies that are appropriate for the child's age and level of development and accommodate the child's sensory, physical, communication, cultural, linguistic, social, and emotional characteristics.  A8 Practitioners use clinical reasoning in addition to assessment results to identify the child's current levels of functioning and to determine the child's eligibility and plan for instruction.  INS1 INS4 Practitioners plan for and provide the level of support, accommodations, and adaptations needed for the child to access, participate, and learn within and across activities and routines.  INS10 Practitioners implement the frequency, intensity, and duration of instruction needed to address the child's phase and pace of learning or the level of support needed by the family to achieve the child's outcomes or goals.	HLP 3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.  HLP4 Use multiple sources of information to develop a comprehensive understanding of a student's strengths and needs.

**Standard 2 – Partnering with Families:** Candidates use their knowledge of family-centered practices and family systems theory to develop and maintain reciprocal partnerships with families. They apply family capacity-building practices as they support families to make informed decisions and advocate for their young children. They engage families in opportunities that build on their existing strengths, reflect current goals, and foster family competence and confidence to support their children's development and learning.

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2.1 Candidates apply their knowledge of family-centered practices, family systems theory,	F1 Practitioners build trusting and respectful partnerships with the family through interactions that are sensitive and responsive to cultural,	HLP2 Organize and facilitate effective meetings with professionals and families.
and the changing needs and priorities in families' lives to	linguistic, and socio-economic diversity.	HLP3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.
develop trusting, respectful, affirming, and culturally responsive partnerships with all families that	F3 Practitioners are responsive to the family's concerns, priorities, and changing life circumstances.	
allow for the mutual exchange of knowledge and information.	F5 Practitioners support family functioning, promote family confidence and competence, and strengthen family-child relationships by acting in ways that recognize and build on family strengths and capacities	
2.2 Candidates communicate clear, comprehensive, objective information about resources and	F2 Practitioners provide the family with up-to-date, comprehensive and unbiased information in a way that the family can understand and use to make	HLP2 Organize and facilitate effective meetings with professionals and families.
supports that help families to make informed decisions and advocate	informed choices and decisions.	HLP3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.
for access, participation, and equity in natural and inclusive environments.	F7 Practitioners work with the family to identify, access, and use formal and informal resources and supports to achieve family-identified outcomes for goals.	
	F8 Practitioners provide the family of a young child who has or is at risk for developmental delay/disability, and who is a dual language learner, with information about the benefits of learning in multiple languages for the child's growth and development.	

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	F9 Practitioners help families know and understand their rights.	
	F10 Practitioners inform families about leadership and advocacy skill-building opportunities and encourage those who are interested to participate.	
2.3 Candidates engage families in identifying their strengths, priorities and concerns; support	A1 Practitioners work with the family to identify family preferences for assessment processes.	HLP2 Organize and facilitate effective meetings with professionals and families.
families to achieve the goals they have for their family and their young child's development and	F3 Practitioners are responsive to the family's concerns, priorities, and changing life circumstances.	HLP3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.
learning; and promote families' competence and confidence during assessment, individualized	F4 Practitioners and the family work together to create outcomes or goals, develop individualized plans, and implement practices that address the	
planning, intervention, instruction, and transition processes.	family's priorities and concerns and the child's strengths and needs.	
	F5 Practitioners support family functioning, promote family confidence and competence, and strengthen family-child relationships by acting in ways that recognize and build on family strengths and capacities.	
	F6 Practitioners engage the family in opportunities that support and strengthen parenting knowledge and skills and parenting competence and confidence in ways that are flexible, individualized,	
	and tailored to the family's preferences.  TR2 Practitioners use a variety of planned and timely strategies with the child and family before, during,	

EI-ECSE Standards	DEC Recommended Practices*	CEC High Leverage Practices**
	and after the transition to support successful adjustment and positive outcomes for both the child and family.	
with families and professionals, using professionals, candidates develop an	ling: Candidates apply models, skills, and processes of to culturally and linguistically responsive and affirming produced implement individualized plans and successful transities while working with and supporting other adults.	actices. In partnership with families and other
3.1 Candidates apply teaming models, skills, and processes, including appropriate uses of technology, when collaborating and communicating with families; professionals representing multiple disciplines, skills, expertise, and roles; and community partners and agencies.	TC1 Practitioners representing multiple disciplines and families work together as a team to plan and implement supports and services to meet the unique needs of each child and family.  TC2 Practitioners and families work together as a team to systematically and regularly exchange expertise, knowledge, and information to build team capacity and jointly solve problems, plan, and implement interventions.  TC3 Practitioners use communication and group facilitation strategies to enhance team functioning and interpersonal relationships with and among team members.  TC4 Team members assist each other to discover and access community-based services and other informal and formal resources to meet family-identified needs.  TC5 Practitioners and families may collaborate with each other to identify one practitioner from the	HLP2 Organize and facilitate effective meetings with professionals and families.  HLP3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.

