

LEARN & GROW

QUALITY ACTIVITIES GUIDE



Learn & Grow

Level 1

Administration & Leadership

Program

Quality Activity A: Program uses program assessment tool(s) and classroom data to develop a continuous quality improvement plan (CQIP).

Early Childhood Educator Qualifications & Professional Development

Alaska SEED Level

Quality Activity B: All* early childhood (EC) educators who work directly with children or supervise individuals who work with children are in the Alaska System for Early Education Development (SEED) Registry.

Training

Quality Activity C: 50%* of all teaching staff, including administrators, complete Learn & Grow 101 Training.

**NOTE: Teachers new to program within 2 months of submitting for Level 1 verification are exempt and not included in percentage calculation. Staff exemptions cannot apply to more than 50% of all teaching staff. Teaching staff includes staff who work more than 400 hours each year directly with children or supervising staff who work directly with children.*

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Learn & Grow

Level 2

Administration & Leadership

Program

Quality Activity A: Program has a written philosophy statement.

Quality Activity B (Center Only): Program establishes a Leadership Team.

Administrator

Quality Activity C (Center Only): Center program administrator completes the Alaska Early Childhood Administrator Credential (or equivalent based on personnel of program).

See Level 2 training

Early Childhood Educator Qualifications & Professional Development

Alaska SEED Level

Quality Activity D:

- Center administrator is an Alaska SEED Level 7.
- Home and Group Home Administrator is an Alaska SEED Level 5.

Training

Quality Activity E: 100%* of teaching staff have completed Learn & Grow 101 Training, and **40%* of teaching staff**, including designated administrator, have completed:

- Introduction to Alaska Early Childhood Core Knowledge and Competencies
- Introduction to the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines
- Introduction to the Pyramid Model
- Introduction to Strengthening Families

***NOTE:** Teachers new to program within 6 months of submitting for Level 2 verification are exempt and not included in percentage calculation. Staff exemptions cannot apply to more than 50% of all teaching staff. Teaching staff includes staff who work more than 400 hours each year directly with children or supervising staff who work directly with children.

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Please refer to the Learn & Grow portfolio for more information.
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Learn & Grow

Level 2 (Continued)

Learning Environments,
Adult-Child Interactions
& Child Outcomes

Learning Environment/Interactions

Quality Activity F: Each classroom completes a pre-assessment at least annually with a Relationship Based Professional Development (RBPDP) specialist and develops a Classroom Action Plan (CAP).

***NOTE:** Level 2 CAP completed near submission of Level 2 verification. Level 3-5 CAP developed at beginning of program working on each level and reviewed and adapted at least quarterly.*

Family & Community Engagement

See Level 2 training requirements: Strengthening Families

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Learn & Grow

Level 3

Administration & Leadership

Program

Quality Activity A: The program's philosophy statement is shared with families and all staff.

Quality Activity B: The program develops policies and/or procedures that address use of developmental screening, child assessment, curriculum, inclusionary practices, and expulsion/suspension reduction practices.

Quality Activity C (Center Only): The program completes an annual early childhood (EC) educator feedback survey.

Administrator

Quality Activity D (Homes/Group Homes Only): Home & Group Home Administrators complete the Alaska Family Child Care Early Childhood Administrator Credential.

Quality Activity E: Dedicate time annually to develop and review professional development plans with each EC educator.

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*Please refer to the Learn & Grow portfolio for more information.
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Learn & Grow

Level 3 (Continued)

Early Childhood Educator Qualifications
& Professional Development

Alaska SEED Level

Quality Activity F:

- A child care center, school district, Early Head Start or Head Start Administrator is an Alaska SEED Level 8.
- Home and Group Home Administrator is an Alaska SEED Level 6.
- 40%* of teaching staff (including any additional administrators) are an Alaska SEED Level 6.
- Remaining teaching staff are an Alaska SEED Level 2.

Training

Quality Activity G: All* teaching staff have completed Level 2 trainings, and 40%* of teaching staff, including designated administrator, have completed:

Introduction to:

- Curriculum
- Observation/assessment
- Inclusion practices
- Culturally responsive practices
- Implicit bias & equity practices
- Coaching
- Reduction of exclusionary practices

Quality Activity H: Designated staff have completed training on:

- Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ)
- Pyramid Implementation Data System (PIDS)

***NOTE:** Teachers new to program within 12 months of submitting for Level 3 verification are exempt and not included in percentage calculation. Staff exemptions cannot apply to more than 50% of all teaching staff. Teaching staff includes staff who work more than 400 hours each year directly with children or supervising staff who work directly with children.

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QUALITY ACTIVITIES GUIDE



Level 3 (Continued)

Learning Environments, Adult-Child Interactions & Child Outcomes

Learning Environment/Interactions

Quality Activity I: TPOTS/ TPITOS average score of 60% across all key practices and no red flags in assessed classrooms. —OR— CLASS score of 3.0 in 2 of 3 subdomains in assessed classrooms.

Inclusionary Practices

Quality Activity J: Program provides families with access to the ASQ Screening tool within 45 days of enrollment and as needed. (See *Learn & Grow portfolio for referral guidance*)

Quality Activity K: Program uses Pyramid Implementation Data System (PIDS) to record behavior incident reports and expulsion/suspensions.

