



PROMISE NEIGHBORHOODS INSTITUTE  
AT POLICYLINK

### ***Model legislation to support Cradle to Career efforts***

In the summer of 2014, The Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink (PNI) introduced model legislation to be used at the state and local level to secure support for cradle to career efforts. The Cradle to Career Act of 201\_ secures funding for innovative, results-based, and comprehensive continua of solutions that connect children and youth to a high quality education and key health and social services that prepare them to succeed in college and in their careers. The legislation was intentionally drafted in a manner that it may be used to support various strategies that advance educational outcomes from cradle through college and career.

If you have questions, or would like to discuss the legislation in greater detail, please contact Lisa Cylar Miller, Deputy Director of the Promise Neighborhoods Institute at PolicyLink. She may be reached via email at [LisaCM@policylink.org](mailto:LisaCM@policylink.org) or via phone at 202-906-8016.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS REGARDING PNI'S MODEL LEGISLATION TO SUPPORT CRADLE TO CAREER EFFORTS:**

**Establishes a continuum of solutions for all children living in distressed neighborhoods.** Each state or city's selected/sponsoring agency will be authorized to award grants to nonprofit and faith-based organizations, higher education institutions, and Indian tribe or tribal organizations, who serve as the lead agency for the effort and partner with at least one elementary or secondary school located within the identified geographic area.

**Incentivizes a disciplined execution of solutions.** To receive funding, eligible entities must develop a continuum of solutions to significantly improve the academic, health and social outcomes of children living in a specific geographic area. Eligible entities must demonstrate that their continuum of solutions is based on the best available evidence and designed to meet a set of core results by which the Cradle-to-Career grantees will be measured.

**Includes a matching requirement to encourage public/private partnerships and lay the groundwork for sustainability.** Once an eligible entity receives a Cradle-to-Career grant, the entity must match grant funds by at least 100 percent. Rural and tribal entities must match at least 50 percent of grant funding. Such matching funds shall come from federal, state, local, non-public, non-governmental, or private sources, starting with at least 10% from private sources and over time increase to 25%. Rural and tribal entities may initially start at a 10% private match and overtime increase to 15%.

**Encourages use of data and evaluation.** Eligible entities must describe how they will develop and utilize a longitudinal data system to measure progress of the students in the geographic area, how they will evaluate and use that data to continuously improve the continuum of solutions and state their commitment to work with a designated entity for an evaluation of the overall state/city effort.