

# Program Assessment/Early Childhood Quality Improvement Practices Process (ECQUIP)

ECQUIP was developed by the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Section as a continuous improvement process to ensure quality and accountability among schools within an Early Childhood Program receiving federal and/or state funding through the ECE Section of the Arizona Department of Education (ADE).

A copy of the ECQUIP manual can be found here: <https://cms.azed.gov/home/GetDocumentFile?id=587957efaadebe0c98a8053c>

## THE ECQUIP PROCESS

1. Begin by reviewing and assessing the previous year's ECQUIP goal and your achievements. Determine if you met your goal, and if not, what were the barriers.
2. Decide who else could be invited to the ECQUIP team to enhance future planning and expand the benefits of the process.
3. Select future ECQUIP dates to carry on the work, monitor progress, assess your on-going work.
4. Conduct an annual self-assessment of the early childhood program using the [ECQUIP Rubric](#).
5. Select an instrument that targets specific needs based on areas in need of improvement identified in the ECQUIP Rubric that will be administered both pre and post of implementing the plan.
6. Develop a SMART Goal to inform your plan.

## ECQUIP Standards

Standard 1: School and District Leadership – helping leaders to support improved student achievement

Standard 2: Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development – promoting rigorous curriculum, effective instruction and instructional support

Standard 3: Classroom and School Assessments – using data to improve classrooms, supportive programs, and school practices, as well as child outcomes

Standard 4: School Culture, Climate and Communication - developing schools as learning communities for students, teachers and parents

Standard 5: Fiscal Review – monitoring funding activities

## ECQUIP Opt-Out

We recognize that at present time, some programs may not be ready to engage or have the capacity to engage in the ECQUIP process. If a program is choosing not to participate in ECQUIP, the below 2 items must be completed and this document must be uploaded to EMAC.

**This option is only available to programs/schools NOT receiving grant funding from ADE ECE (i.e. PDG).**

**\*Please be advised that upcoming funding opportunities provided through the ADE ECE division will require participation in the ECQUIP process.**

My district/program will not be submitting an ECQUIP Quality Enhancement Plan for FY25.

### Select Reason

**Currently not ready to engage and support initiatives relative to early childhood**

**We currently do not serve children in the early childhood space**

**Other (please describe)**

(Use this planning guide to design programmatic changes and budgetary decision-making to improve quality in EC Programs)

**Upload Enhancement Plan to EMAC System**

Responsible Party:

Phone:

E-mail:

**FY24 ECQUIP Achievements:**

Target Area:

Quality Goal:

Strategies Implemented:

Results achieved:

**FY25 ECQUIP QUALITY ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

ECQUIP Meeting Dates

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**ECQUIP Team Members:** (Consider expanding your team to include Head Start, Community Childcare, local childcare partners, families, a business partner, First Things First staff, Title I preschool, local Read On partners, kindergarten teachers.)

**Target Area** *(describe the area of program development to be targeted as identified during self-assessment, e.g. preschool environments; vocabulary development; staff evaluation practices, etc.)*

**Quality SMART Goal** *(describe desired outcome of enhancement plan, e.g. improve staff evaluation practices to assure timely and meaningful feedback for the purpose of improving quality of instruction.)*

Specific      Measurable      Achievable      Relevant      Time-Bound *(Ensure all aspects of a SMART goal are present)*

Selected Tool:

<b>Implementation Strategies</b>	<b>Persons Responsible for Implementation</b>	<b>Target Date of Completion</b>	<b>Actual Date of Completion</b>
