

Curriculum Review Process

Curriculum Review

The Curriculum Review Committee assesses the curriculum and provides feedback to the Minnesota Department of Human Services regarding the following requirements:

Meets the Parent Aware definition of curricula

Curriculum is a set of written materials that describes a particular approach to providing learning experiences for children, including all of the following:

- Theoretical, philosophical and/or research basis of the approach to nurturing and educating young children
- Goals and objectives for children's learning and development, including the skills and knowledge the curriculum seeks to foster
- Experiences to facilitate children's progress toward the goals and objectives (including specification of features of the physical environment, scheduling, specific learning activities, and adult-child interactions)
- Process through which adults will facilitate children's progress toward the goals and objectives.

Is reasonably aligned with the Early Childhood Indicators of Progress

The Curriculum Review Committee will only review curriculum that applies to all of the Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress domains or is supplemented through a bundle.*

- Early Childhood Indicators of Progress for children 0-3:
(<http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-4438-ENG>)
- Early Childhood Indicators of Progress: Minnesota's Early Learning Standards:
(<http://edocs.dhs.state.mn.us/lfserver/Legacy/DHS-4576-ENG>)

Meets the Parent Aware curriculum approval criteria

(See the Guide to the Curriculum Review Process for more details.)

- Curriculum must include goals and objectives.
- Curriculum must provide a theoretical, philosophical or research basis.
- Curriculum must include information about the ages it is designed for. Only curricula for children ages 0-5 is eligible for approval review.
- Curriculum must be aligned with the Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPs) by covering all domains or being supplemented through a bundle.
- Curriculum must provide for/allow for and/or be flexible enough to be used with an assessment tool to individualize instruction based on children's individual differences.
- Curriculum should include provisions for including families.
- Items will be reviewed to determine the extent to which the following are appropriately provided for in the written curriculum documents:
 - Sequence
 - Appropriateness of materials
 - General approach (balance of adult-directed vs. child-directed)
 - Provision for different types of learning experiences (individual, small group, large group, learning centers, "hands-on" and learning during routines and transitions)
 - Guidance on adult-child interaction, including behavior management
 - Guidance on adapting/refining to serve children with disabilities, children learning English as second language
 - Guidance for using instructional assessment information in curriculum planning process
 - Features suggest sensitivity to cultural diversity.

Nominating or submitting curricula for review

Child care/early education programs participating in the Parent Aware pilot may submit curricula to be reviewed. Complete the *Form for Submitting Curriculum for Review* found online at www.parentawareratings.org.

Nominating for inclusion on the approved list

You may nominate a published, commercially available curriculum to be reviewed for inclusion in the approved list on the Parent Aware website.

Submitting a locally-developed curriculum for review

You may submit a curriculum that your program developed for its own use to be reviewed or as part of the Parent Aware application process; however, it will not be posted online.

Submitting use of an approach for review

Programs may submit a summary of how they are using an approach, such as Montessori or the Project Approach. The program must demonstrate how their use of an approach satisfies the definition and criteria for curricula, and any separate written materials their program developed that satisfy criteria not met by the approach alone. Using an approach to satisfy the use of curriculum indicator may be submitted as part of the Parent Aware application process.

***Submitting a bundle of curricula for review**

If you are using multiple commercially available, published curricula that are not individually comprehensive of the Early Childhood Indicators of Progress, you should present all curricula used as a bundle for review. Bundles of curricula should be submitted as part of the Parent Aware application process.

Questions

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