



SCHOOL-AGE STANDARDS

100 POINTS

Domain: Family and Community Partnerships

Maximum 20 points

Rationale: Family involvement and reciprocal family-provider relationships are fundamental to high quality school-age services. This dimension of practice emphasizes ongoing, bi-directional communication between families and programs. Meaningful family engagement in school-age programs requires attention and sensitivity to the needs of all families. Further, collaboration between school-age programs and schools/other agencies assists programs in accessing resources to meet the needs of youth and their families.

Categories: Communication (FC), Involvement & Support (FS), Community Partnerships (FP)

Code	Standard	Points
FC1 Maximum 2 points	Program welcomes all youth and their families with procedures that embrace inclusion and diversity.	2 points
FC2 Maximum 2 points	Program provides weekly written correspondence with families.	2 points
FC3 Maximum 2 points	Program conducts conferences with families at least twice annually	2 points
FS1 Maximum 4 points	Program makes accommodations for families of youth with identified disabilities or who are dual language learners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accommodations for families of youth with identified disabilities • Accommodations for families of youth who are dual language learners 	2 points 2 points
FS2 Maximum 2 points	Program systematically gathers information from families and uses data to inform program planning annually.	2 points

FS3 Maximum 1 point	Program implements a variety of family-centered events annually.	1 point
FS4 Maximum 4 points	Program supports transitions for families: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Into the program • Within the program • Out of the program 	2 points 1 point 1 point
FP1 Maximum 2 points	Program develops and maintains active relationships with schools.	2 points
FP2 Maximum 1 point	Program develops and maintains active relationships with community-based agencies.	1 point

Domain: Qualifications and Professional

Maximum 30 points

Rationale: A well-prepared teaching and administrative staff are essential to high quality school-age care. Thoughtfully planned professional development linked to effective supervision and evaluation practices provide ongoing support to staff in meeting the needs of youth and their families.

Categories: Education (QE), Training (QT)

Code	Standard	Points
QE1 Maximum 4 points	Person functioning as Administrator completes the Delaware Administrator Credential and is qualified through Delaware First as an Administrator.	4 points
QE2 Maximum 3 points	Person functioning as the Administrator utilizes the <i>Delaware Early Childhood Career Lattice</i> for professional development planning and achieves Step 8 or above.	3 points
QE3 Maximum 4 points	Teaching staff complete appropriate credentials. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At least one staff member attains a Delaware credential (excluding Administrator)• 25% of staff completes School-Age Credential• 25% of staff completes one Delaware credential (excluding Administrator and School-Age Credential)	1 point 2 points 2 points
QE4 Maximum 7 points	Program staff utilizes the <i>Delaware Early Childhood Career Lattice</i> for career planning. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 50% of staff achieves Step 4 or above on the <i>Delaware Early Childhood Career Lattice</i>• 30% of staff achieves Step 6 or above on the <i>Delaware Early Childhood Career Lattice</i>	3 points 4 points
QE5 Maximum 3 points	Person functioning as School-age Site Coordinator utilizes the Delaware Early Childhood Career Lattice for professional development planning. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieves Step 7 or above on the Delaware Early Childhood Career Lattice• Achieves Step 8 or above on the Delaware Early Childhood Career Lattice	2 points 3 points
QT1 Maximum 3 points	Annual training hours are quality assured. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• For each staff, 50% or more of all training hours completed are quality assured• For each staff, 75% or more of all training hours completed are quality assured	2 points 3 points

<p>QT2 Maximum 5 points</p>	<p>Program implements a system of staff evaluation that integrates professional development needs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual evaluation for each staff person that includes observations, written feedback, and a self-assessment completed by staff using the <i>Delaware Competencies for School-age Professionals</i> • Program requires staff to use annual competency-based evaluation and self-assessment to create annual <i>Individual Professional Development Plans</i> that integrates 	<p>2 points 3 points</p>
<p>QT3 Maximum 1 point</p>	<p>Program completes an annual Facility Professional Development Plan to compile information on staff professional development needs.</p>	<p>1 point</p>

Domain: Management and Administration

Maximum 20 points

Rationale: Effective management and administrative practices create the infrastructure for the provision of high quality school-age care. Well-managed programs facilitate quality through lower rates of staff turn-over, effective supervision, and appropriate allocation of personnel resources.

