Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children

Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards

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IQPPS Webinar Outline

- Overview
- Assurances
- Program Standards
- Required Criteria
- IQPPS Verification Visit
  - Process
IQPPS Verification - Assurances

• Appropriately endorsed teachers
• Minimum of 10 hours of instruction
• Integrate with other programs
• Collaboration with community partners
• Appropriate professional development
Program Standards

• Program Standards for Statewide Voluntary Preschool AND Early Childhood Special Education (including Early Childhood sites serving a child on an IEP)

  – National Association for the Education of Young Children Standards and Accreditation (NAEYC)
  – Head Start Program Performance
  – Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards (IQPPS)
Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards

Iowa Department of Education
Early Childhood Services
Grimes State Office Building
400 E 14th St
Des Moines IA 50319-0146
IQPPS

• Standard 1  Relationships
• Standard 2  Curriculum
• Standard 3  Teaching
• Standard 4  Assessment of Child Progress
• Standard 5  Health
• Standard 6  Teachers
• Standard 7  Families
• Standard 8  Community Relationships
• Standard 9  Physical Environment
• Standard 10 Leadership and Management
1.3 Teaching staff never use threats or derogatory remarks nor threaten to withhold food as discipline.

1.7 Teaching staff counter potential bias and discrimination…. (Bulleted List)
Language Development

2.18 Varied opportunities and materials to engage in discussions with one another.

Early Literacy

2.20 Regarding reading/books. (Bulleted List)

Early Mathematics

2.23 Varied opportunities and materials to build understanding of numbers, number names and their relationship to object quantities and to symbols.
IQPPS Standard 3 – Teaching - Required

3.9 Teaching staff supervise children primarily by sight. Supervision for short intervals by sound is permissible, as long as teachers check frequently on children who are out of sight (those who can use the toilet independently, who are in the library area or who are napping).
IQPPS Standard 4 – Assessment of Child Progress - Required

4.6 Staff–developed assessment methods – is no longer a documented criteria.

- The Department of Education does not promote the use of staff-developed assessment methods.

- Districts and partners are to utilize a research-based systematic, ongoing assessment that drives instruction and aligns with the curriculum and the Iowa Early Learning Standards.
IQPPS Standard 4 – Assessment of Child Progress - Required

4.11 Teachers interact with children to assess their strengths and needs to inform curriculum development and individualize teaching.

4.14 Families have ongoing opportunities to share the results of observations from home to contribute to the assessment process.
IQPPS Standard 5 – Health- Required

5.2 At least one staff member with pediatric first aid and CPR is present with each group of children at all times.
6.1 When working with children, all teaching staff demonstrate the ability to:

- Interact with children without using physical punishment or any form of psychological abuse;
- Recognize health and safety hazards and protect children from harm;
- Encourage and provide children with a variety of opportunities for learning;
- Encourage and provide children with a variety of social experiences;
- Adapt and respond to changing and challenging conditions in ways that enhance program quality; and
- Communicate with children and their families.
IQPPS Standard 6 – Teachers - Required

6.3 Teachers are licensed by the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners and hold an early childhood endorsement.
6.5 Assistant teachers – teacher aids (staff who implement program activities under direct supervision) have a high school diploma or GED and:

• 50 percent of assistant teachers-teacher aides have at least a Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) or equivalent;

• 100 percent of assistant teachers-teacher aides who do not have at least a CDA are enrolled in a program leading to a CDA or equivalent, are actively participating in the program, and are demonstrating progress toward the CDA or equivalent.
IQPPS Standard 7 – Families - Required

• No required criteria
IQPPS Standard 8 – Community Relationships - Required

• No required criteria
IQPPS Standard 9 – Physical Environment - Required

9.1 A variety of age and developmentally appropriate materials and equipment are available indoors and outdoors for children throughout the day. (Bulleted List)

9.6 Program staff provide for an outdoor play area that is protected by fences or by natural barriers to prevent access to streets and to avoid other dangers, such as pits, water hazards, or wells.
9.9 There is a minimum of 35 square feet of usable space per child in each of the primary indoor activity areas.

9.10 Meet ADA accessibility requirements
IQPPS Standard 9 – Physical Environment - Required

9.12 Program staff protect children and adults from hazards, including electrical shock, burn or scalding, slipping, tripping, or falling. Floor coverings are secured to keep staff and children from tripping or slipping.

9.13 Fully equipped first-aid kits are readily available and maintained for each group of children. Staff take at least one kit to the outdoor play areas as well as on field trips and outings away from the site.
IQPPS Standard 9 – Physical Environment - Required

9.14 Fire extinguishers, carbon monoxide detectors, fire alarms located in classroom.

9.15 Any bodies of water are fenced (4 ft) to keep children safe. Water tables are supervised.

9.19 The facility and outdoor play areas are entirely smoke free.
10.2 The program administrator has the educational qualifications and personal commitment required to serve as the program’s operational and pedagogical leader.
The IQPPS
Verification Visit
IQPPS Verification Visit

• Verification Visits typically occur in the second year of SWVPP implementation.

• For districts awarded in 2010-2011, visits will occur over a two year period (2011-2012 and 2012-2013).
IQPPS Verification Visit

• Occurs simultaneously with the School Improvement visit if both are scheduled for the same year.

• New community partners are included in the Verification Visit.
IQPPS Verification Visit

Who is included?

• District SWVPP classrooms
• Early Childhood Special Education Classrooms
• Early childhood classrooms serving a child on an instructional services IEP (including private child care/preschool, faith-based preschool and district prekindergarten programs).
IQPPS Verification Visit

• On-site visit by DE and AEA staff.

• 1 to 4 days in length.

• Subsequent visits are included in the School Improvement process.
IQPPS Verification Visit

District Responsibilities

• Annual update of the Early Childhood Application
• Prior to the visit
• During the visit
• After the visit
IQPPS Verification Visit

Elements of the Visit

• Overview from district administration
• Classroom Components:
  • Classroom Observation
  • Classroom Portfolio
  • Facility Tour
  • Child Files
IQPPS Verification Visit

Elements of the Visit

• Program Components:
  • Program Portfolio
  • Staff Files
• Interviews
  • Family
• Summary Meeting
IQPPS Verification Visit

• Verification requires districts to meet:
  • Assurances – within 45 days of visit
  • 23 Required Criteria – within 45 days of visit
  • 85% of Other Remaining Criteria in each Standard – within one year of visit
IQPPS Verification Visit

Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program for Four-Year-Old Children webpage


IQPPS Information is under Program Standards in the Guiding Practices section.
IQPPS Verification Visit

Questions?
Contact Information

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