

EXECUTIVE BRANCH AGENCIES

EARLY CHILDHOOD IOWA STATE BOARD

§256L.3

Department of Health and Human Services, Lucas State Office Building,

Des Moines 50319; 515.281.4321;

hhs.iowa.gov/about/advisory-groups/eci-state-board

<i>Name</i>	<i>City</i>	<i>Term Ending/Type</i>
Aaron Johnson, Co-Chair.....	Ankeny.....	April 30, 2026
Barbara Merrill, Co-Chair.....	Johnston.....	April 30, 2024
Angela Anderson.....	Eagle Grove.....	April 30, 2025
David Arens.....	Urbandale.....	April 30, 2024
Jennifer Banta.....	Iowa City.....	April 30, 2025
David Barajas.....	Marshalltown.....	April 30, 2024
Diane Campbell.....	Muscatine.....	April 30, 2025
Ryan Howard.....	Cedar Falls.....	April 30, 2024
Angela Lensch.....	Glidden.....	April 30, 2024
Mike Linnenbrink.....	Donnellson.....	April 30, 2025
Mayra Martinez.....	Storm Lake.....	April 30, 2024
Dawn Oliver-Wiand.....	North Liberty.....	April 30, 2024
Mary Petersen.....	Harlan.....	April 30, 2024
Paige Smothers.....	Carlisle.....	April 30, 2026
Debi Durham, Director, Economic Development Authority.....		Statutory
Kelly Garcia, Director of Health and Human Services.....		Statutory
McKenzie Snow, Director, Department of Education.....		Statutory
Beth Townsend, Director, Department of Workforce Development.....		Statutory

Ex officio, nonvoting members from the General Assembly

Senate

Lynn Evans.....	Aurelia.....	January 12, 2025
Cindy Winckler.....	Davenport.....	January 12, 2025

House

Michael R. Bergan.....	Dorchester.....	January 12, 2025
Tracy Ehlert.....	Cedar Rapids.....	January 12, 2025

Early Childhood Iowa (ECI) was established to create a partnership between communities and state government departments (Economic Development Authority, Education, Human Rights, Human Services, Public Health, Management, and Workforce Development). This partnership serves as a catalyst to integrate and coordinate an early care, health, and education network of systems for children from birth through age five and their families.

The ECI State Board sets goals to empower communities to achieve desired results, develop collaboration to support an early childhood care system, and advocate for public engagement. The board's role includes providing oversight, tracking, and reporting of the data on early childhood results and indicators; advocacy; and public awareness of the importance of early childhood issues. Current members of the board include department directors for six state agencies, four legislators, and citizens. The board is responsible for early childhood system development and the funding streams over which it has authority.

Thirty-eight early childhood areas operate throughout the state, representing all 99 counties. Each area has a citizen-led board to support activities to promote collaboration and develop systems in the community for young children and their families.