



Department of
Job and Family Services

John R. Kasich, Governor
Cynthia C. Dungey, Director

TO: Child Care Programs

FROM: Kara B. Wentz, Deputy Director
Office of Family Assistance

DATE: October 4, 2016

SUBJECT: State-Purchased Curriculum and Assessment

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. Any provider 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 provider that will provide 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. To help defray the cost associated with purchasing a curriculum and assessment, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) has purchased two evidence-based curriculums with assessments for eligible providers to choose from.

Who is Eligible to Request a State-Purchased Curriculum and Assessment*?

In order 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) provider with an active publicly funded child care provider agreement; and
- Have provided publicly funded child care 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.

What Curricula are Available for Request?

The following two curricula, which include the assessment, are able to 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/>

30 East Broad Street
Columbus, Ohio 43215
jfs.ohio.gov

- **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 curricula options are evidence-based and available for the following age groups:

- Infant
- Toddler
- Preschool

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

How Do I Request a Curriculum?

- If your program is eligible to request a curriculum, please email Curriculum-Request@jfs.ohio.gov and include the following information:
 - Current ODJFS or ODE provider license number; and
 - Number of children eligible to receive PFCC benefits served within 90 days prior to the submission of the curriculum request; and
 - Current curriculum being used or identify if you are not currently using a curriculum; and
 - Current SUTQ rating or rating registration date.
- Once eligibility is confirmed, an email reply will be generated requesting additional information that is required for issuance.
- Curriculum requests will be reviewed weekly. The order of review will be based on when the completed request is received.
- You will receive an email notifying you of your approval or denial.

Frequently Asked Questions

- 1) I am not sure which curriculum would be better for my program. Can I request both *The Creative Curriculum*[®] and HighScope’s *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope’s *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool* and then return the curriculum that we choose not to use?

No. Only one curriculum may be requested and sent to your program. Programs can review curriculums at the following links:

The Creative Curriculum[®]

<http://teachingstrategies.com/>

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

<http://www.highscope.org/>

- 2) My program serves different age groups. Am I able to request HighScope’s *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, and HighScope’s *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool*? Am I able to request *The Creative Curriculum*[®] for each of the age groups I serve?

Yes. You may request one of each of the curricula that match the age groups served in your program.

- 3) I just purchased one of the available curriculum for my program. Since it is now being paid for by the state, can I get reimbursed for the cost of the curriculum?

No. *The Creative Curriculum*[®] or HighScope's *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope's *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool* that were purchased by a program are not eligible for reimbursement by the state.

- 4) Our program is already using one of the available curricula. Could I submit a request in order to receive an additional copy?

No. If your program is currently using *The Creative Curriculum*[®] or HighScope's *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope's *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool*, you are not eligible to submit a request for a curriculum

- 5) Our program is using another curriculum (not *The Creative Curriculum*[®] or HighScope's *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope's *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool*). Since we do not have a copy of one of the curricula available, can we submit a request for one?

Yes. If your program is currently using another curriculum other than *The Creative Curriculum*[®] or HighScope's *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope's *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool*, you are eligible to submit a request for a curriculum. A request for *The Creative Curriculum*[®] or HighScope's *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope's *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool* can only be approved one time.

- 6) Our program has been using one of the available curriculum, however, we do not have the corresponding assessment that supports the curriculum. Can I submit a request for the assessment only to match the available curriculum we have been using?

If your program is currently using *The Creative Curriculum*[®] or HighScope's *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope's *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool* but you do not have the corresponding assessment, you may submit a request for the GOLD[®] or HighScope's *COR-Advantage*. Please email Curriculum-Request@jfs.ohio.gov and include the following information:

- Current ODJFS or ODE provider license number; and
- Number of children eligible to receive PFCC benefits served within 90 days prior to the submission of the curriculum request; and
- Current curriculum being used; and
- Current SUTQ rating or rating registration date.

- 7) Our program has been using another curriculum (not *The Creative Curriculum*[®] or HighScope's *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope's *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool*) and we do not have an assessment to use. Can I submit a request for the assessment only for one of the available curriculums?

Yes. If your program is using a curriculum other than *The Creative Curriculum*[®] or HighScope's *Tender Care for Infants and Toddlers*, or HighScope's *Essentials for Active Play in Preschool* and you do not have an assessment, a request for the GOLD[®] or HighScope's *COR-Advantage* can be made. Please email Curriculum-Request@jfs.ohio.gov and include the following information:

- Current ODJFS or ODE provider license number; and
- Number of children eligible to receive PFCC benefits served within 90 days prior to the submission of the curriculum request; and

- The assessment you are requesting (either GOLD[®] or HighScope's *COR-Advantage*); and
- Current SUTQ rating or rating registration date.

8) Once I receive my materials, will there be training on how to use them?

Yes. Once the curriculum and/or assessment materials are received, the vendor will complete the training for your program.

***Please note: Requests for curriculum and assessments are subject to availability.**

If you have questions, please contact the Child Care Policy Help Desk at 1-877-302-2347, option 4.

