Ohio | Department of Education
Department of Job and Family Services

Step Up To Quality Standards Updates
April 2022

This document includes updates made to the Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) standards effective April 15, 2022. See Child Care Manual Procedure Letter 153 for the complete updated standards for each star rating and program type. References to annual report were removed from all standards.

Domain and Code	Updates
Learning and Development – (CP1)	• Removed curriculum requirements including removal of the prescribed JFS 01508 "Action Plan for Selecting a Curriculum for Step Up To Quality" and assessment tool for each age group served **(1 star only)** • Added programs serving school-age children are not required to obtain or implement a school-age curriculum. **(2-5 stars)** • Removed all references to Ohio K-12 Standards or K-12 Resource Guide **(1-5 stars)** • Revised the JFS 01590 to include all age ranges "Curriculum Standard Assessment Alignment Tool: Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers for Step Up To Quality" **(2-5 stars)** • Removed the JFS 01591 "Curriculum Standard Assessment Alignment Tool: Pre-Kindergarten Strand for Step Up To Quality" and JFS 01593 "Curriculum Standard Assessment Alignment Tool: School Age for Step Up To Quality". **(1-5 stars)** • Allowed for the JFS 01590 or publisher's alignment with Ohio's Early Learning and Development Standards for each age group(s) to be used to show alignment. **(2-5 stars)** • Required alignment documentation to be maintained on-site for review. **(2-5 stars)**
Learning & Development – (CP2)	• Removed references to Common Core State Standards and Ohio Academic Content Standards K-12. **(2-5 stars)**
Learning & Development – (CSA1) One-Star only	• Removed the following standard and the corresponding requirements: *The program engages in a process to select a comprehensive developmentally appropriate screening tool(s), for the age groups served.* **(1 star)** *The program identifies staff to be trained to administer, score, and use the tools appropriately.* **(1 star)**

Domain and Code	Updates

Learning & Development – (Previously CSA2, Now CSA1 Four and Five-Star Only)	• Clarified that staff who administer screenings are trained to administer, score, and use the screening tools appropriately. **(2-5 stars)**
	• Added the sample JFS 01378 "Developmental Screening Referral Process for Three to Five-Star Ratings for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used to meet this requirement. **(3-5 stars)**
	• Removed the following requirements:
	    The program shall record the name of the screening tool(s) obtained and document that the tool(s) is comprehensive and developmentally appropriate for the age groups served. **(2-5 stars)**
	    The program shall maintain on file for review written documentation of the tool(s) staff members have been trained to use that includes the staff members names. **(2-5 stars)**

Learning & Development (CSA3)	• Removed the requirement to submit the on-going child assessment process. Added the program is to describe this process. **(3-5 stars)**
Learning & Development (CSA4)	• Added the sample JFS 01514 "Developmental and Education Goals for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used for this requirement. **(3-5 stars)**

Learning & Development – (IE1) One-Star Only	• Removed the following center standard and the corresponding requirement:
	    The program selects a classroom self-assessment tool(s) that addresses the quality of the environment and staff/child interactions that is developmentally appropriate for each age group served. **(1 star center)**
	• Removed the following FCC standard and the corresponding requirement:
	    The program selects a copy of and familiarizes self and identified staff on how to use the Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale (FCCERS-R) or approved self-assessment tools to measure the learning environment. The tool shall include staff/child interactions and be developmentally appropriate to age groups served. (**1-star FCC**)

Learning & Development (IE2)	• Added the sample JFS 01518 "Classroom Self-Assessment Action Plan for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used for this requirement. **(3-5 stars)**
Learning & Development (IE4)	• Added the sample JFS 01518 "Classroom Self-Assessment Action Plan for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used for this requirement. **(4-5 stars)**
Administrative & Leadership Practices (SS1)	• Removed requirement to submit the written wage structure **(1-5 stars centers only)**
Administrative & Leadership Practices (SS2)	• Removed the requirement to submit approved staff supports. **(1-5 stars centers only)** • Removed the requirement that written documentation include staff eligible to receive the supports and the program's formal communication of the available supports to employees. **(2-5 stars centers only)**
Administrative & Leadership Practices (PA2)	• Added that the JFS 1509 should be maintained on-site for review. **(2-5 stars)**
Administrative & Leadership Practices (SM1) One-Star Only	• Removed the requirement to have written description of the process used to complete the professional development plans. **(1 star)** • Added that the sample JFS 01587 "Professional Development Plan for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used for this requirement. **(1 star)**