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	team who serves as the primary liaison between the family and other team members based on child and family priorities and needs.	
3.2 Candidates use a variety of collaborative strategies when working with other adults that are evidence-based, appropriate to the task, culturally and linguistically responsive and take into consideration the environment and service delivery approach	TC1 Practitioners representing multiple disciplines and families work together as a team to plan and implement supports and services to meet the unique needs of each child and family.  TC2 Practitioners and families work together as a team to systematically and regularly exchange expertise, knowledge, and information to build team capacity and jointly solve problems, plan, and implement interventions.	HLP2 Organize and facilitate effective meetings with professionals and families.  HLP3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.
3.3 Candidates partner with families and other professionals to develop individualized plans and support the various transitions that occur for the young child and their family throughout the birth through 8 age span.	TC1 Practitioners representing multiple disciplines and families work together as a team to plan and implement supports and services to meet the unique needs of each child and family.  TR1 Practitioners in sending and receiving programs exchange information before, during, and after transition about practices most likely to support the child's successful adjustment and positive outcomes.  TR2 Practitioners use a variety of planned and timely strategies with the child and family before, during, and after the transition to support successful adjustment and positive outcomes for both the child and family.	HLP1 Collaborate with professionals to increase student success.  HLP2 Organize and facilitate effective meetings with professionals and families.

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considerations. Candidates choose de characteristics of the young child, far informal measures, and select and ac document, and share assessment info	Candidates know and understand the purposes of assest evelopmentally, linguistically, and culturally appropriate nily, and program. Using evidence-based practices, candiminister formal measures in partnership with families approach using a strength-based approach with families pment, planning instruction and intervention, monitoring	tools and methods that are responsive to the didates develop or select as well as administer and other professionals. They analyze, interpret, and other professionals for eligibility
4.1 Candidates understand the purposes of formal and informal assessment including ethical and legal considerations, and use this information to choose developmentally, culturally and linguistically appropriate, valid, reliable tools and methods that are responsive to the characteristics of the young child, family, and program.	A3 Practitioners use assessment materials and strategies that are appropriate for the child's age and level of development and accommodate the child's sensory, physical, communication, cultural, linguistic, social, and emotional characteristics.  A4 Practitioners conduct assessments that include all areas of development and behavior to learn about the child's strengths, needs, preferences, and interests.  A5 Practitioners conduct assessments in the child's dominant language and in additional languages if the child is learning more than one language.  A6 Practitioners use a variety of methods, including observation and interviews, to gather assessment information from multiple sources, including the child's family and other significant individuals in the child's life.  A7 Practitioners obtain information about the child's skills in daily activities, routines, and environments such as home, center, and community.	HLP4 Use multiple sources of information to develop a comprehensive understanding of a student's strengths and needs.

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	A8 Practitioners use clinical reasoning in addition to assessment results to identify the child's current levels of functioning and to determine the child's eligibility and plan for instruction.	
4.2 Candidates develop and administer informal assessments and/or select and use valid, reliable formal assessments using evidence-based practices, including technology, in partnership with families, and other professionals.	A2 Practitioners work as a team with the family and other professionals to gather assessment information.  A6 Practitioners use a variety of methods, including observation and interviews, to gather assessment information from multiple sources, including the child's family and other significant individuals in the child's life.  A10 Practitioners use assessment tools with sufficient sensitivity to detect child progress, especially for the child with significant support needs.	HLP4 Use multiple sources of information to develop a comprehensive understanding of a student's strengths and needs.
4.3 Candidates analyze, interpret, document and share assessment information using a strength-based approach with families and other professionals	A1 Practitioners work with the family to identify family preferences for assessment processes.  A10 Practitioners use assessment tools with sufficient sensitivity to detect child progress, especially for the child with significant support needs.  A11 Practitioners report assessment results so that they are understandable and useful to families.	HLP5 Interpret and communicate assessment information with stakeholders to collaboratively design and implement educational programs.

