

Preschool Special Education Assessments

1. Brigance Early Childhood Screens-III (0-35 Months & 3-5 years)

It is an individually administered developmental screener measuring physical, academic/cognitive, language, self-help and social-emotional skills. It takes 10 to 15 minutes to administer. This is an approved ODE screening assessment tool. The BRIGANCE cutoff scores have been validated on a nationally representative sample of 1,929 children who were stratified on the basis of race/ethnicity, geographic location, and socioeconomic status across the United States. It has a high degree of internal consistency as well as test-retest and inter-rater reliability (.90 or higher). It has highly reliable evidence that supports the fairness of items. Factor analysis confirms construct validity. This instrument will be used within 60 days of enrollment and annually thereafter. Each teacher will administer the measure prior to 60 days of enrollment. The parents are given a letter informing them that their child will be screened as a part of the program. Parents receive a copy of the front page of the assessment overall score and next steps. Teachers are available daily through phone calls and email. Meetings can also be scheduled. Parent teacher conferences occur in November and March. However, meetings can occur throughout the year at teacher or parent request. Parents are welcome to contact the program staff with any questions.

2. Early Learning Assessment

The Early Learning Assessment (ELA) is for children starting at 36 months of age through the end of kindergarten. The ELA is designed to help teachers: track individual children's learning; individualize learning opportunities; plan for intervention; engage in real-time planning; and ensure that all children are on the path to kindergarten readiness. Tasks are both performance-based and observational. The formative tasks are designed to be administered either individually, in small groups, or in large groups. The ELA examines six areas critical to prepare children for school readiness. The areas include: Social Foundations, Language and Literacy, Mathematics, Science, Social-Studies, and Physical Well-Being and Motor Development.

4. Child Outcome Summary

The Early Childhood Outcomes Summary Form (ECOSF) is used by preschool special education teachers rate every preschool child with a disability using a 7-point scale to document the child's progress in each of three categories. The ECOSF captures information on children's progress in the acquisition and use of knowledge and skills, (including early language, communication and early literacy), positive emotional skills (including social relationships) and the use of appropriate behaviors to meet their needs.

Districts report child outcomes data twice annually to ODE using the Early Childhood Outcomes Summary Form (ECOSF). This form was developed by the Early Childhood Outcomes (ECO) Center, funded by the federal Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) in the U.S. Department of Education.

Preschool Special Education Assessments

Information for ASQ and ECO assessments is gathered from teachers, therapists, parents and other caregivers. Most of this information is collected in a variety of ways such as correspondence with parents (e-mail, phone calls, home/school notes), home visits, individualized education plan meetings, consultation meetings with therapists, and during fall and spring parent/teacher conferences.