

Administered by the NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation of the National Association of the Education for Young Children

More than 2,300 early childhood programs receive NAEYC Accreditation since the launch of NAEYC's new accreditation system

The NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation congratulates the 2,343 early childhood programs that achieved NAEYC Accreditation (as of July 31, 2008) in the new accreditation system, which became fully operational on September 16, 2006.

The NAEYC Accreditation process comprises four steps:

Step 1—Enrollment/Self-Study

Step 2—Application/Self-Assessment

Step 3—Candidacy

Step 4—Meeting the Standards/Accreditation Decision

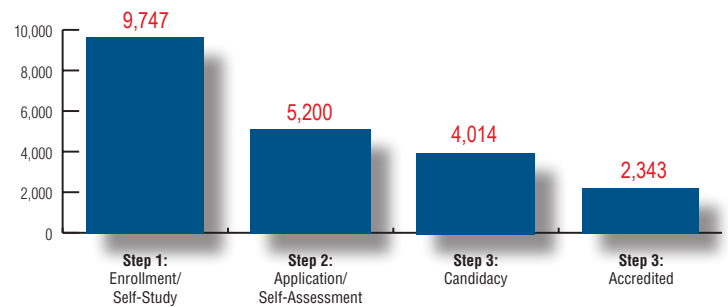
Each step lays the foundation for the next and builds on the others' success.

Step 1—Enrollment/Self-Study is designed to help all programs consider their strengths and weaknesses and improve their program quality—whether or not they plan to pursue NAEYC Accreditation. This explains the very large number of programs found in Self-Study—9,700 enrolled since December 2005—compared to the other three steps.

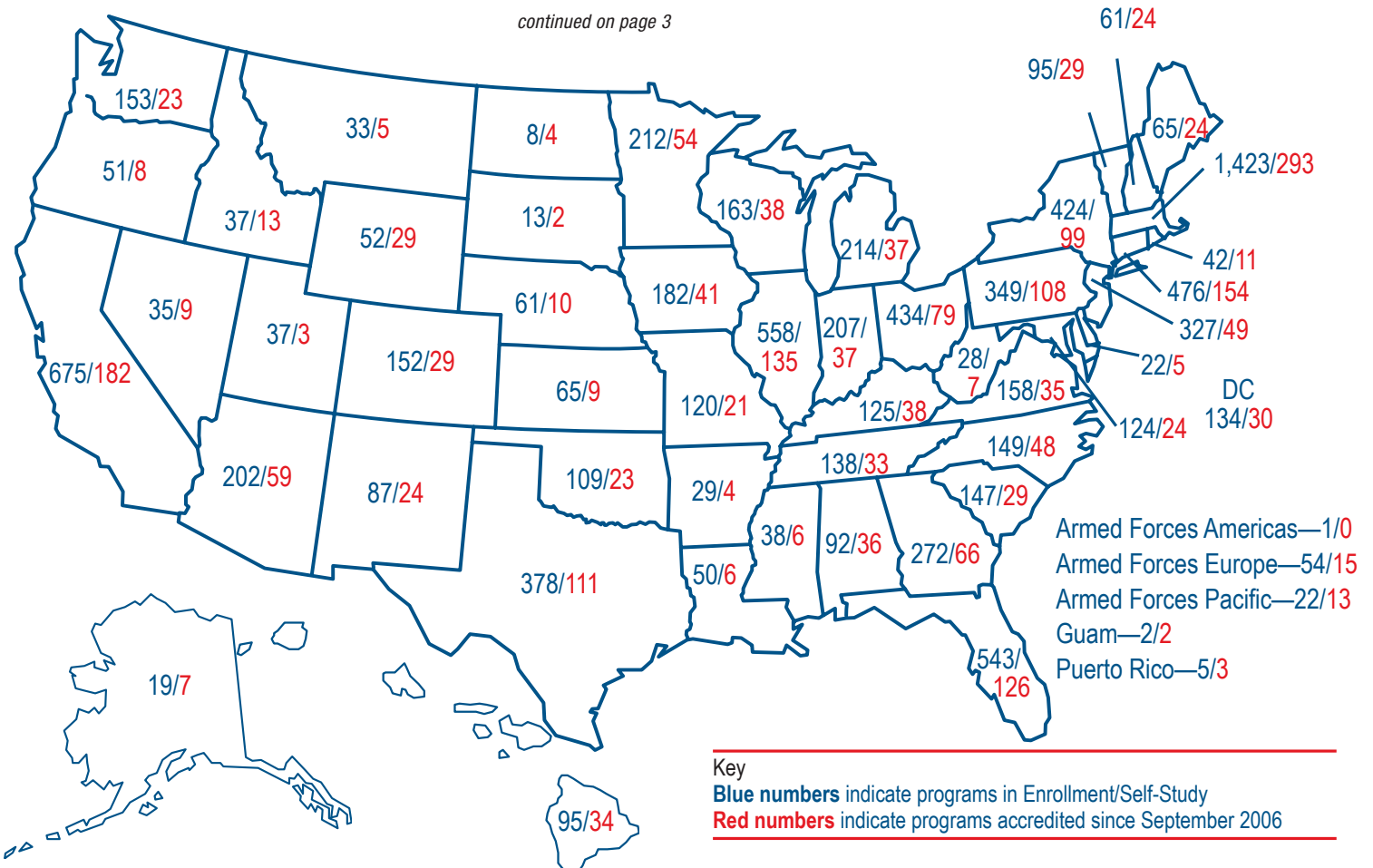
Step 2—Application/Self-Assessment sets in motion a program's formal pursuit of NAEYC Accreditation. The NAEYC Academy welcomed its first group of Applicants in April 2006. Some 5,200 programs have since applied (as of July 31, 2008). In the application, a program commits to a specific timeline and conducts its Self-Assessment. Some first-time Applicants may choose to take more time in the Self-Assessment process, while others are eager to begin accreditation.