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4.4 Candidates, in collaboration with families and other team members, use assessment data to determine eligibility, develop child and family-based outcomes/goals, plan for interventions and instruction, and monitor progress to determine efficacy of programming.	A3 Practitioners use assessment materials and strategies that are appropriate for the child's age and level of development and accommodate the child's sensory, physical, communication, cultural, linguistic, social, and emotional characteristics.  A4 Practitioners conduct assessments that include all areas of development and behavior to learn about the child's strengths, needs, preferences, and interests.  A5 Practitioners conduct assessments in the child's dominant language and in additional languages if the child is learning more than one language.  A6 Practitioners use a variety of methods, including observation and interviews, to gather assessment information from multiple sources, including the child's family and other significant individuals in the child's life.  A7 Practitioners obtain information about the child's skills in daily activities, routines, and environments such as home, center, and community.  A8 Practitioners use clinical reasoning in addition to assessment results to identify the child's current levels of functioning and to determine the child's eligibility and plan for instruction.  A9 Practitioners implement systematic ongoing assessment to identify learning targets, plan	HLP5 Interpret and communicate assessment information with stakeholders to collaboratively design and implement educational programs.  HLP5 Use student assessment data, analyze instructional practices, and make necessary adjustments that improve student outcomes

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	activities, and monitor the child's progress to revise	
	instruction as needed.	
	A10 Practitioners use assessment tools with	
	sufficient sensitivity to detect child progress,	
	especially for the child with significant support	
	needs.	
	al and content domains. Candidates use curriculum fram riences in natural and inclusive environments that provions.  Th.	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
5.1 Candidates collaborate with	F4 Practitioners and the family work together to	HLP3 Collaborate with families to support
families and other professionals in	create outcomes or goals, develop individualized	student learning and secure needed services.
identifying evidence-based	plans, and implement practices that address the	
curriculum addressing	family's priorities and concerns and the child's	
developmental and content	strengths and needs.	
domains to design and facilitate		
meaningful and culturally	F8 Practitioners provide the family of a young child	
responsive learning experiences	who has or is at risk for developmental	
that support the unique abilities	delay/disability, and who is a dual language learner,	
and needs of all children and	with information about the benefits of learning in	
families.	multiple languages for the child's growth and	
	development.	

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5.2 Candidates use their knowledge of early childhood curriculum frameworks, developmental and academic content knowledge, and related pedagogy to plan and ensure equitable access to universally designed, developmentally appropriate, and challenging learning experiences in natural and inclusive environments.	E2 Practitioners consider Universal Design for Learning principles to create accessible environments.  E3 Practitioners work with the family and other adults to modify and adapt the physical, social, and temporal environments to promote each child's access to and participation in learning experiences.	HLP11 Identify and prioritize long- and short-term learning goals.  HLP19 Use assistive and instructional technology
systematic, evidence-based, respons all developmental and content doma participation for all children and fam	Reciprocal Interactions, Interventions, and Instruction: ive interactions, interventions, and instruction to supposins in partnership with families and other professionals ilies within natural and inclusive environments through ased decision-making to plan for, adapt, and improve in	ort all children's learning and development across . Candidates facilitate equitable access and culturally responsive and affirming practices and
6.1 Candidates, in partnership with families, identify systematic, responsive, and intentional evidence-based practices and use such practices with fidelity to support young children's learning and development across all	F4 Practitioners and the family work together to create outcomes or goals, develop individualized plans, and implement practices that address the family's priorities and concerns and the child's strengths and needs.  INS6 Practitioners use systematic instructional	HLP18 Use strategies to promote active student engagement.  HLP12 Systematically design instruction toward a specific learning goal.  HLP16 Use explicit instruction
developmental and academic content domains.	strategies with fidelity to teach skills and to promote child engagement and learning.  INS10 Practitioners implement the frequency,	

address the child's phase and pace of learning or the level of support needed by the family to achieve the

child's outcomes or goals.

