



Crosswalk Tool for Accreditation Organizations

Overview

In order to reduce duplication for child care and preschool programs volunteering to participate in the Virginia Star Quality Initiative, an accelerated option is available for programs whose quality is already being assessed and monitored by another organization. In order to facilitate the accelerated process for child care and preschool programs accredited by their organization, the accreditation organization must: (1) demonstrate their current status as an accrediting organization, and (2) show evidence of quality early childhood standards through submitted crosswalk data and submit a copy of the standards.

Once an accrediting organization is approved, child care and preschool programs accredited by that organization may participate in the Virginia Star Quality Initiative through the accelerated process by completing an online Star Quality profile and providing documentation of their accreditation status.

Any questions regarding the accelerated process or crosswalk tool should be submitted to: gris@vecf.org

Status of Accreditation Organization

Name of Accrediting Organization

Phone Number

Address, City, State, Zip

Contact Person Name

Email

Phone Number

(direct line, if different from above)

Area of Specialization: (Please select all that apply)

Center-based (Birth - 5 years)

School-based (Pre-K – 12th Grade)

Family Child Care Home

Other (indicate specialization): _____

When was the accreditation organization established? _____

Is a verifiable and current list of accredited programs publicly available?

Yes

No

If yes, where can the list be found? _____

Are there administrative policies and system evaluation procedures in place to avoid conflicts of interest and address issues such as appeals and complaints?

Yes

No

If yes, briefly describe.

Briefly describe the length of the accreditation award period and the process for interim accountability to ensure maintenance of quality standards.

Evidence of Quality Early Childhood Standards – Quality Crosswalk

In order to participate in the Virginia Star Quality Initiative, child care and preschool programs must be in good standing with all requirements of their regulating authority. “In good standing” indicates that while there may be noncompliance with one or more standards that represent a minor or minimal risk or violation, compliance clearly and obviously exists with the requirements as a whole.

Please complete the following questions AND provide a copy of your accreditation standards.

Education & Qualifications Standards

Do your accreditation standards require at least one (1) Administrator/Director to have an Associate degree in a relevant field with a minimum of 15 child-related credits OR 24 child-related credits from an accredited college? Yes No

If yes, please indicate the criteria of your aligned standards and the method of verification used.

Do your accreditation standards require at least 50% of Lead Teachers or the Family Child Care Provider working with children ages birth to 5 to have a National Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) OR 12 total child related credits OR another approved credential, such as an American Montessori Society Credential? Yes No

If yes, please indicate the criteria of your aligned standards and the method of verification used.

Do your accreditation standards require programs to have basic training on any of the following topics? (Please check all that apply)

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Inclusion | Kindergarten transition |
| Strengthening Families | Cultural Competence |
| Curriculum and Assessment | High Quality Interactions |
| Play-Based Learning Environments | Creating Professional Development Plans |
| Conducting Employee Orientation | |

If yes, please indicate the criteria of your aligned standards and the method of verification used.

Curriculum & Assessment Standards

Do your accreditation standards require programs to have an intentional approach to promoting children's learning and development? Yes No

If yes, please indicate the criteria of your aligned standards and the method of verification used.

Do your accreditation standards require programs to align with specific standards, such as the Virginia Early Learning Guidelines ([Milestones of Child Development](#) or [Foundation Blocks for Early Learning](#))? Yes No

If yes, please indicate the criteria of your aligned standards and the method of verification used.

Do your accreditation standards require programs to individualize instruction using assessment data or use another method of supporting individual children in the program? Yes No

If yes, please indicate the criteria of your aligned standards and the method of verification used.

Environment and Interactions Standards

An on-site observation using the Environment Rating Scale (ERS) appropriate for the setting is used to assess environmental quality of a program. Four subscales of the ERS are included in the Star Quality assessment: Language-Reasoning/Listening and Talking, Activities, Interactions, and Program Structure. For more information on the ERS, go to <http://ersi.info>.

An on-site observation using the CLASS tool appropriate for the setting is used to assess the quality of the teacher-child interactions in a program. For more information on the CLASS, go to <http://teachstone.com>.

All child care and preschool programs wishing to pursue Level 4 or 5 in the Virginia Star Quality Initiative will need to apply to have an on-site observation conducted by an approved Star Quality Rater.

Other Standards

Do your accreditation standards require programs to demonstrate quality in any other ways that you would like taken into consideration as part of this quality crosswalk? Yes No

If yes, please describe.

Thank you for providing information on your accreditation standards. The completed crosswalk will be used to determine how your accreditation standards address the standards used in the Virginia Star Quality Initiative. Please email your completed crosswalk and a copy of your accreditation standards to gris@vecf.org.