Domain and Code	Updates
Administrative & Leadership Practices (SM1) Two-Five Star	• Added that the sample JFS 01521 "Teacher Observation for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used for this requirement. **(2-5 stars)**
Administrative & Leadership Practices (SM2) Two-Five Stars	• Removed the requirement to have written description of the process used to complete the professional development plans. Added copies are to be maintained on-site. **(2-5 stars)** • Added that the sample JFS 01587 "Professional Development Plan for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used for this requirement. **(2-5 stars)**
Administrative & Leadership Practices (SM3)	• Added that the sample JFS 01587 "Professional Development Plan for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used for this requirement. **(3-5 stars)**
Administrative & Leadership Practices (SM5)	• Added that the sample JFS 01587 "Professional Development Plan for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used to meet this requirement. **(4-5 stars centers only)**
Staff Qualifications & Professional Development (SE1)	• Removed the requirement to create a profile in the OPR as this is required in licensing rules. **(1-5 stars)**
Staff Qualifications & Professional Development (PD1)	• Added that the administrator meeting the on-site hours is to meet the SUTQ education requirement. **(1-5 stars centers only)** • Removed the following requirement as it was changed in 2018: *Individuals who are currently enrolled in a degree-granting program in early childhood or related field can use coursework to fulfill the biennial training requirement.* **(1-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (T1)	• Removed the requirement to submit information. Added that documentation is to be available on-site. **(1-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (T2)	• Removed requirements to submit documentation for age-appropriate activities. Added that documentation is to be maintained on-site. **(2-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (T3)	• Removed the requirement to submit records transfer consent. **(2-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (T4)	• Removed the requirement to submit the transition process. **(3-5 stars)** • Added the sample JFS 01373 "Transition Plan for Three to Five-Star Ratings for Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)" may be used for this requirement. **(3-5 star)**
Family & Community Partnerships (T5)	• Added that the program is to maintain the written transition policies and procedures on-site for review. **(4-5 stars)**
Communication & Engagement (Previous CE1)	• Removed the standard and corresponding requirement requiring collection of family information. **(1-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE2, Now CE1)	• Removed the requirement to submit examples of at least two resources and community services provided to families to support the family and the development of their children. Added that the program is to maintain examples on-site. **(2-5 stars)**

Domain and Code	Updates
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE3, Now CE2)	• Changed code from CE3 to CE2. **(2-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE4, Now CE3)	• Removed requirement to submit examples of information on one health topic and one child development topic that was provided to families. Added examples are to be maintained on-site. **(3-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE5, Now CE4)	• Removed requirement to submit an example of the family engagement opportunity that was offered to families. Added this documentation is to be maintained on-site. **(3-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE6, Now CE5)	• Removed the requirement to submit review documentation of an educational training, workshop, or event that the program offered. **(3-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE7, Now CE6)	• Removed the requirement to submit documentation of the program's health screening and referral policies. Added written documentation is to be maintained on-site. **(3-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE8, Now CE7)	• Removed the requirement to submit documentation of formal and/or informal agreements. Added documentation is to be maintained on-site. **(4-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE9, Now CE8)	• Removed the requirement to submit written documentation which demonstrates the family engagement model or process used at the program. Added documentation is to be maintained on-site. **(4-5 stars)**
Family & Community Partnerships (Previously CE10, Now CE9)	• Removed the requirement to submit documentation of their currently active volunteer group. Added documentation is to be maintained on-site. **(4-5 stars)**