Categories: Personnel Management (MP), Operations and Administration (MO), Fiscal Management (MF)

Code	Standard	Points
MP1 Maximum 3 points	Program requires a staff person designated as School-Age Site Coordinator to be present on-site during operating hours.	3 points
MP2 Maximum 2 points	Program arranges regular, paid planning time (minimum one hour) and access to resources for at least one staff member per classroom/group when they are not responsible for youth. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bi-weekly (30 minutes continuous or more)• Weekly (30 minutes continuous or more)	1 point 2 points
MO1 Maximum 2 points	Program implements a risk management plan.	2 points
MO2 Maximum 2 points	Program provides access to the following benefits for employees: Paid vacation, paid sick time, paid holidays, retirement, insurance (health or other). <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two selected• Three or more	1 point 2 points
MO3 Maximum 2 points	Program conducts required staff meetings that are open to all staff. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quarterly• Monthly	1 point 2 points
MO4 Maximum 3 points	Program implements strategies to retain 75% of classroom/group staff on a school year basis.	3 points

MO5 Maximum 4 points	Program provides staff access to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comfortable adult facilities and storage • Administrative computer with internet • Staff computer in staff space with internet 	1 point 1 point 2 points
MF1 Maximum 2 points	Program implements a system for fiscal management. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual operating budget with income and expense figures • Program reviews annual operating budget quarterly, adjusts as needed, and files copies for later review 	1 point 1 point

Domain: Learning Environment and Curriculum

Maximum 30 points

Rationale: The provision of effective, developmentally appropriate learning environments is essential to high quality school-age practice. The foundation for appropriate learning environments is positive interactions between teachers and youth. From this foundation, teachers and caregivers intentionally plan appropriate experiences for youth that address key areas of learning and development.

Categories: Classroom Environment (LE), Observation & Assessment (LO), Curriculum Planning & Implementation (LC)

Code	Standard	Points
REQUIRED	Program has an Environment Rating Scale (ERS) assessment and achieves the following classroom scores for classrooms selected: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum 3.40 (Star Level 3)• Minimum 4.40 (Star Level 4)• Minimum 5.40 (Star Level 5)	
LE1 Maximum 3 points	Program implements the lower staff/child ratio of 1:14 for youth 60 months and older.	3 points
LE2 Maximum 3 points	Program implements the maximum group size of 28 for youth 60 months and older.	3 points
LO1 Maximum 2 points	Program observes and documents individual youth’s progress and reports progress to families twice annually.	2 points
LO2 Maximum 3 points	Program implements developmental youth assessment annually. <i>*Effective July 1, 2016, this will be an Essential Standard for Star 4 and Star 5 programs when they move up or re-verify.</i>	3 points
LO3 Maximum 3 points	Program uses developmental youth assessments to inform goal and lesson planning. <i>*Effective July 1, 2017, this will be an Essential Standard for Star 4 and Star 5 programs when they move up or re-verify.</i>	3 points
LC1 Maximum 3 points	Program follows a daily schedule that supports youth's free exploration both indoors and outdoors.	3 points

LC2 Maximum 4 points	Program has plan for daily and weekly activities appropriate to all ages.	4 points
LC3 Maximum 3 points	Program implements a framework for curriculum planning. <i>*Effective July 1, 2016, this will be an Essential Standard for Star 4 and Star 5 programs when they move up or re-verify.</i>	3 points
LC4 Maximum 2 points	Program implements a supplemental curriculum to support healthy lifestyles, including healthy eating and physical activity.	2 points
LC5 Maximum 4 points	Program implements instructional and environmental modifications that support the learning of all youth. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program implements formalized procedures for making accommodations for youth with identified disabilities • Program implements formalized procedures for making accommodations for youth who are dual language learners 	2 points 2 points

Star Rating	Required Points
Star 3	40 - 59
Star 4	60 - 79
Star 5	80 - 100