



Illinois State Board of Education

Criteria for Primary Assessments for Early Childhood Outcome Progress Ratings

The Illinois State Board of Education Early Childhood Department has adopted criteria for determining allowable primary assessment tools that can be used to compile early childhood outcome progress ratings. The following questions will be considered when reviewing assessment tools:

- Is the assessment tool aligned with the Illinois Early Learning Standards?
- Is the tool research-based?
- Is the tool broad-based and does it cover multiple areas?
- Is the tool an authentic, play-based assessment?
- Does the tool align with all three early childhood outcomes (positive social emotional skills, acquisition and use of knowledge and skills, use of appropriate behaviors to meet needs)?
- Is the tool intended for use with all children (not just a specific population)?

Other Considerations:

- An assessment that is not approved for primary use with early childhood outcome progress ratings can be used as a secondary assessment tool.
- These assessments are for use with progress ratings only and have no impact on determining eligibility.
- Any assessment tool that is used should be examined through a cultural lens to determine if it is appropriate for each student.