



Center or Preschool Level 1

Nutrition and Physical Activity

- Any staff member who prepares meals completes one of the following food safety trainings (**choose ONE**):
 - a. Food Safety in Child Care-4 hours (Institute of Child Nutrition online training)
OR
 - b. Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISU-EO) Food Safety Training (choose one): 1. Food Safety Escape Challenge 2. Safe Food for a Healthy Future 3. ServSafe Food Handler
OR
 - c. Other DHS or IQ4K-approved Food Safety training
OR
 - d. ServSafe
- The program completes a self-assessment and creates an action plan in the area of nutrition.
- The program completes a self-assessment and creates an action plan in the area of physical activity.

Professional Development

- All Staff** complete a professional development plan within 6 months of employment and the plan is updated annually.
- All Staff** complete the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISU-EO) training: Passport to Early Childhood Education: Teacher and Staff Orientation (newly hired staff have 9 months from their date of hire to complete this requirement).

Leadership and Administration

- All Staff** complete the IQ4K Staff Self-Assessment annually. The **Program Administrator** completes the IQ4K Program Assessment annually. Self-assessments and reviews are used to improve the professional and the organization, not used as punitive.

Family and Community Partnerships

- The program provides an orientation for new families.
- The program completes 1 activity annually that promotes partnerships (see Family and Community Partnership Activity Options).

Environment

- The program develops and implements, as applicable to ages served, the following policies aligned to Caring for Our Children:
 - a. Supervision
 - b. Safe Sleep Policy

- c. Playground Equipment Stability and Fall Surfacing & Inspection
- d. Missing child
- e. Strangulation Prevention
- f. Sign-in/sign-out tracking system for children and visitors
- The program submits (**choose ONE**):
 - a. Interaction and Relationship Self-Assessment (completed annually by teaching staff)
OR
 - b. CLASS assessment for the age-level being served (one per classroom completed annually by a trained observer)
OR
 - c. TPOT or TPITOS tool (one per classroom completed annually by a trained observer)

Teaching Staff Qualifications

- All **Lead Teachers** are participating in Tier 1 training or meet a higher Tier qualification on the Iowa Early Care and Education Teaching Roles Career Pathway within 6 months of starting employment (this level is met if the program is in compliance with the regulatory requirement of all staff taking Essentials).

Teaching and Learning

- The **Program Administrator** and at least **one Lead Teacher** have been trained on the Iowa Early Learning Standards (2hrs.).
- The program develops and implements a comprehensive discipline/behavior policy that promotes positive relationships.