Curriculum & Assessment

Quality Activity L: Program has completed a curriculum review and selection process and created a plan for implementation of selected curriculum.

Quality Activity M: Program has created a plan for implementation of Teaching Strategies Gold (TSG).

Family & Community Engagement

Quality Activity N: At enrollment, program provides families with opportunities to tell the program about their family and their children (*ethnicity, culture, language, abilities, preferences, etc.*)

Quality Activity O: Program conducts an annual family survey.

Quality Activity P (Center Only): In partnership with families, a program develops a transition plan for child any time they move to a different classroom.

Quality Activity Q: Program provides community resources or makes referrals to address family needs.

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Learn & Grow

Level 4

Administration & Leadership

Program

Quality Activity A: Program has policies and procedures in place for how they will support Multiple Language Learners, family engagement practices, and teacher supports.

Early Childhood Educator Qualifications & Professional Development

Alaska SEED Level

Quality Activity B:

- A child care center, school district, or Early Head Start or Head Start Administrator is an Alaska SEED Level 9.
- Home and Group Home Administrator is an Alaska SEED level 7.
- 40%* of teaching staff (including any additional administrators) are an Alaska SEED Level 7.
- Remaining teaching staff are an Alaska SEED Level 3.

Training

Quality Activity C: All* teaching staff have completed Level 2 and 3 trainings, and 40%* of teaching staff, including designated administrator, have completed:

- Overview of ACES
- Early childhood trauma informed care or related training (ACES could be part of)
- Training on specific curriculum used by program
- ASQ 3 or 4
- Complete Teaching Strategies Gold inter-rater reliability training (TSG training needed if individual does not pass IRR)

***NOTE:** Teachers new to program within 12 months of submitting for Level 4 verification are exempt and not included in percentage calculation. Staff exemptions cannot apply to more than 50% of all teaching staff. Teaching staff includes staff who work more than 400 hours each year directly with children or supervising staff who work directly with children.

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QUALITY ACTIVITIES GUIDE



Level 4 (Continued)

Learning Environment/Interactions

Quality Activity D: TPOTS/ TPITOS average score of 70% across all key practices and no red flags in assessed classrooms. —OR— CLASS score of 4.0 in 2 of 3 subdomains in assessed classrooms.

Inclusionary Practices

Quality Activity E: Each classroom has at least one teaching staff who communicates screening results with families.

Note: *Must complete training on communicating results with families.*

Quality Activity F: Program has identified local resource agencies and/or Infant/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant to support early childhood professionals and families to develop a plan to meet the individual needs of all children but particularly children with identified special needs (*social emotional, cognitive, physical, etc.*).

Curriculum & Assessment

Quality Activity G: Program uses a developmentally appropriate evidence-based early childhood curricula, including additional curricular enhancements, as appropriate, that: 1) are based on evidence and standardized training, 2) align with all five domains of the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines, and 3) have developmental scope and sequence.

Quality Activity H: Early childhood educators complete a full child assessment twice a year to monitor all children's progress towards meeting developmental outcomes.

Quality Activity I: Program shares child assessment results with families at least one time a year at a family-teacher conference.

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Level 4 (Continued)

Family & Community Engagement

Quality Activity J: Families are invited at least two times a year to provide information and/or participate in the development of program activities to provide opportunities for the family's culture to be infused in the program.

Quality Activity K: In partnership with families, a program develops a transition plan for a child any time they move to a different program or school; including preparing 4-year-old children and their families for the transition to kindergarten.

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Learn & Grow

Level 5

Administration & Leadership

Program

Quality Activity A: Program has direct access to an infant/early childhood mental health consultant for teachers and families (*contract or staff position*).

Quality Activity B: Program has direct access to an Alaska certified Relationship Based Professional Development (RPBD) III A Specialist to support classroom coaching (*contract or staff position*).

Early Childhood Educator Qualifications & Professional Development

Alaska SEED Level

Quality Activity C:

- A child care center, school district, Early Head Start or Head Start Administrator is an Alaska SEED Level 10.
- Home and Group Home Administrator is an Alaska SEED level 9.
- 40%* of teaching staff (including any additional administrators) are an Alaska SEED Level 9.
- Remaining teaching staff an Alaska SEED Level 4.

NOTE: Pre-elementary teachers and administrators must meet the requirements for teacher certification and must include a minimum of 6 early childhood education credits.

Training

Quality Activity D: All* teaching staff have completed Level 1 - 4 trainings.

***NOTE:** Teachers new to program within 12 months of submitting for Level 5 verification are exempt and not included in percentage calculation. Staff exemptions cannot apply to more than 50% of all teaching staff. Teaching staff includes staff who work more than 400 hours each year directly with children or supervising staff who work directly with children.

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Learn & Grow

Level 5 (Continued)

Learning Environments,
Adult-Child Interactions
& Child Outcomes

Learning Environment/Interactions

Quality Activity E: TPOTS/ TPITOS average score of 80% across all key practices and no red flags in assessed classrooms. —OR—
CLASS score of 5.0 in 2 of 3 subdomains in assessed classrooms.

Curriculum & Assessment

Quality Activity F: Early Childhood Educators complete a full child assessment 3 times a year to monitor all children's progress towards meeting developmental outcomes.

Quality Activity G: Program shares child assessment results with families at least two times a year at a family-teacher conference.