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Early Childhood Programs in the NAEYC Accreditation Process
(September 2006–July 2008)



Note: These numbers, representing programs across the United States, U.S. Territories, and Department of Defense installations, are a snapshot of programs in the accreditation process. In fact, since September 2006, 89% percent of programs completing candidacy have gone on to earn NAEYC Accreditation.



Key
Blue numbers indicate programs in Enrollment/Self-Study
Red numbers indicate programs accredited since September 2006

NAEYC Accreditation by the Numbers since September 2006

The NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation proudly presents programs across the United States, its territories, and Department of Defense installations that have made the right choice for kids and support the mark of quality in early childhood education.

For more information regarding the NAEYC Accreditation system, please visit www.naeyc.org/academy or contact us by email at accreditation.information@naeyc.org or phone 800-424-2460 and press 3 to reach the NAEYC Academy Information Center.

ARMED FORCES AMERICAS

1 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
1 (Initial)
0 (Reaccredited)**
0 Application/Self-Assessment
0 Candidacy
0 Accredited

ARMED FORCES EUROPE

54 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
2 (Initial)
52 (Reaccredited)
38 Application/Self-Assessment
28 Candidacy
15 Accredited

ARMED FORCES PACIFIC

22 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
1 (Initial)
21 (Reaccredited)
13 Application/Self-Assessment
13 Candidacy
13 Accredited

ALABAMA

92 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
31 (Initial)
61 (Reaccredited)
59 Application/Self-Assessment
54 Candidacy
36 Accredited

ALASKA

19 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
5 (Initial)
14 (Reaccredited)
13 Application/Self-Assessment
11 Candidacy
7 Accredited

ARKANSAS

29 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
11 (Initial)
18 (Reaccredited)
5 Application/Self-Assessment
5 Candidacy
4 Accredited

ARIZONA

202 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
58 (Initial)
146 (Reaccredited)
95 Application/Self-Assessment
77 Candidacy
59 Accredited

CALIFORNIA

675 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
278 (Initial)
397 (Reaccredited)
357 Application/Self-Assessment
245 Candidacy
182 Accredited

COLORADO

152 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
47 (Initial)
105 (Reaccredited)
81 Application/Self-Assessment
61 Candidacy
29 Accredited

CONNECTICUT

476 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
129 (Initial)
347 (Reaccredited)
292 Application/Self-Assessment
229 Candidacy
154 Accredited

DE LAWARE

22 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
7 (Initial)
15 (Reaccredited)
15 Application/Self-Assessment
10 Candidacy
5 Accredited

