

II. IMPLEMENTATION

H. Use of Observation-Based Child Assessments

What assessment tool/tools are used for child assessments?

Providers may implement an OEL approved child assessment on all SR birth to kindergarten-entry children at least three times a year during specified periods. All data shall be completed and uploaded in the last month of that period as outlined in rule for an additional payment differential of three percent. Currently, providers may choose Galileo, Teaching Strategies GOLD (TSG), or High Scope's Child Observation Record (COR). Providers must use an assessment tool identified/approved by OEL. At this time, all providers voluntarily choosing to administer a child assessment are using Teaching Strategies Gold.

How does the coalition solicit voluntary participation?

The coalition entices providers to voluntarily participate in child assessment by providing a comprehensive child assessment program that includes training, coaching, technical assistance, and monetary support. In addition, during the months leading to contract preparation, the coalition reaches out to providers via email to educate them on the value of child assessment, available supports, requirements for participation, and incentives for implementation.

Coalition staff support providers that do not meet the prerequisites at time of contracting but wish to implement child assessment. Child assessment support includes introductory training, reliability testing, and developmentally appropriate observational recording training designed to ensure valid and reliable assessment outcomes. Moreover, coalition staff are available to provide individualized coaching and technical assistance at the provider or classroom level. This support includes identification of course progression, implementation of reliable observation/assessment, and navigation of child assessment online systems.

Providers that voluntarily implement child assessment are entitled to all of the above supports as needed or required.