

**Standards Initiatives Related to Early Childhood
Current State Level Quality Initiatives**

Title	What is it?	Applications or uses	Impact	Further Information
Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (draft)	Program Expectations These program standards describe the resources, activities, and instruction programs offer to help preschool children ages 3 to 5 learn and develop. Program standards incorporate classroom standards such as group size, adult-child ratios, materials; supports available to children and families; and teaching and curriculum standards such as the activities opportunities provided to support learning. In other words, what adults should know and be able to do in order to arrange the environment and provide learning opportunities for young children.	The Iowa Quality Preschool Programs standards are applicable to early childhood special education classrooms and services including those in community based early childhood, Title I and local district preschool programs. Participation is statewide and encouraged.	Programs under the authority of the Department of Education will understand the attributes of quality and work toward implementing quality standards for all preschool programs.	Iowa Department of Education Early Childhood Consultants Mary.Schertz@iowa.gov Penny.Milburn@iowa.gov Dee.Gethmann@iowa.gov Susan.Andersen@iowa.gov Tom.Rendon@iowa.gov
Statewide Child Care Quality Rating System	Program Expectations The Child Care Quality Rating System (QRS) will identify a variety of quality child care indicators, such as	The Quality Rating System will be a statewide, voluntary system for licensed child care centers, registered child development homes, and	The goals of the quality rating system are to improve the quality of child care, increase the number of children receiving care in quality settings, and to help parents identify quality child care	Jody Caswell, Department of Human Services jcaswel@dhs.state.ia.us 515-281-3186

	<p>staff education, training, and credentials, director education and training, outside assessment of the child care facility, staff-to-child ratios, and national accreditation. The QRS will consist of a number of levels; a provider's level will be determined by the above criteria.</p>	<p>programs operating under authority of a school.</p>	<p>settings.</p>	
<p>Iowa Core Body of Knowledge</p>	<p>Adult Expectations The Iowa Core Body of Knowledge defines what professionals need to know and be able to do to provide quality early care and education for children ages birth to five. The Core Body of Knowledge defines a common set of professional standards for early care and education. They serve as a foundation for decisions and practices carried out by professionals in all settings.</p>	<p>The purpose of the Core Body of Knowledge is to assist professionals in determining the quality of care they provide for children, to monitor professional development, to provide access to quality professional development and to achieve higher levels of competencies.</p>	<p>The long term goals and expected outcomes of this system are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to enhance the quality of training being provided • to increase the consistency of available training, • to coordinate and expand training opportunities, • to facilitate the integration of training requirements by licensures into state recognized certificates, • to build stronger linkages between training experiences and academic credit • to increase the articulation of education, and obtainment of degrees 	<p>www.iaeceprofdev.org</p>

<p>Iowa Early Learning Standards (draft)</p>	<p>Child Expectations Iowa Early Learning Standards are statements that describe expectation for the learning and development of young children ages 3 to 5, across the areas of physical well being and motor development; approaches toward learning, social and emotional development; communication, language and literacy, mathematics and science. In other words, what children should know and be able to do. The development of standards for children ages birth to three will be complete in the fall, 2005.</p>	<p>The Iowa Early Learning Standards (IELS) are designed to identify the knowledge, skills, motivation, and attitudes needed by five-year-olds for success in kindergarten. The Iowa Early Learning Standards are designed to guide parents, and professionals to ensure that all children experience high quality early care and education and to guide curriculum development and assessment for preschool children in early care and education settings in homes, child care centers, and preschool programs</p>	<p>Adults will share a common understanding and common language around what children should know and be able to do. This will allow adults to provide stimulating, responsive environments as they guide, or scaffold, children toward achieving these standards.</p>	<p>www.iowachildnetwork.org Early Learning Standards</p> <p>Penny Milburn pmilburn@iastate.edu</p>
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