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

134 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
52 (Initial)
82 (Reaccredited)
87 Application/Self-Assessment
71 Candidacy
30 Accredited

FLORIDA

543 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
114 (Initial)
429 (Reaccredited)
323 Application/Self-Assessment
279 Candidacy
126 Accredited

GEORGIA

272 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
81 (Initial)
191 (Reaccredited)
179 Application/Self-Assessment
128 Candidacy
66 Accredited

GUAM

2 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
0 (Initial)
2 (Reaccredited)
2 Application/Self-Assessment
2 Candidacy
2 Accredited

HAWAII

95 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
26 (Initial)
69 (Reaccredited)
49 Application/Self-Assessment
44 Candidacy
34 Accredited

IDAHO

37 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
9 (Initial)
28 (Reaccredited)
23 Application/Self-Assessment
20 Candidacy
13 Accredited

ILLINOIS

558 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
174 (Initial)
384 (Reaccredited)
297 Application/Self-Assessment
237 Candidacy
135 Accredited

INDIANA

207 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
65 (Initial)
142 (Reaccredited)
71 Application/Self-Assessment
54 Candidacy
37 Accredited

IOWA

182 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
49 (Initial)
133 (Reaccredited)
108 Application/Self-Assessment
77 Candidacy
41 Accredited

KANSAS

65 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
21 (Initial)
44 (Reaccredited)
21 Application/Self-Assessment
14 Candidacy
9 Accredited

KENTUCKY

125 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
45 (Initial)
80 (Reaccredited)
64 Application/Self-Assessment
54 Candidacy
38 Accredited

LOUISIANA

50 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
22 (Initial)
28 (Reaccredited)
19 Application/Self-Assessment
14 Candidacy
6 Accredited

MASSACHUSETTS

1423 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
471 (Initial)
952 (Reaccredited)
597 Application/Self-Assessment
441 Candidacy
293 Accredited

MARYLAND

124 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
43 (Initial)
81 (Reaccredited)
65 Application/Self-Assessment
58 Candidacy
24 Accredited

MAINE

65 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
32 (Initial)
33 (Reaccredited)
40 Application/Self-Assessment
32 Candidacy
24 Accredited

MICHIGAN

214 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
89 (Initial)
125 (Reaccredited)
85 Application/Self-Assessment
65 Candidacy
37 Accredited

MINNESOTA

212 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
62 (Initial)
150 (Reaccredited)
137 Application/Self-Assessment
99 Candidacy
54 Accredited

MISSISSIPPI

38 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
13 (Initial)
25 (Reaccredited)
23 Application/Self-Assessment
16 Candidacy
6 Accredited

MISSOURI

120 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
35 (Initial)
85 (Reaccredited)
57 Application/Self-Assessment
48 Candidacy
21 Accredited

MONTANA

33 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
19 (Initial)
14 (Reaccredited)
14 Application/Self-Assessment
10 Candidacy
5 Accredited

NEBRASKA

61 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
17 (Initial)
44 (Reaccredited)
33 Application/Self-Assessment
25 Candidacy
10 Accredited

NEVADA

35 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
16 (Initial)
19 (Reaccredited)
12 Application/Self-Assessment
13 Candidacy
9 Accredited

NEW HAMPSHIRE

61 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
17 (Initial)
44 (Reaccredited)
41 Application/Self-Assessment
36 Candidacy
24 Accredited

NEW JERSEY

327 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
154 (Initial)
173 (Reaccredited)
197 Application/Self-Assessment
127 Candidacy
49 Accredited

NEW MEXICO

87 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
17 (Initial)
70 (Reaccredited)
62 Application/Self-Assessment
46 Candidacy
24 Accredited

NEW YORK

424 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 162 (Initial)
 262 (Reaccredited)
 229 Application/Self-Assessment
 170 Candidacy
 99 Accredited

NORTH CAROLINA

149 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 49 (Initial)
 100 (Reaccredited)
 90 Application/Self-Assessment
 76 Candidacy
 48 Accredited

NORTH DAKOTA

8 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 1 (Initial)
 7 (Reaccredited)
 5 Application/Self-Assessment
 5 Candidacy
 4 Accredited

OHIO

434 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 152 (Initial)
 278 (Reaccredited)
 216 Application/Self-Assessment
 162 Candidacy
 79 Accredited

OKLAHOMA

109 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 25 (Initial)
 84 (Reaccredited)
 63 Application/Self-Assessment
 48 Candidacy
 23 Accredited

OREGON

51 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 16 (Initial)
 35 (Reaccredited)
 26 Application/Self-Assessment
 14 Candidacy
 8 Accredited

PENNSYLVANIA

349 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 89 (Initial)
 260 (Reaccredited)
 201 Application/Self-Assessment
 174 Candidacy
 108 Accredited

PUERTO RICO

5 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 2 (Initial)
 3 (Reaccredited)
 3 Application/Self-Assessment
 3 Candidacy
 3 Accredited

RHODE ISLAND

42 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 14 (Initial)
 28 (Reaccredited)
 17 Application/Self-Assessment
 17 Candidacy
 11 Accredited

SOUTH CAROLINA

147 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 65 (Initial)
 82 (Reaccredited)
 62 Application/Self-Assessment
 47 Candidacy
 29 Accredited

SOUTH DAKOTA

13 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 9 (Initial)
 4 (Reaccredited)
 8 Application/Self-Assessment
 7 Candidacy
 2 Accredited

TENNESSEE

138 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 38 (Initial)
 100 (Reaccredited)
 78 Application/Self-Assessment
 54 Candidacy
 33 Accredited

TEXAS

378 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 92 (Initial)
 286 (Reaccredited)
 226 Application/Self-Assessment
 189 Candidacy
 111 Accredited

UTAH

37 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 12 (Initial)
 25 (Reaccredited)
 11 Application/Self-Assessment
 7 Candidacy
 3 Accredited

VERMONT

95 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 30 (Initial)
 65 (Reaccredited)
 55 Application/Self-Assessment
 44 Candidacy
 29 Accredited

VIRGINIA

158 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 39 (Initial)
 119 (Reaccredited)
 102 Application/Self-Assessment
 67 Candidacy
 35 Accredited

WASHINGTON

153 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 61 (Initial)
 92 (Reaccredited)
 66 Application/Self-Assessment
 46 Candidacy
 23 Accredited

WEST VIRGINIA

28 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 6 (Initial)
 18 (Reaccredited)
 16 Application/Self-Assessment
 14 Candidacy
 7 Accredited

WISCONSIN

163 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 15 (Initial)
 148 (Reaccredited)
 111 Application/Self-Assessment
 90 Candidacy
 38 Accredited

WYOMING

52 Total Enrollment/Self-Study
 23 (Initial)
 29 (Reaccredited)
 41 Application/Self-Assessment
 37 Candidacy
 29 Accredited

* **Initial** = programs pursuing NAEYC Accreditation for the first time.

** **Reaccredited** = programs that were NAEYC Accredited anytime in the past.

Accreditation (continued from pg. 1)

NAEYC-Accredited programs pursuing reaccreditation must keep to precise schedules in order to maintain their NAEYC Accredited status during the process.

Step 3—Candidacy is challenging, as programs report evidence of meeting the standards and criteria and the candidacy requirements. There have been six candidacy cycles since the launch of the new accreditation system, with the first group accepted in September 2006. (Please note that the May 31, 2008, candidacy cycle is in progress and is not fully represented in the number of accredited programs.) Notably, 87% of programs submitting Candidacy Materials have been accepted as Candidates, moving them forward to **Step 4—Meeting the Standards/Accreditation Decision**. About 89% of the programs that receive an Accreditation Decision earn NAEYC Accreditation.

Programs accredited before September 16, 2006, are still responsible for meeting NAEYC's 2005 program standards. Annual reports, unannounced visits, and site visits help ensure that these—and *all*—accredited programs achieve and maintain NAEYC's benchmarks for quality in early care and education.

Note: The Accredited numbers in the map represent programs, by state, earning NAEYC Accreditation between September 16, 2006, and July 31, 2008. They are part of the nearly 8,500 programs currently NAEYC Accredited.

TORCH: Success in Tulsa and Beyond

This past June, at the NAEYC National Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development in New Orleans, NAEYC launched the pilot of TORCH: The Online Resource Center Headquarters. We've received many positive reports about its usefulness—particularly the Criteria Search tool.

A group of accreditation specialists at the Child Care Resource Center in Tulsa, Oklahoma, decided to take advantage immediately of this valuable resource. We want to share some of their feedback about TORCH. "I use the Criteria Search to locate specific criteria, and I can do it so quickly!" says Retta Seger. Retta's colleagues, Shauna Meador and Lindsey Asher, tell us they refer directors in their area to TORCH's Criteria Search. Lindsey notes that the Criteria Search "makes directors feel more informed" and that it has cut back on the amount she must print because, with the information easily accessible online, she can e-mail directors a link instead of cross-referencing information and photocopying it for them. Shauna adds that Criteria Search makes the director's work "so much easier," because all the information is in one place.

Jeannette Easterling, a preschool division head from Tulsa whose program is currently engaged in the accreditation process, says, "The Criteria Search has been our primary tool. We use it to check for details beyond what appears in the standards books."

TORCH's success reaches beyond Tulsa, with over 2,000 registered users across the United States. Hilary Talis, a center director in Columbus, Ohio, was referred to TORCH by an accreditation facilitation project in Ohio. Hilary notes that TORCH will be "really helpful to people just starting out" in the accreditation process, and she has given information about registering for TORCH to all of her program's lead teachers.

The NAEYC Accreditation Program Support Department is excited about the success of this new resource and urges you to join your colleagues and register for TORCH today at www.naeyc.org/selfstudy.

Announcements**New! Streamlined Annual Report Now Available**

The NAEYC Academy has revised the Annual Report, reducing it from 48 pages to 25 pages to make it more user-friendly and concise. In one update, programs are asked to report on their staff *as a whole* rather than on individual teachers, as is required at Candidacy. In another update, programs are asked to report only the changes to each group's information that have occurred since the prior year's report (or site visit) instead of resubmitting all group information. The new Annual Report is available online at www.naeyc.org/academy.

TORCH Has Arrived

The Online Resource Center Headquarters (TORCH) is your destination for easy access to all the information about the NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards and Accreditation Criteria. TORCH was created to support program quality improvement through all four steps of the NAEYC Accreditation process. Accessible information on TORCH includes criteria, FAQs, a calendar of important NAEYC due dates, additional resources, and more. Log in to TORCH at www.naeyc.org/selfstudy to get connected today!



NAEYC Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation
A part of the National Association for the Education of Young Children
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A Letter from the Deputy Executive Director

The NAEYC Academy's second year of operations post-reinvention has been a great success. Virtually all site visits were conducted and all decisions were announced on time. Based on your feedback, we streamlined the Annual Report and the Sources of Evidence and created TORCH (The Online Resource Center Headquarters). Just as we expect continuous improvement of programs engaged in NAEYC Accreditation, we demand it of ourselves at the NAEYC Academy.

I am delighted to announce our new division for Program Recognition and Support, which brings together all of NAEYC's accreditation-related activities—for programs serving children and families and for programs in higher education institutions. We have also created the NAEYC Accreditation Program Support Department to work directly with early childhood programs, NAEYC Affiliates, and accreditation facilitation projects. This new department will make more widely available the resources to support program quality improvements and encourage NAEYC Accreditation.

The goal of NAEYC Accreditation is to improve the quality of early childhood education for children birth through kindergarten by setting *the* standard of excellence and recognizing programs that achieve the standard. Through these improvements, we are now better prepared to assist more programs in achieving the mark of quality established by NAEYC Accreditation, making better programs available to more young children and families.

Barbara A. Willer, PhD
Deputy Executive Director for Program Recognition and Support



Building Better Futures For All Young Children

Tip

Answers to criteria questions are just a click away!

For the latest information and guidance on criteria, be sure to take advantage of the TORCH Criteria Search. If you have additional questions about criteria that are not addressed in the TORCH Criteria Search, use the TORCH Help Desk (accreditation.information@naeyc.org) to e-mail questions directly to the NAEYC Accreditation Program Support Department. Be sure to include your name, e-mail address, program ID number, and a detailed question whenever you use the TORCH Help Desk.

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"Reprinted from *Accreditation Update*, Fall 2008, a publication of the National Association for the Education of Young Children."

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