EI-ECSE Standards	DEC Recommended Practices*	CEC High Leverage Practices**
6.2 Candidates engage in reciprocal partnerships with families and other professionals to facilitate responsive adult-child interactions, interventions, and instruction in support of child learning and development.	F4 Practitioners and the family work together to create outcomes or goals, develop individualized plans, and implement practices that address the family's priorities and concerns and the child's strengths and needs.  INS1 Practitioners, with the family, identify each child's strengths, preferences, and interests to engage the child in active learning.  INS2 Practitioners, with the family, identify skills to target for instruction that help a child become adaptive, competent, socially connected, and engaged and that promote learning in natural and inclusive environments.  TC1 Practitioners representing multiple disciplines and families work together as a team to plan and	HLP1 Collaborate with professionals to increase student success.
	implement supports and services to meet the unique needs of each child and family.	
6.3 Candidates engage in ongoing planning and use flexible and embedded instructional and	E1 Practitioners provide services and supports in natural and inclusive environments during daily routines and activities to promote the child's access	HLP7 Establish a consistent, organized, and respectful learning environment.
environmental arrangements and appropriate materials to support the use of interactions,	to and participation in learning experiences.  E3 Practitioners work with the family and other	HLP13 Adapt curriculum tasks and materials for specific learning goals.
interventions, and instruction addressing developmental and	adults to modify and adapt the physical, social, and temporal environments to promote each child's	HLP17 Use flexible grouping.
academic content domains, which are adapted to meet the needs of	access to and participation in learning experiences.	HLP21 Teach students to maintain and generalize new learning across time and settings.

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each and every child and their	INS2 Practitioners, with the family, identify skills to	
family.	target for instruction that help a child become	
	adaptive, competent, socially connected, and	
	engaged and that promote learning in natural	
	INS5 Practitioners embed instruction within and	
	across routines, activities, and environments to	
	provide contextually relevant learning opportunities.	
6.4 Candidates promote young	A4 Practitioners conduct assessments that include	HLP4 Use multiple sources of information to
children's social and emotional	all areas of development and behavior to learn	develop a comprehensive understanding of a
competence and communication,	about the child's strengths, needs, preferences, and	student's strengths and needs.
and proactively plan and	interests	LUDZ Fotoblish a consistent arganized and
implement function-based	E2 Due etition and would with the female, and other	HLP7 Establish a consistent, organized, and
interventions to prevent and	E3 Practitioners work with the family and other	respectful learning environment.
address challenging behaviors.	adults to modify and adapt the physical, social, and	LU DO Dancida a acitica and accepturative feedbank
	temporal environments to promote each child's access to and participation in learning experiences.	HLP8 Provide positive and constructive feedback to guide students' learning and behavior.
	INT1 Practitioners promote the child's social-	HLP9 Teach social behaviors.
	emotional development by observing, interpreting,	HLP10 Conduct functional behavioral
	and responding contingently to the range of the child's emotional expressions.	assessments to develop individual student behavior support plans.
	INT2 Practitioners promote the child's social	Scharler support plans.
	development by encouraging the child to initiate or	
	sustain positive interactions with other children and	
	adults during routines and activities through	
	modeling, teaching, feedback, or other types of	
	guided support.	
	INT3 Practitioners promote the child's	
	communication development by observing,	
	interpreting, responding contingently, and providing	

EI-ECSE Standards	DEC Recommended Practices*	CEC High Leverage Practices**
	natural consequences for the child's verbal and non-verbal communication and by using language to label and expand on the child's requests, needs, preferences, or interests.  INS2 Practitioners, with the family, identify skills to target for instruction that help a child become adaptive, competent, socially connected, and engaged and that promote learning in natural  INS6 Practitioners use systematic instructional strategies with fidelity to teach skills and to promote child engagement and learning.	
	INS8 Practitioners use peer-mediated intervention to teach skills and to promote child engagement and learning  INS9 Practitioners use functional assessment and related prevention, promotion, and intervention strategies across environments to prevent and address challenging behavior.	
6.5 Candidates identify and create multiple opportunities for young children to develop and learn play skills and engage in meaningful play experiences independently and with others across contexts.	INS7 Practitioners use explicit feedback and consequences to increase child engagement, play, and skills.  INT4 Practitioners promote the child's cognitive development by observing, interpreting, and responding intentionally to the child's exploration, play, and social activity by joining in and expanding on the child's focus, actions, and intent.	HLP7 Establish a consistent, organized, and respectful learning environment.  HLP12 Systematically design instruction toward a specific learning goal.  HLP14 Teach cognitive and metacognitive strategies to support learning and independence.  HLP15 Provide scaffolded supports

