

EARLY CARE & EDUCATION PROGRAM COLLABORATION MODELS
(i.e., Child Care – Centers & Family Child Care Homes, Early/Head Start, and PreK)

The following program collaboration structure models represent some of the most common service delivery approaches through which early care and education partners share resources to provide:

- High quality services
- Comprehensive services
- Full day, full year services
- Continuity of services

	One Agency, Multiple Funders	Multiple Agencies Partner	Partnering with Family Child Care
Model/Structure Type	A single program or agency blends/braids funds and program requirements from multiple sources at a single site.	Two or more agencies, which are separate legal entities, partner to serve children at a single site. These collaborations generally include two types: those that co-locate, or share only space, and those that actually share programming & funding.	A program or agency partners with family child care home providers.
Definition	An agency may do this by merging early care & education programs, such as child care, PreK and/or Head Start, by blending/braiding funding, resources & program requirements from those programs. Or, an agency that operates one type of program may access and integrate new funding, such as child care assistance, to extend services to full day and full year.	The collaboration's costs may be covered through subcontracts, purchase of services, or other interagency agreements. Children who need full day/year, comprehensive care remain at one site. Classrooms may be team-taught by teachers who are employed by two different organizations. The partnering programs share an early care & education philosophy, ensuring programmatic continuity for the child's full day of care.	Children receive full day/year services in a family child care home. The partnership enhances comprehensive services for the child and family. The family child care provider may be a contractor or hired as an employee by the early care & education program.
Examples	<p>Example: A child care center that receives PreK funding directly in a grant from the State Board of Education along with its state child care assistance funding and other child care revenue sources to provide full day/year services that include PreK educational & support services.</p> <p>Example: A community action agency that is a Head Start grantee and runs a child care center blends its Head Start and child care programs to serve children full day/year with high quality comprehensive services. The agency allocates costs between programs, as appropriate.</p> <p>Example: A Head Start program partners with the CCR&R to use child care certificates to extend the children's day.</p>	<p>Example: A local school that has a PreK program partners with a child care center that uses the child care assistance program. Child care staff work with children at the school site and their schedules overlap with the PreK teacher to ensure continuity.</p> <p>Example: A Head Start program contracts with a child care center to provide full day/year services for Head Start children at the child care center. Head Start allocates their specialists' time to work with child care staff to provide comprehensive services to children & families in the collaboration.</p>	<p>Example: A Head Start agency or PreK program contracts with family child care home providers or a provider network to provide full day/year Head Start or PreK services in the home(s).</p> <p>Example: An employer sponsored child care center provides sick child care through partnership with family child care providers.</p>

Adapted from QUILT materials.