



## **Family Child Care Developmentally Appropriate Practices – Trainings**

The Core Knowledge and Competencies for Early Childhood Professionals identify specific knowledge areas that a professional must have and be able to apply when working with diverse children and their families and offer a framework for developing skills and continuing professional growth in offering quality early learning experiences for young children. You may find trainings on topics within each competency area through Grow NJ Kids, your local Child Care Resource and Referral Agency (CCR&R), Child Care Aware, National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC), through other state and local child care associations (NAEYC, NJAEYC), or on NJCCIS or other websites (e.g., edWeb.net, Early Childhood Investigations). The Core Knowledge Areas and specific topics within each area that directly relate to Family Child Care (FCC) Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP) are listed on the following pages.

Providers are encouraged to read through course descriptions when choosing trainings in the various core knowledge areas, as well as utilize resources available within the Grow NJ Kids system, in order to identify training that will support continuous quality improvement efforts and the particular ages the program serves.

### **In order to achieve a 3-, 4- or 5-Star rating, you must meet the following requirements:**

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| <b>3-Star Rating/<br/>Standard<br/>2.3.2</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● A minimum of five training hours in at least two Core Knowledge Areas</li><li>● One training must be in the topic area of “Physical Environment” under the Core Knowledge Area: Learning Environment and Curriculum</li><li>● Training must have been completed within three years of the rating submission date</li></ul>   |
| <b>4-Star Rating/<br/>Standard<br/>2.4.1</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● A minimum of 10 training hours on at least three Core Knowledge Areas</li><li>● One training must be in the topic area of “Physical Environment” under the Core Knowledge Area: Learning Environment and Curriculum.</li><li>● Training must have been completed within three years of the rating submission date</li></ul>  |
| <b>5-Star Rating/<br/>Standard<br/>2.5.1</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● A minimum of 20 training hours on at least 10 training topics</li><li>● At least 10 of these training hours must be completed in topics listed under Core Knowledge Areas: Learning Environment and Curriculum, and Child Growth and Development, and must include training on “Physical Environment” and “Language Arts and Literacy.”</li><li>● Training must have been completed within three years of the rating submission date</li></ul> |



## **Core Knowledge Areas and Training Topics**

The Core Knowledge Areas listed below focus on Family Child Care (FCC) Developmentally Appropriate Practices (DAP) and may be used by Family Child Care providers to identify training that meets the requirements for Grow NJ Kids 3-, 4- and 5-Star Ratings and standards 2.3.2; 2.4.1; 2.5.1. Providers should search for training by specific Core Knowledge Areas and review course descriptions to ensure specific training topics meet star rating and standards requirements and their own professional development needs. Training topics should support providers in their work with children from birth through preschool as the age range of the children in care will vary.

### **Core Knowledge Area: Child Growth and Development**

#### **Topics:**

- Theories and principles of child development
- Interplay of multiple influences
- Typical and atypical development
- Play
- Developmentally appropriate practices to support development

### **Core Knowledge Area: Family and Community Relationships**

#### **Topics:**

- Family characteristics and influences
- Respectful and reciprocal relationships with families
- Family involvement
- Community collaboration and relationships

### **Core Knowledge Area: Learning Environment and Curriculum**

#### **Topics:**

- Physical environment
- Materials and equipment
- Curriculum: Philosophy, framework, and standards
- Social and emotional development
- Visual and performing arts
- Language arts and literacy
- Math and science
- Social studies, family and life skills
- Health, nutrition, and physical education

### **Core Knowledge Area: Teaching-Learning Interactions and Approaches**

#### **Topics:**

- Responsive relationships
- Adult-child and peer interactions
- Play-based approaches
- Teaching-learning strategies
- Developmentally appropriate guidance



### **Core Knowledge Area: Child Assessment**

#### **Topics:**

- Principles of observation and assessment of children
- Observation and assessment techniques and tools
- Using child assessment information
- Reporting and sharing assessment information

### **Core Knowledge Area: Child Wellness: Health, Safety, Nutrition and Physical Activity**

#### **Topics:**

- Indoor and outdoor safety
- Health and safety standards and program practices
- Child abuse and neglect
- Child and adult mental health
- Nutritional needs of children

### **Core Knowledge Area: Serving Diverse Populations**

#### **Topics:**

- Cultural, social and linguistic diversity
- English language learners (dual language learners)
- Children with special needs
- Anti-bias practices

## **Star Rating Information**

When you are ready to request a Grow NJ Kids star rating, you will need to provide evidence that you have completed the required trainings.

Evidence of your completion of a required training can be:

- Your training transcript on NJCCIS
- Training certificates or sign-in sheets, which can be submitted electronically or reviewed onsite by Grow NJ Kids Rating)