



# Overview of the Curriculum Review Process for VQB5 Practice Year 2

Using a high-quality curriculum helps support learning in every birth-to-five classroom in Virginia. To help ensure every young child has the opportunity to enter kindergarten ready, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) must ensure that all publicly-funded infant, toddler, preschool and family day home classrooms have access to a high-quality curriculum.

## Why does Virginia need a birth-to-five curriculum review process?

Using effective curricula helps support learning and development in all early childhood programs and settings.

- Curricula that are aligned with [Virginia's Early Learning Standards](#) help ensure educators address all areas of children's learning and development.
- Quality curricula support cultural and linguistic diversity, and help educators individualize instruction based on children's needs.

Through a comprehensive and expert-led curriculum review process, the VDOE will help leaders identify quality curriculum. Use of a quality curriculum will be measured for all programs participating in Practice Year 2 of VQB5. The VQB5 Program Leader Implementation Guide for Practice Year 2 (2022-2023) can be consulted for more information.

## Who should get their curriculum reviewed?

In 2022-2023, programs that are participating in Practice Year 2 of VQB5 will be prioritized for a curriculum review. Programs already using curriculum from the [VDOE-approved list](#) **do not** need to request a curriculum review.

## How does the curriculum review process work?

The curriculum review process involves multiple levels of review. The curriculum review must be initiated by a currently operating birth-to-five early childhood program in Virginia.

## The chart below outlines the curriculum review process for VQB5 Practice Year 2.

<b>Step 1: Program completes Curriculum Pre-Submission Checklist for Birth to Five Programs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programs first review their curriculum and the set of criteria for review by completing the Curriculum Pre-Submission Checklist for Birth to Five Programs. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Review the <a href="#">baseline evaluation criteria</a>.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Curricula that meet the criteria will be considered by VDOE for a comprehensive review. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Curricula that <b>do not</b> meet the criteria outlined in the Curriculum Pre-Submission Checklist <b>will not</b> be moved forward in review.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Step 2: Program works with VDOE to facilitate expert review of curriculum and materials</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Once VDOE reviews the Curriculum Pre-Submission Checklist for Birth to Five Programs from Step 1 and confirms all criteria have been met, a full curriculum review is initiated. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Working with the program to obtain copies of all resources included with the curriculum.</li> <li>◦ Completing an in-depth review of the curriculum and related materials using a rubric. This rubric is similar to the tool developed by the <a href="#">National Center on Early Childhood Development, Teaching, and Learning (NCECDTL)</a>.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>Step 3: Decision on curriculum is made</b>	<p>Curriculum is determined to be "Approved" or "Not Approved".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This decision will be communicated to the requesting program via a letter. If approved, the curriculum will be added to the <a href="#">Approved Curriculum List</a>.</li> </ul>

## Next Steps for Programs

All programs are asked to use the chart below to determine their next steps.

<b>My program <u>already</u> has a curriculum in place. <i>What should I do next?</i></b>
<b>If your curriculum is already approved...</b>  No action is needed. You can confirm this by reviewing the list of <a href="#">approved curriculum</a> .
<b>If your curriculum is NOT currently approved...</b>  You should use our VDOE checklist to determine whether your curriculum should be reviewed and follow the next two steps:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Pre-Submission Checklist for Birth to Five Programs to determine if your curriculum meets the baseline criteria.</li><li>2. If so, follow the final steps in the Curriculum Pre-Submission Checklist for Birth to Five Programs to be considered for a formal review.</li></ol> <b>Programs that do not have a curriculum that meet the baseline criteria in the curriculum pre-submission checklist should not rush to purchase a new product.</b> Additional support in obtaining an appropriate curriculum will be forthcoming from the VDOE.
<b>My program <u>does not</u> have a curriculum in place. <i>What should I do next?</i></b>
<b>Programs that do not have a curriculum should NOT rush to purchase one from the approved curriculum list.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The VDOE will provide support in accessing free or low cost approved curricula options during the 2022-2023 school year. Once developed, this will be available to all program types participating in VQB5.</li><li>• If your program has funds available and wants to purchase a curriculum now, you are encouraged to consider the approved curriculum list.</li></ul>