

Program Profile

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Welcome, glad you are joining us to learn more about the Program Profile. If you didn't already check out the overview webinar recording we would encourage you to watch that first as it gives a bird's eye view of the revisions process including how revisions to the Early Achievers program are focused on racial equity and committed to ongoing family, participant, and community engagement that results in ongoing improvements to Early Achievers. The overview webinar can be found on the same web page where you found this one. Stick around to the end of this short presentation to learn how you can participate by providing feedback.

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The Early Achievers House is a sturdy and enduring framework, while Early Achievers standards have evolved over time, the house has held steady. Records Review components represent several components of the house including the strong siding of professional development and training, mentoring, planning, aligned curriculum, family engagement and partnership, screening and ongoing assessment in collaboration with families and the very important individualized teaching and learning for every child. Implementing the practices represented in the records review represent a strong commitment to high quality supports for children and families.

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Let's take a quick look at the recognition cycle. Providers join Early Achievers and complete their program profile. Next they complete two video highlights per classroom. Providers are eligible for a level three rating once these components are completed.

If a participant is working on a level 4 or 5 they can select from the options to earn more points. These options include:

1. Additional video highlight cycles
2. School age video highlight cycle
3. Records Review
4. Professional Development achievements in MERIT through verified education
5. Accreditation

Please visit the resources on this webpage to learn more about these options for beyond level 3.

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Here is a look at all of the Early Achievers standard areas, the program profile falls under the learning environment standard area and is required to be completed at the start of each three-year recognition cycle.

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The Program Profile takes place at the start of each recognition cycle. It also counts as Level 2 activities for sites that have just enrolled in Early Achievers. The program profile can help keep track of progress.

The program profile is a process of conducting interviews with early learning and school age program leaders, teachers, and families. The result is a report or profile that captures the program's unique story, strengths and allows the them to make decisions, along with their coach, about setting goals and action plans that are in-line with participant values and priorities. The program profile is designed to help participants and coaches keep track of where they are at as they build on each component of the house framework. It is designed to be a strengths-based tool that provides baseline data to kick off each three-year quality recognition cycle.

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To promote quality improvement activities, providers lead the process, and coaches support it. When an early learning and school age program join Early Achievers, their program profile helps to identify strengths and areas for growth. This baseline data, with input from a coach, informs quality improvement plans. Participants complete their profiles virtually, through conversations, interviews, or self-paced surveys with program staff and families. The program profile also details the participants' educational approach, the community of children and families, and other relevant details about the culture. This helps to tailor the support to participant needs. Early learning and school-age programs have asked Early Achievers to recognize and support cultural differences in practice. The program profile strives to acknowledge the rich diversity of programs. It moves away from a one-size-fits-all model of quality. It tells coaches about the participants' strengths, priorities, and identity. Both coaches and program leaders can see the program profile, so they can work together on the first quality improvement plans. The profile report aligns with training and coaching options. A participant earns 20 points for completing the program profile.

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The program profile is a strengths-based report composed of the information gathered during the interviews of program staff and families. To ensure flexibility and choice, interviews can be completed as a self-paced online survey or a facilitated interview.

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Let's review the process. First the early learning program leader, teachers and families complete interviews, next the program receives a profile report then participants use the report, along with their coach to set goals and action plans that lead towards the next step in the process.

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Coaches will use information from the program profile report, and in some cases, previous data that your early learning program has already been working with to set goals for your quality improvement journey. Coaches start with strengths of each participant and collaboratively work with staff to build a plan that fits your individual needs.

This includes helping participants access resources like trainings or business supports as well as practicing for the next steps in the Early Achievers process - getting ready for video uploads of teacher practice. Coaches are your guide through each step of Early Achievers.

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The next step is Video Highlights. You can find more information about video highlights on the webpage.

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Thank you for joining us today to talk about the program profile. Please take the time to provide feedback on this plan through the portal that is located on the webpage along with this presentation. Thank you for joining us, we look forward to your feedback.