

Activities & Experiences

Children succeed when their providers know them well, understand their levels of development, and provide meaningful activities and experiences that build upon children's strengths and development. When children have meaningful experiences, they are better prepared for school, work, and life.

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3



Step 4

AE.1 Program implements a developmentally appropriate curriculum that aligns with the North Dakota Early Learning Standards: Birth to Kindergarten.

The Bright & Early ND Curriculum Alignment Worksheet is designed to help your program determine how your curriculum aligns with the North Dakota Early Learning Standards: Birth to Kindergarten. Bright & Early ND does not require programs to use a specific curriculum.

To meet this indicator, evidence must be valid (dated within the previous 3 years).

AE.2 Program utilizes GOLD®, a developmentally appropriate observation-based assessment system.

GOLD® is the authentic, ongoing, observation-based assessment system that helps early childhood professionals, like you, focus on what matters most for children's success.

To meet this indicator, evidence of the program's current GOLD® subscription agreement and receipt of purchase must be submitted.

AE.3 Program completes GOLD® checkpoints during the three yearly periods (fall, winter, spring).

Programs will demonstrate ongoing assessment of children using GOLD® checkpoints. A checkpoint period is the timeframe where programs will observe, document, and assess children's development and learning.

To meet this indicator, evidence must reflect the current or previously completed checkpoint period with, at minimum, 70% of checkpoint ratings completed for each classroom or group.

AE.4 Program develops a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) that:

- Is guided by GOLD® assessments,
- Includes both short-term and long-term goals,
- Includes action items to support overall quality improvement.

The Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) is part of the continuous quality improvement process in which programs assess their strengths and opportunities for growth, set achievable goals, and develop realistic plans for improvement.

To meet this indicator, evidence must reflect all the indicator components above and be dated within the previous 12-months.

AE.5 The Program Director, all Lead Teachers and/or all Lead Caregivers have completed professional development related to observation and assessment.

Growing Futures is the source for training, education, and employment verification. All training must appear on an individual's Growing Futures Learning Record as approved clock hours.

To meet this indicator, the Program Director, all Lead Teachers and/or all Lead Caregivers must complete:

- Introduction to GOLD® (14 clock hours)