

CA Statewide Early Math Initiative Overview and Summary

This document provides an overview and a summary of the CA Statewide Early Math Initiative, work-to-date, and work ahead.

CA Statewide EMI Overview

The CA Statewide Early Math Initiative (EMI) is a multi-agency effort led by the Office of the Fresno County Superintendent of Schools, Early Care and Education Department (FCSS-ECE) to increase and strengthen math opportunities for children from birth through third grade. CA EMI focuses on building the capacity of administrators, coaches, and teacher leaders to provide effective professional learning and mentoring in mathematical content and pedagogy within their local communities and regions. The scope of the EMI is expanding to include early (birth through third grade) science, computer science, and a greater focus on statewide infrastructure and family engagement. In addition, a companion initiative will be launching in 2023 to support math and science teaching and learning in grades 4 to 12.

CA Statewide EMI Summary

Below is a summary of three legislative acts outlining the activities of the CA Statewide EMI.

CA Budget Act of 2018 (Senate Bill 840)

The CA Budget Act of 2018 (SB 840)¹ launched the CA Statewide Early Math Initiative. The legislative action appropriated funds to **develop, identify, and distribute early math resources, professional learning and coaching for educators, and math learning opportunities from birth through grade 3**. The State Department of Education developed and awarded an initial grant for the EMI project to Fresno County Superintendent of Schools Early Care & Education Department.

2021-22 Education Omnibus Trailer Bill (Assembly Bill 130)

The 2021-22 Education Omnibus Budget Trailer Bill (AB 130)² allocated Fresno County Office of Education additional funding to continue administering the statewide early math initiative established in the CA Budget Act of 2018.

2022-23 Education Omnibus Trailer Bill (Assembly Bill 181)

The 2022-23 Education Omnibus Trailer Bill (AB 181)³ allocated further funding to the EMI and broadened its scope to include the following activities:

1. **Expand existing statewide infrastructure and capacity** to provide educator professional development and coaching in mathematics and science from birth through third grade;
2. **Generate and disseminate professional learning opportunities** for educators serving

¹ https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201720180SB840

² https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB130

³ https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=202120220AB181

children from birth through third grade designed to enable local implementation efforts of the Next Generation Science Standards, the CA Common Core State Standards: Mathematics, the California Computer Science Standards, and mathematics and science domains of the CA Preschool Learning Foundations; and

3. **Support local efforts to improve family and community engagement** in mathematics and science education and engage families and communities in implementing relevant early math and science content standards.

AB181 also allocates funds for a county office of education to engage in similar activities with a focus on grades 4 to 12 statewide. The Bill indicates that the selected county office of education shall partner with the Fresno County Office of Education's Early Math Initiative and other state-sponsored and nonprofit mathematics and science educator training initiatives.

CA Statewide EMI Work-To-Date

In 2018, Fresno County Superintendent of Schools Early Care & Education (FCSS-ECE) was selected to lead the EMI. FCSS-ECE continues to lead the initiative and coordinate with statewide and regional EMI partners.

Through the EMI, FCSS-ECE collaborates with the AIMS Center for Math and Science Education, the California Early Math Project, California Department of Education, Les Mayfield III (film producer), State Board of Education, and WestEd to create innovative professional development, communications, and other resources to improve mathematics achievement outcomes for children in early childhood and beyond.

The initiative takes a collaborative statewide strategy to building and increasing the mathematical confidence, leadership, and content knowledge of teachers, care providers, and families through:

- Disseminating math strategies and resources to teachers, care providers, and families statewide through existing distribution channels and by leveraging technology
- Scaling a teacher coaching and leadership model across the state

An evaluation of professional learning and coaching efforts was recorded in two reports:

- [CA Statewide EMI in Local Communities: Building Educator Math Capacity](#)
- [CA Statewide EMI Evaluation Report of the Professional Learning and Coaching Model](#)

CA Statewide EMI Work Ahead

Fresno County Superintendent of Schools (FCSS) has engaged the Glen Price Group (GPG) to develop a strategic implementation plan – including priorities, goals, an updated logic model, evaluation learning questions, and a 2-year implementation plan – for the expansion of the EMI.

Starting in February 2023, GPG will begin engaging state and regional early math and science partners and interest-holders through a combination of interviews, focus groups, and surveys. In combination with ongoing desk research, these engagements will inform the development of a discovery report, which will serve as a foundation for planning discussions.