



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Child Development Coordinating Council

August 10, 2015

Program Standards for Shared Visions Preschool Programs

The following new language was passed in House File 658:

Sec. 10. Section 256A.3, subsection 5, Code 2015, is amended by adding the following new paragraph:

NEW PARAGRAPH. *c. Programs awarded grants under this subsection shall meet the national association for the education of young children program standards and accreditation criteria, the Iowa quality preschool program standards and criteria, or other approved program standards as determined by the department of education. Programs awarded grants prior to July 1, 2015, shall continue to be evaluated and assessed based on eligibility and award criteria established under rules adopted by the state board of education pursuant to section 279.51 prior to June 30, 2015.*

Related Guidance:

- Shared Visions Preschool Programs that were awarded grants before July 1, 2015, which includes all 2015-2016 awarded grantees, will continue to be required to achieve and maintain accreditation by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. This requirement will be maintained until the expiration of the grant on June 30, 2020.
- A new competitive grant process will be initiated in the Fall of 2019 with new awards announced and services to begin on July 1, 2020. At that time, interested applicants will have the option to select which program standards would be implemented. Allowable options will include the National Association for the Education of Young Children Early Childhood Program Standards and Accreditation Criteria, Iowa Quality Preschool Program Standards, and Head Start Program Performance Standards.
- Contact Amy Stegeman at 515-725-2273 or amy.stegeman@iowa.gov with questions.