

Section 1 - NAC Accreditation Information

ACCREDITATION START DATE: ____ / ____ / ____

ACCREDITATION EXPIRATION DATE: ____ / ____ / ____

- PLEASE SUBMIT ACCREDITATION CERTIFICATE AND/OR LETTER SHOWING EXTENSION IF IN THE RENEWAL PROCESS.
- PLEASE SUBMIT A COPY OF ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES (IDCFS) LICENSE.

Section 2 - Required Training

An on-site Program Administrator must complete the following training before applying for the Gold Circle of Quality. A Program Administrator may be any person listed in Section 4 of the main application as a Director, Assistant Director, or Director/Teacher. Completion of training will be verified by the Gateways Registry.

- 1. Has an on-site Program Administrator completed the ExceleRate Illinois Orientation ?** YES NO

Section 3 - Standards and Evidence

Your program's NAC accreditation meets the following ExceleRate Illinois standards without need for additional documentation: 1A, 1C, 2A, 3A, 3B, and 3C. Standard 4B will be verified by the Gateways Registry.

For each question below, check either 'Yes' or 'No' to indicate whether your program meets the standard as listed.

If answering 'Yes', additional information and supporting documentation may be required. Completion of required trainings will be verified by the Gateways Registry.

1B - CURRICULUM

- 1. Do you utilize a curriculum in your program that is aligned with the Illinois Early Learning Guidelines/Standards?** YES NO

1a. If Yes, what is the name of the curriculum? _____

- 1b.** If Yes, is this curriculum on the list of aligned curricula found on the ExceleRate Illinois website? YES NO

- If No, include a narrative description of how the curriculum is aligned with the Illinois Early Learning Guidelines/Standards.

IDCFS LICENSE NUMBER _____

1D – CHILD SCREENING

2. Does your program conduct developmental screenings for all children at least annually, as well as complete screenings within 60 days of a child’s entrance to the program? YES NO

If Yes, supply a copy of your program’s written policies related to developmental/child screening.

1E – CHILD ASSESSMENT

3. Does your program implement an approved child assessment tool, as listed on the ExceleRate Illinois website? YES NO

3a. If Yes, what is the name of the assessment tool? _____

If No, please include a narrative description of how the assessment tool used aligns with the program’s curriculum.

1F – INCLUSION OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

4. Does your program have a written Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the local Child and Family Connections (if serving children under 3)? YES NO N/A (not serving children under age 3)

A statewide MOU is in development for CFC’s to use with programs. Until a statewide MOU is available, this requirement is waived, but will be required at annual report.

5. Does your program have a written MOU with at least one Local Education Agency (LEA) concerning services to children age 3 - 5 with an Individual Education Program (IEP)? YES NO N/A (not serving children age 3 - 5)

OPTIONAL: If Yes, enclose a copy of a signed MOU with at least one LEA. (Required in 2016).

2B – TRANSITIONS

6. Does your program implement a written plan of activities and strategies that facilitate the transition of children and families into and out of classrooms, early learning environments, community services, and school settings including the transition to kindergarten? And is the plan shared with parents and community/school stakeholders? YES NO

If Yes, please include a copy of the transition policy as well as an example of communication that indicates it has been shared with parents.

3D – LINGUISTICALLY AND CULTURALLY APPROPRIATE PRACTICE

7. Does your program communicate with families in their home language whenever possible? YES NO N/A
(not serving families with a home language other than English)

If Yes, enclose an example of communication with families in their home language.

4B – STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

Initial ExceleRate Illinois applications receive an extension related to staff qualifications. Program staff are required to apply for the Gateways Credentials. Program staff must achieve the Gateways Credentials within the first year of the program’s eligibility.

4C – STAFF DEVELOPMENT

8. Do all classroom staff in your program complete a minimum of 5 hours Gateways Registry-approved training as part of their professional development each year? YES NO