

Portfolio Standard 3: Family Engagement – 18 Points Possible

Family Engagement is the shared responsibility of families, schools and communities to actively promote, support, and sustain family wellbeing, healthy child development, strong family child relationships and lifelong learning for all children and families. Programs can play a key role in equipping families to best support their children’s early learning experiences.

For this standard, points are assigned based on the percentage of program staff that have completed Strengthening Families training, the completion of the Family Engagement Self-Assessment, a written family engagement improvement plan, documentation of actions taken to complete the plan, and evidence that the program has met each of the requirements listed.

For **Initial**, **Re-Application**, and **Request for Reassessment** portfolios, credit is given for Strengthening Families training that has been completed no more than five (5) years before the portfolio submission date (Ready to Submit). For **Required Reassessment** portfolios, a different Strengthening Families course should be taken in the three-year window between the previous rating date and the date of the reassessment submission, as credit is not given for repeating the same course that was counted in the previous portfolio. A different Strengthening Families course is not required for a Re-Application or a Request for Reassessment, due to the shorter timeframe between the rating date and the submission date.

3.1 Overview of Five Protective Factors	Points Possible
3.1.0 Criteria not met.	0
3.1.1 Fifty percent (50%) of the staff have completed the Strengthening Families training.	2
3.1.2 Seventy-five percent (75%) of the staff have completed the Strengthening Families training.	4
3.1.3 Eighty percent (80%) of the staff have completed the Strengthening Families training.	6
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>What to Submit for Standard 3.1</u></p> <p>Initial Application:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strengthening Families training will be verified for all staff in the GaPDS. Points for completed training hours will be awarded based on training entered and verified in the GaPDS at the time of portfolio submission. <p>Reassessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strengthening Families training will be verified for all staff. Points for completed training hours will be awarded based on training entered and verified in the GaPDS at the time of portfolio submission. <p><i>Required information must be completed, saved, and uploaded before this standard will be marked as complete.</i></p>	

3.2 Family Engagement Self-Assessment	Points Possible
3.2.0 Criteria not met.	0
3.2.1 The program has conducted the Family Engagement Self-Assessment within the past year and has developed a written improvement plan to address one goal from one of the protective factors stated in the Family Engagement Self-Assessment.	2
3.2.2 The program has conducted the Family Engagement Self-Assessment within the past year and has developed a written improvement plan to address three goals . Each goal should be from a different protective factor stated in the Family Engagement Self-Assessment.	4
3.2.3 The program has conducted the Family Engagement Self-Assessment within the past year and has developed a written improvement plan to address four goals . Each goal should be from a different protective factor stated in the Family Engagement Self-Assessment.	6
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>What to Submit for Standard 3.2</u></p> <p>Initial Application and Reassessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A completed Family Engagement Self-Assessment and written improvement plan addressing either 1, 3, or 4 goals. The self-assessment is located in Standard 3 of the online portfolio. <p><i>Required information must be completed, saved, and uploaded before this standard will be marked as complete.</i></p>	

3.3 Family Engagement Written Evidence	Points Possible
3.3.0 Criteria not met.	0
3.3.1 The program has policies and practices in place addressing inclusion, confidentiality of child records, and family engagement.	2
3.3.2 Has completed all of criteria 3.3.1, and has policies and practices that promote healthy transitions as children transition to another room or setting and offers family conferences at least twice a year.	4
3.3.3 Has completed all of criteria 3.3.2, and shows evidence that the program provides a role to strengthen family connections and the program receives ongoing input from families and incorporates family voice in ongoing quality improvement efforts.	6
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>What to Submit for Standard 3.3</u></p> <p>Initial Application and Reassessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If reassessment, evidence of implementing the prior improvement plan ○ 3.3.1: Evidence of written policy on inclusion and confidentiality of children’s records; Evidence of policies and practices that encourage family engagement (policy, volunteer opportunities in classrooms, translated open classroom policy) ○ 3.3.2: Evidence of policies and practices that demonstrate transition activities (policy, special events, site visits, guest speaker agenda, etc.); Evidence of family conferences twice yearly (conference forms, policy, etc.) ○ 3.3.3: Evidence of family connection activities (family workshop or intergenerational event description and sign-in sheet, link to classroom website, copies of newsletters/handouts, photo of lending library, examples of community partnerships, and/or examples of at-home educational activities given to families); Evidence of ongoing family input (family advisory committee/board meetings, copies of program surveys distributed to families, evidence of suggestion box for families) <p><i>Required information must be completed, saved, and uploaded before this standard will be marked as complete.</i></p>	