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6.6 Candidates use responsive	INS1 Practitioners, with the family, identify each	HLP15 Provide scaffolded supports
interactions, interventions, and	child's strengths, preferences, and interests to	
instruction with sufficient intensity and types of support across	engage the child in active learning.	HLP20 Provide intensive instruction.
activities, routines, and	INS3 Practitioners gather and use data to inform	HLP22 Provide positive and constructive
environments to promote child learning and development and	decisions about individualized instruction.	feedback to guide students' learning and behavior.
facilitate access, participation, and	INS4 Practitioners plan for and provide the level of	benavior.
engagement in natural	support, accommodations, and adaptations needed	
environments and inclusive	for the child to access, participate, and learn within	
settings.	and across activities and routines.	
	INS5 Practitioners embed instruction within and	
	across routines, activities, and environments to	
	provide contextually relevant learning opportunities.	
	INS10 Practitioners implement the frequency,	
	intensity, and duration of instruction needed to	
	address the child's phase and pace of learning or the	
	level of support needed by the family to achieve the	
	child's outcomes or goals.	
6.7 Candidates plan for, adapt, and	A2 Practitioners work as a team with the family and	HLP3 Collaborate with families to support
improve approaches to interaction, intervention, and instruction based	other professionals to gather assessment information.	student learning and secure needed services.
on multiple sources of data across		HLP4 Use multiple sources of information to
a range of natural environments	E4 Practitioners work with families and other adults	develop a comprehensive understanding of a
and inclusive settings.	to identify each child's needs for assistive	student's strengths and needs.
Ü	technology to promote each child's access to and	
	participation in learning experiences.	HLP6 Use student assessment data, analyze
		instructional practices, and make necessary
	E5 Practitioners work with the family and other	adjustments that improve student outcomes
	adults to acquire or create appropriate assistive	

EI-ECSE Standards	DEC Recommended Practices*	CEC High Leverage Practices**
	technology to promote each child's access to and participation in learning environments.	
	INS3 Practitioners gather and use data to inform decisions about individualized instruction.	
	TC1 Practitioners representing multiple disciplines and families work together as a team to plan and implement supports and services to meet the unique needs of each child and family.	
childhood special education (EI/ECS	thical Practice: Candidates identify and engage with the E) by exhibiting skills in, reflective practice, advocacy, and mended practices are promoted and used by candidate	d leadership while adhering to ethical and legal
7.1 Candidates engage with the profession of EI/ECSE by participating in local, regional, national, and/or international activities and professional organizations.	L4 Leaders belong to professional associations and engage in ongoing evidence-based professional development.	
7.2 Candidates engage in ongoing reflective practice and access evidence-based information	L9 Leaders develop and implement an evidence- based professional development system or approach that provides practitioners a variety of supports to ensure they have the knowledge and skills needed to implement the DEC Recommended Practices.	

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7.3 Candidates exhibit leadership skills in advocating for improved outcomes for young children, families, and the profession including the promotion of and use of evidenced-based practices and decision-making.	L3 Leaders develop and implement policies, structures, and practices that promote shared decision making with practitioners and families.  L5 Leaders advocate for policies and resources that promote the implementation of the DEC Position Statements and Papers and the DEC Recommended Practices.	HLP3 Collaborate with families to support student learning and secure needed services.
7.4 Candidates practice within ethical and legal policies and procedures.	L2 Leaders promote adherence to and model the DEC Code of Ethics, DEC Position Statements and Papers, and the DEC Recommended Practices.  L10 Practitioners implement the frequency, intensity, and duration of instruction needed to address the child's phase and pace of learning or the level of support needed by the family to achieve the child's outcomes or goals.	
	F9 Practitioners help families know and understand their rights.	

Notes: \*DEC RPs alignment reflect a combination of the EI/ECSE Standards Knowledge-Base document for each standard (available on the DEC of CEC website) and the cross-walk completed by ECPC (2020) available <a href="https://ecpcta.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2810/2020/10/Cross-Walk-of-the-Practice-Based-Professional-Preparation-Standards-EIECSE-with-DEC-RPs.pdf">https://ecpcta.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/2810/2020/10/Cross-Walk-of-the-Practice-Based-Professional-Preparation-Standards-EIECSE-with-DEC-RPs.pdf</a>

<sup>\*\*</sup>CEC HLPs alignment reflect the practices noted for each standard's components in the respective EI/ECSE Standards Knowledge-Base document.