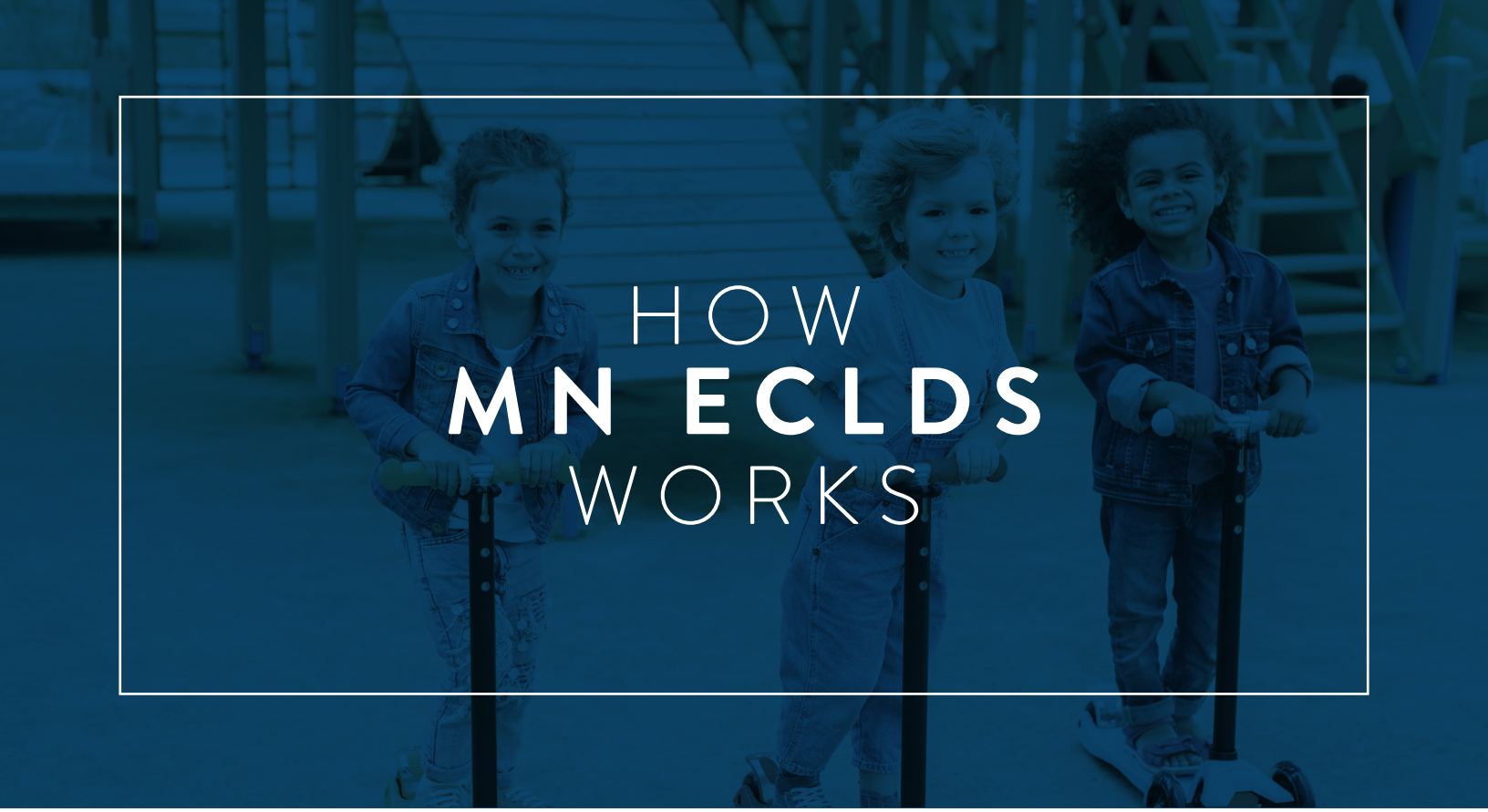

HOW MN ECLDS WORKS

THE BASICS

The Early Childhood Longitudinal Data System (ECLDS) is a free tool that combines data collected by the Minnesota departments of Education, Human Services, and Health into one online, interactive database. This data integration allows users to view data from a school district or county in relation to data from other public programs.

In Minnesota, Early Childhood Education (ECE) programs have been designed to respond to specific families' needs. ECLDS' integrated data informs users on how ECE programs work together, which communities they serve, and how they are accessed in combination, either simultaneously or over time.

ECLDS provides policymakers, educators, ECE administrators, researchers, and families with reliable information on the state of Minnesota's public early childhood programs. This information can be useful for local reporting, grant applications, and identifying potential gaps in services for a given area and/or community.

DATA IN ECLDS

ECLDS offers integrated data on children served in publicly-funded programs. The following sources currently comprise the data system:

Department of Education

- Assessment (EC-12, English Learner)
- Child Count
- Early Learning Scholarships
- Enrollment (E-12)
- Head Start
- Higher Education Completers
- Higher Education Organizations
- Minnesota Common Course Catalogue
- Teacher Licensing

Department of Health

- Birth Records
- Early Hearing Detection & Intervention

Department of Human Services

- Child Care Assistance Program
- Child Welfare
- Parent Aware
- MFIP/DWP/SNAP

ECLDS safeguards the privacy of children. The system doesn't show individual data, but population results only.

The Complexity of Early Childhood

The Early Care and Education report on ECLDS shows how children and families participate in multiple programs to meet their needs. Common combinations are:

- ECFE & MN District Preschool
- ECFE & ECSE
- CCAP & ECSE
- MN District Preschool & CCAP
- ECFE & ECSE & MN District Preschool
- MN District Preschool & CCAP & ECSE
- CCAP & ECFE

ECLDS.MN.GOV

MINNESOTA
EARLY CHILDHOOD
LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM