



## ELP Accreditation Updates

### New System Revised Assessment Tools Released

To help Early Learning Programs prepare for the new Quality Assessment and Accreditation System that will launch in March 2025, we have recently released revised Assessment Tools that align to the new Assessment Items. We encourage you to visit our [Planned Changes webpage](#) for more information on the new tiered system, including the revised assessment items and tools and several frequently asked questions (FAQs).

- [New system revised assessment items](#)
- [New system required assessment items](#)
- Assessment Tools

- [Recognition Application Tool](#)
- [Accreditation Application Tool](#)
- [Accreditation Observation Tool](#)

## Do you have feedback?

We are excited about this new system, and we are looking forward to your feedback on how we can make it even stronger. If you want to share your thoughts on the changes with us, **please complete [this survey](#)**. Thank you for all the support you have given NAEYC accreditation over the years and for your support to launch the system into the future!

## New System | FAQ Highlights

**My program is in Applicant status. How long do we have to get to Candidacy if we want to be assessed under the current system?**

Programs that are in “Applicant” status must declare Candidacy by **Feb. 15, 2025**, to be assessed under the current system OR they need to come in under the new system after launch.

**Are there additional assessment items for Accreditation+?**

No. The assessment items for Accreditation+ are the same as Accreditation. There is a required site visit and increased accountability protocols for Accreditation+.

**My staff are asking if there is a different format for the portfolios or are they to use the 2022 format for age groups and program portfolios?**

Yes. In the new system, there will be a different approach to portfolios with all documentation submitted through an online system, that is aligned to the evidence types across the new revised items. We are working on guidance on how your team can best prepare existing portfolios for the transition and plan to have that available later this fall.

**My program is coming up for renewal, but we would like an extension, so we have more time to prepare. What options do we have?**

If there has been no previous extension and the program is requesting a VUD extension, programs are eligible to pay for an extension. Based on the adjusted 6-month window, NAEYC will confirm whether the program is eligible for a 6-month or 12-month extension, based on the 6-month window guidance above.

For more FAQs, visit our [Planned Changes webpage](#).

## Accreditation Tips

### Required Item Highlight | 1B.10 - Guidance / Discipline Policy

Required Item Number 1B.10 is one of two document-based required items in the current accreditation system: *“Show that your guidance / discipline policy does not include any circumstances when it is permissible for staff to use any form of physical punishment, psychological abuse, or coercion when disciplining a child. Appropriate use of restraint for safety reasons is permissible.”*

When completing the Program Portfolio review, NAEYC Assessors will look for a policy where it clearly indicates that the program does not use any form of physical punishment, psychological abuse, or coercion when disciplining a child. Within the Program Portfolio tool, you can find more guidance and definitions to support your program in ensuring your policy meets this item.

### 72-Hour Incident Reports

72-Hour Notifications are required to maintain compliance with NAEYC’s few, but important required practices such as lapses in supervision, child abuse or injury, or license suspensions. Within 72 hours of occurrence, the program must report any occurrences through the portal by selecting the “72 Hour Notification” tab. NAEYC Quality Assurance staff will contact the program to follow up. To report a critical incident via 72 Hour Form, please contact [qualityassurance@naeyc.org](mailto:qualityassurance@naeyc.org) to obtain a 72-hour form.

## Leading with NAEYC

### Apply for the Council for Early Learning Program Accreditation

Are you passionate about ECE program quality and looking for a meaningful service opportunity that supports Early Learning Program Accreditation? The **NAEYC Council for Early Learning Program Accreditation** is currently seeking new members to serve terms that begin January 1, 2025 and conclude December 31, 2027. NAEYC encourages applications from people of all races, religions, national origins, genders, sexual orientations, gender identities, gender expressions, and ages as well as veterans and individuals with disabilities. We hope that you will consider applying! The deadline to apply is **November 15, 2024**.

## Learn More About the Council

### Public Comment Period for Revision of Position Statements

Last year, NAEYC reached out to the field to get feedback to begin the revision process of two foundational position statements, the Code of Ethical Conduct and the Early Childhood Program Standards. With feedback from thousands of educators, and the guidance of workgroups made up of Governing Board members, educators, faculty, researchers, partners, and advisors, we are honored to launch a public comment period with draft versions of these two revised position statements for your review through November 15, 2024.

We invite you to join the revision process by looking through the drafts and sharing your thoughts and perspectives. Click the button below to read more about how to share your feedback!

[Read More](#)



#### For Families

We've moved! You can now find great articles and resources for families on NAEYC.org. **Check it out!**



#### Stay in touch!

Connect with us on social media, and NAEYC members can **share ideas on Hello.**

#### We Love to Hear From you!

Additional questions? Feedback? Contact NAEYC ELP Accreditation staff today by emailing [accreditation.information@naeyc.org](mailto:accreditation.information@naeyc.org). You may also reach us by telephone at **800-424-2460** option 3, for Accreditation of Early Learning Programs.



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