

Glossary

Accountability: An appropriate means of assessment and monitoring, measured for compliance with the specific criteria of certain standards.

Assessment: On-going observations and recordings of progress that occur within the context of the child's everyday experiences and interactions with adults and peers in the learning environment.

Caregiver Interaction Scale (CIS-Arnett 1989): A scale in which a caregiver's behavior is rated during their interaction with children in the facilities class setting.

Developmental Check List: A standardized development guidance tool recognized or one recognized by the state 9As found in Appendix E), used to record the stages/areas of gains of a child according to age appropriate skills that should be mastered.

Early Childhood Rating Scale-R (ECERS): A scale designed to measure the quality of a child care facility through its program monitoring, evaluation improvement, and research, while maintaining evaluation and technical assistance services to licensed child care facilities. The rating scale is geared for children ages 2 ½ to 5 years.

In-House: Training and/or staff development activities that occur within the child care setting by an approved entity.

Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale-R (ITERS): A scale designed to measure and assess the environment of a child care facility through organization of space, interaction, activities, schedule, and provisions for parents and staff, while maintaining evaluation and technical assistance services to licensed child care facilities. This rating scale is geared for children ages birth to 30 months.

Learning Center(s): Designated area(s) in the facility class setting where the child(ren) can actively engage in exploration, thinking, conversation, inquiry, acquisition of literacy skills, construction, and/or role playing while working (playing) with age appropriate learning materials.

Lending Library: A resource and referral are within the child care facility, designed to provide resources such as reading materials and videos to enhance and develop parenting skills.

Lesson Plan: A teacher's detailed description of the course of instruction for an individual lesson to be taught to a group of children.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU): An agreement between the provider/participant and the State entity providing the service(s).

OCY Director's Credential Program: A training program designed to evaluate the knowledge and a wide range of skills needed by practicing directors of licensed child care facilities.

Parent Education: A resource tool to assist the parent(s) in understanding the MCCQSS, how it benefits children, families, and the early care and education system as a whole.

Program: State entities involved in promoting and providing technical assistance, training, mentoring and other supports towards professional enhancement and/or development.

Practitioner: Management and/or staff of a licensed child care facility that utilizes the services of state sponsored programs for the purpose of technical assistance, training, and other supports.

Self-Assessment: A tool designed to ascertain the competence level of a child care provider as it related to early childhood development practices and age appropriate activities.

Special Needs: Care for children under age eighteen (18) who meet the SSI definition of disability by having medically proven physical or mental condition(s) that caused marked and severe functional limitations expected to last at least 12 months in duration and render the child incapable of self-care.

Staff Development: Training activities and/or enhancements to improve as well as develop early childhood practices as it relates to age appropriate development. This training may be attained through various resources such as technical assistance, workshops or conferences.

Standards: A set criteria used to measure compliance as stipulated by the State's child care licensing entity.

Transition Plan: A scheduled outline/guideline of age appropriate activities and visits to area schools to assist with children leaving child care and entering pre-kindergarten and/or kindergarten.