

## State-Purchased Child Care Curriculum & Assessment Frequently Asked Questions Updated December 11, 2018

In an effort to reach Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) program participation goals, programs will need the necessary tools to become a highly rated program. To help cover the cost associated with purchasing a curriculum and assessment, eligible programs can choose from two evidence-based curriculums with assessments purchased by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS). This initiative was established to move new programs into high quality ratings and reach the SUTQ program participation goals for 2020 and 2025:

- *Any program seeking to serve families eligible to receive publicly funded child care (PFCC) must be participating in SUTQ by the year 2020.*
- *By the year 2025, any child care center or type A home program that provides services to families eligible to receive PFCC must be highly rated at a 3, 4 or 5-star rating.*

To meet SUTQ standards, programs must obtain a curriculum at a 2-star rating and must implement that curriculum at a 3-star or higher rating. ***By receiving this free curriculum from ODJFS, programs meet the 1 and 2- star curriculum standards for SUTQ.*** It is very important for you to note that funding for obtaining curriculums and assessments is not guaranteed so please ensure your organization is prepared for any ongoing costs.

Below please find answers to frequently asked questions regarding the state-purchased curriculum and assessments.

### **Curriculum**

#### **1. Who is eligible to request a state-purchased curriculum and assessment?**

For a program to be eligible to request a state-purchased curriculum and assessment, it must meet the following requirements:

- ✓ Be an ODJFS or an Ohio Department of Education (ODE) program with an active PFCC provider agreement; and
- ✓ Have provided PFCC services to at least one child within 90 days prior to the request date; and
- ✓ Currently not using a curriculum or not using either of the curricula purchased by the state; and
- ✓ Currently SUTQ rated or pursuing SUTQ as evidenced by a submitted registration for any star rating.

#### **2. What curriculums are available for request?**

The following two curriculums, which include assessments, can be requested and sent to your program:

- **The Creative Curriculum® and GOLD® Assessment**

*For more information regarding this assessment and curriculum, please visit:*

<http://teachingstrategies.com/>

- **HighScope’s COR-Advantage, HighScope’s Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers, or HighScope’s Essentials for Active Play in Preschool**

For more information regarding this assessment and curriculum, please visit:  
<http://www.highscope.org/>

Both of the curriculum options are evidence-based and available for the following age groups:

- ✓ Infant
- ✓ Toddler
- ✓ Preschool

The curriculum options are available for centers in child care or school based settings and family child care.

**3. How do I request a curriculum?**

To request a curriculum or assessment the program must complete and submit a JFS 01598 “Curriculum and Assessment Request for SUTQ” to Curriculum-Request@jfs.ohio.gov. You will receive an email notifying you of your approval or denial.

**4. Which versions of Creative Curriculum & HighScope are available?**

The curriculums available are outlined below based on setting and age groups served:

**Centers**

***Infants & Toddlers***

<b>Options</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
1	HighScope Tender Care and Early Learning: Supporting Infants and Toddlers in Child Care Settings	COR Advantage 1.5
2	The Creative Curriculum® for Infants, Toddlers & Twos, with Daily Resources	Teaching Strategies GOLD

***Preschool***

<b>Options</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
1	HighScope Essentials of Active Learning in Preschool	COR Advantage 1.5
2	The Creative Curriculum® for Preschool, with Expanded Daily Resources	Teaching Strategies GOLD

**Family Child Care**

***Infants & Toddlers***

<b>Options</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
1	HighScope Tender Care and Early Learning: Supporting Infants and Toddlers in Child Care Settings	COR Advantage 1.5
2	The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care, with Daily Resources	Teaching Strategies GOLD

## ***Preschool***

<b>Options</b>	<b>Curriculum</b>	<b>Assessment</b>
1	HighScope Essentials of Active Learning in Preschool: Getting to Know the HighScope Curriculum	COR Advantage 1.5
2	The Creative Curriculum® for Family Child Care, with Daily Resources	Teaching Strategies GOLD

**Note:** Creative Curriculum and HighScope offer the infant & toddler and preschool curriculums in Spanish.

- 5. How many copies of the curriculum is each program eligible for?**  
Programs are eligible to receive one curriculum per age group. If an eligible program begins caring for a new age group, they can receive a copy for that age group.
- 6. If a program already has Creative Curriculum or HighScope, are they eligible to receive another copy of the curriculum?**  
The goal is to remove a barrier to new programs moving into high quality ratings, therefore, programs currently using one of the two offered curriculums are not eligible to request an additional curriculum.
- 7. If a program is using an older version of one of the two approved curriculums, can the program get a copy of a newer version?**  
Not at this time, funding is limited and program requests with no curriculum will be fulfilled first.
- 8. If a family child care program that received the family child care curriculum becomes a child care center, are they eligible to receive a center-based curriculum?**  
Yes.
- 9. Will the state support the ongoing cost of renewing curriculums?**  
No.
- 10. We have the curriculum books, but not the corresponding support products. Can ODJFS provide those missing pieces?**  
No. The contracts were not drafted to procure specific components of the curriculum or learning support materials.
- 11. We cannot register for a 3, 4 or a 5 star until we have implemented a curriculum and assessment, but the October 4, 2016 communication states that to be eligible for the free curriculum we must have registered for SUTQ rating. Does this mean we must become a 1 or 2- star before applying for a 3-5 star if we want to access these materials?**  
Yes, that is correct. To be eligible to receive the curriculum, you must be participating in SUTQ or registered for any star rating. If you are registered to become a 1 or 2-star rated program, then you are eligible to request a curriculum.

## **Assessment**

- 12. Will the state support the ongoing cost of renewing assessments?**

Yes, as long as funding allows. Funding is limited so programs should only request assessments if they intend to use them. ODJFS evaluates programs' utilization of the assessments when considering future availability.

**13. Will the state pay for the assessment costs for all children in the program, or only those receiving publicly funded child care?**

The state will cover the assessment costs for all children eligible for PFCC in the infant, toddler and preschool classrooms.

**14. Can a program that is already using one of the curriculums request ongoing assessment costs be covered?**

Yes. Current programs using one of the two curriculums can request assessment support for children eligible for PFCC.

**Training**

**15. Is the training available for the curriculum and assessment, and is it online or in-person?**

The training available covers both the curriculum and assessment.

- ✓ Online trainings are available through the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR):  
[https://registry.occrra.org/cart/training\\_list](https://registry.occrra.org/cart/training_list).
- ✓ In-person trainings are offered by Teaching Strategies and are only available for programs with a curriculum issued through ODJFS:  
<https://teachingstrategies.com/solutions/develop/>.

**16. Is there a separate training for administrators on the fidelity or management of the curriculum/assessment?**

No.

**17. Is the training Ohio Approved?**

Yes.