

Continuous Quality Improvement in PA

Developing and Expanding Best Practice in Teaching and Learning (K1, K2, K4)

The purpose of this form is to provide information about initiatives that could support programs in addressing CQI after needs are identified though examination of relevant sources of evidence.

Title of activity/initiative:	Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood Professional Development
Purpose, goal and expected outcomes of the initiative. How is this activity important to program quality?	 Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood are research based standards that identify key learning areas of development for children and are reflected in the Core Body of Knowledge competencies. Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood guide practitioners to intentionally integrate developmental knowledge with the attitudes, skills, and concepts children need to make progress in all learning areas. Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood provide foundational information for what children should know and be able to do. Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood build on information learned previously, creating a continuum of learning that assures consistent and linked learning that begins in infancy, gradually increasing in difficulty, and extends through high school.
Description of initiative and any component parts (Technical assistance available, professional development, program assessment inventories, etc.)	 Professional development opportunities on Learning Standards: Linking Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood into Curriculum and Assessment. This is a six hour training and can be found on the PA KEY training calendar. Participants will discover the similarities and differences between the revised Standards and the older version of the Standards; Understand the Standards Aligned System (SAS) and its connection to the Early Learning Standards and be able to relate Learning Standards to curriculum and assessment practices. What's New With the Early Learning Standards -webinar. This is a 2 hour training and can be found on the PA KEY training calendar. Participants will discover the similarities and differences between the revised Standards and the older version of the Standards; Practice using the Standards; Connect the continuum to the Standards booklets and be introduced to the Standards Aligned System (SAS).
Program eligibility criteria or recommended programs for initiative	Age Group Serving: Infant/Toddler Pre-K SACC X All Program Type: X All PA Pre-K Counts PA Pre-K Counts School District PCHP NFP Keystone Babies Other: Child Care: X All STAR 1 STAR 2 STAR 3 STAR 4 Center Group Family
Website(s) for initiative	OCDEL Standards Aligned Systems (SAS) http://websites.pdesas.org/ocdel/2010/4/30/47302/page.aspx PDE http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/standards/8709 PAKEY http://www.pakeys.org/pages/get.aspx?page=Career_Standards

Identify focus areas the initiative addresses	 □ Administrative Competencies X Best Practice in Teaching and Learning X Cultural Competence and Supporting Diversity X Engaging Families X Healthy Children/Families/Practitioners X Social Emotional Competence and Challenging Behavior □ Other (list):
Other initiatives, resources, organizations or professional development that support or enhance the initiative	For research documentation that was used in the development of Pennsylvania's Learning Standards for Early Childhood, please visit the following link: http://websites.pdesas.org/ocdel/2011/4/3/299571/page.aspx
Audiences for direct participation in the initiative, list all that apply	X Directors X Management/Leadership Teams X Teachers X Assistant Teachers X All Staff X Parents X Board Members X Community Stakeholders X Children Is a component of the initiative that information be brought back to the program and intentionally shared with other s? Yes Not necessarily
Research or national context to support the initiative	
Keystone STARS or Program Standards addressed and CBK Topic Codes (if applicable)	STARS Program Standards: Staff Qualifications and Professional Development; Learning Program CBK Topic Codes: K2 – The Environment, Curriculum and Content; K4 – Child Assessment
Additional information or materials	Copies of Pennsylvania Learning Standards for Early Childhood are available for purchase via email at fulfil@wavelinedirect.com . Pricing: Individual copies are available at the cost of \$7.50. Infant/Toddler, Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten Standards including the Continuum are available as a package for \$20.00. (All prices include shipping and handling) Posters are now available at the cost of \$5.00.
Contact person for questions about this Initiative	Maryanne Olley Pre-K Specialist Office of Child Development and Early Learning Phone: (717) 772-4849 molley@state.pa.us