

Prenatal to Grade 3 Approach



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the Pennsylvania Key website. The header includes the logo and the text "THE PENNSYLVANIA KEY". Below the header are three main navigation tabs: "GETTING STARTED" (highlighted in green), "PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT", and "PROGRAM QUALITY". The page title is "P-3 APPROACH". The main content area is titled "PLANNING, IMPLEMENTING, AND EVALUATING PROGRAMS: PRENATAL THROUGH GRADE 3". The text describes a blended course for early education and school-age leaders, focusing on increasing the capacity of these leaders to understand, connect, and align the many public and private systems that are focused on the growth, development, and education of children prenatally through grade 3. It also mentions a nationally recognized P-3 framework and the opportunity for early education and school-age K-3 leaders to bring together in a cooperative, professional learning community. The page concludes with a note that this initiative is part of Pennsylvania's Race to the Top - Early Learning Challenge grant.

Web Link:

<https://www.pakeys.org/p3-approach>

A P3 approach is a mindset that focuses on building a comprehensive system of policies and practices that vertically and horizontally align to support unique needs of all children across the early learning continuum (prenatally through third grade). To support a P3 approach, The Pennsylvania Prenatal through Third Grade (P3) Systems Building Logic Model was developed to assist a variety of groups (state agencies, regional teams, local communities) in the planning and implementation of innovative P3 policies and practices.

The model includes four guiding principle that remind us that systems building work is complex, continuous, and contextual, and should focus on inclusive policies and practices. The model includes three areas of focus (Effective Learning Environments, Family Engagement, and Physical and Mental Health and Well-Being) that impact one another. The final components of the model are called the “accelerants.” Accelerants deal with how implementation in the areas of impact are accomplished and include responsive relationships, cross sector coordination, leadership, data-informed decision making.

The P3 Systems Building Model coupled with Pennsylvania’s established ECE infrastructure, creates transformative opportunities for the development of policies, strategies, and programs that ensure wide and diverse participation of children, families, and providers in high-quality ECE services and fully support children’s transition to kindergarten and the early grades statewide.

OCDEL has an informative, asynchronous course that provides a deeper review of P3. To view the course P3 Systems Thinking, please visit the [PD Registry](#).