

# Briefing Paper: Quad Agency Commission Review of Data Collection for Pre-K Partnerships

## Background

This Quad Agency review is being initiated under [Section 74.008\(a\)](#) of the Texas Human Resources Code (HRC), which authorizes the Quad Agency Child Care Commission Chairman to initiate an independent Commission review of any existing or proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other participating agency action that may impact the cost, quality, or accessibility of child care. Additionally, the Commission is charged in [HRC §74.005](#) with seeking out opportunities for interagency initiatives that impact the cost, quality, or accessibility of child care and reviewing actions of participating agencies to streamline activities that impact the child care industry. Using those guidelines, a review of the issue noted below is warranted.

## Summary of Issue and Impact

The Quad Agency Commission has received several public comments regarding a desire for more local education agencies (LEAs) to engage with private child care providers through [Pre-K Partnerships](#) (PKPs). Accurate data is needed to ensure that the state understands the landscape of PKPs currently in place.

Both the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) and Texas Education Agency (TEA) collect data related to PKP participation as outlined below.

- **TEA:** The data collected by TEA is intended to capture **all partnerships**, with any licensed child care or Head Start provider (regardless of Texas Rising Star participation). TEA is dependent upon LEAs to self-report accurate information to TEA.
- **TWC:** The data collected by TWC is specific to PKPs that were supported by the TWC PKP Department. TWC is limited to **a subset of partnerships with Texas Rising Star Three- or Four-Star certified child care providers**, based on TWC either facilitating the partnership and/or providing funding to the partnered child care provider. This direct engagement allows TWC to maintain detailed, comprehensive records of these PKPs.

Based on school year 2024-2025 data, only 14 LEAs reported to TEA that they were engaged in a formal PKP with a child care provider. However, during this same timeframe, TWC's PKP staff supported 27 LEAs with the development of PKPs.

Data integrity will be fundamental in the development of an Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS) as required by [HB 3963](#) (89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature). Data from TEA's current Early Childhood Data System will feed into the larger ECIDS.

A review of PKP data collection processes at the state and LEA level can identify barriers to comprehensive data collection and offer potential solutions.

## Quad Agency Commission Review

**The Chair of the Quad Agency Child Care Commission is initiating a review of PKP data collection** under authority of [Human Resources Code \(HRC\) §74.008\(a\)](#), noting that such a review is also consistent with the duties outlined [HRC §74.005](#).

As outlined in [HRC §74.008\(b\)](#) in conducting a review under this section, the Quad Agency Chair may request additional information from a participating agency. A participating agency shall provide the additional information in writing as soon as practicable after receiving a request under this section.

As outlined in [HRC §74.008\(c\)](#), the Quad Agency Commission shall post this review on the [Quad Agency Child Care Initiative](#) website and accept public comments for 30 days. Notification of this review will be provided to all stakeholders who subscribed to receive updates, and notifications will be made through each participating agency's standard stakeholder communication channel(s).