

# NAEYC Early Childhood Program Standards

## Standard 1: Relationships

**Program Standard:** The program promotes positive relationships among all children and adults to encourage each child's sense of individual worth and belonging as part of a community and to foster each child's ability to contribute as a responsible community member.

## Standard 2: Curriculum

**Program Standard:** The program implements a curriculum that is consistent with its goals for children and promotes learning and development in each of the following areas: social, emotional, physical, language, and cognitive.

## Standard 3: Teaching

**Program Standard:** The program uses developmentally, culturally, and linguistically appropriate and effective teaching approaches that enhance each child's learning and development in the context of the program's curriculum goals.

## Standard 4: Assessment of Child Progress

**Program Standard:** The program is informed by ongoing systematic, formal, and informal assessment approaches to provide information on children's learning and development. These assessments occur within the context of reciprocal communications with families and with sensitivity to the cultural contexts in which children develop. Assessment results are used to benefit children by informing sound decisions about children, teaching, and program improvement.

## Standard 5: Health

**Program Standard:** The program promotes the nutrition and health of children and protects children and staff from illness and injury.

## Standard 6: Teachers

**Program Standard:** The program employs and supports a teaching staff that has the educational qualifications, knowledge, and professional commitment necessary to promote children's learning and development and to support families' diverse needs and interests.

## Standard 7: Families

**Program Standard:** The program establishes and maintains collaborative relationships with each child's family to foster children's development in all settings. These relationships are sensitive to family composition, language, and culture.

## Standard 8: Community Relationships

**Program Standard:** The program establishes relationships with and uses the resources of the children's communities to support the achievement of program goals.

## Standard 9: Physical Environment

**Program Standard:** The program has a safe and healthful environment that provides appropriate and well-maintained indoor and outdoor physical environments. The environment includes facilities, equipment, and materials to facilitate child and staff learning and development.

## Standard 10: Leadership and Management

**Program Standard:** The program effectively implements policies, procedures, and systems that support stable staff and strong personnel, fiscal, and program management so all children, families, and staff have high-quality experiences.