

CURRICULUM FALL WEBINAR

October 23, 2023

VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



OBJECTIVES AND AGENDA

This brief, pre-recorded webinar intends to increase Early Childhood providers' understanding of VQB5 curriculum expectations.

Agenda:

- Background and Purpose
- Curriculum Use and Expectations for Sites in VQB5
- Resources to Support Curriculum Choice
- VQB5's Curriculum Review Process & Pending Curricula Timeline

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

OUR SHARED VISION

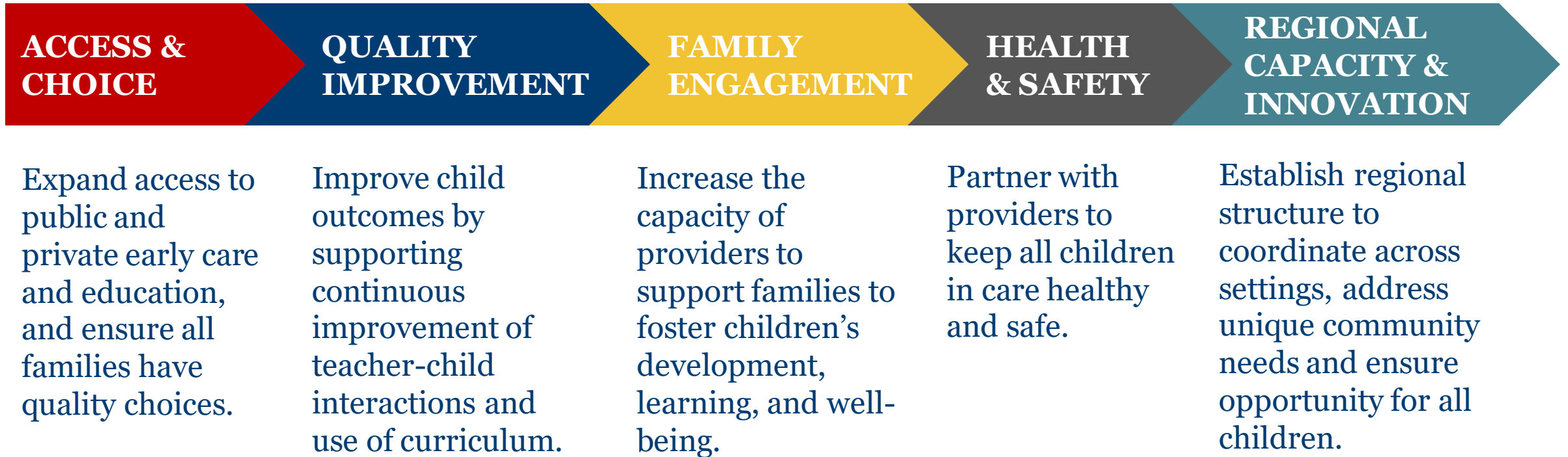
We envision a Virginia where *all* children have the opportunity to enter school ready.

- All families have affordable access to and support to choose the option that meets their unique needs.
- All early childhood programs that take public funds benefit from measurement and supports for improvement, ensuring quality choices are available for all families.
- Programs are rewarded for continual improvement and educators are adequately compensated.
- Overall Virginia's early childhood system is unified, data-driven and resource-effective so families can work, go to school or pursue employment and children have every opportunity to be successful.



Four out of ten Virginia children enter school without the key literacy, math, and social-emotional skills needed. (VKRP fall 2022)

GOALS OF THE UNIFIED SYSTEM



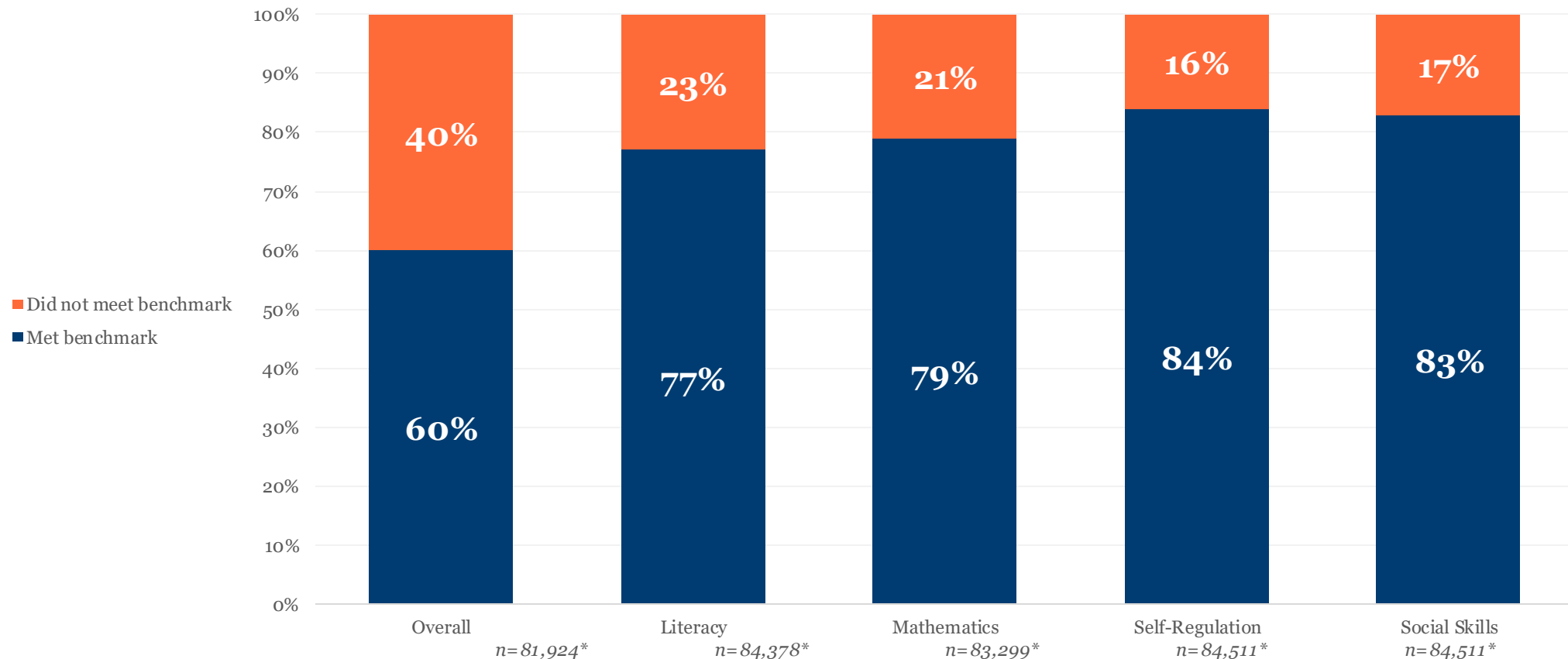
ACCESS TO HIGH QUALITY CURRICULUM IS ONE OF THE TWO QUALITY MEASUREMENT ITEMS WITHIN THE QUALITY IMPROVEMENT SYSTEM: VQB5

SCHOOL READINESS IN VIRGINIA



40%

of Virginia's kindergarteners began the 2022-2023 school year still needing to build skills in Literacy, Mathematics, Self-Regulation, and/or Social Skills.*

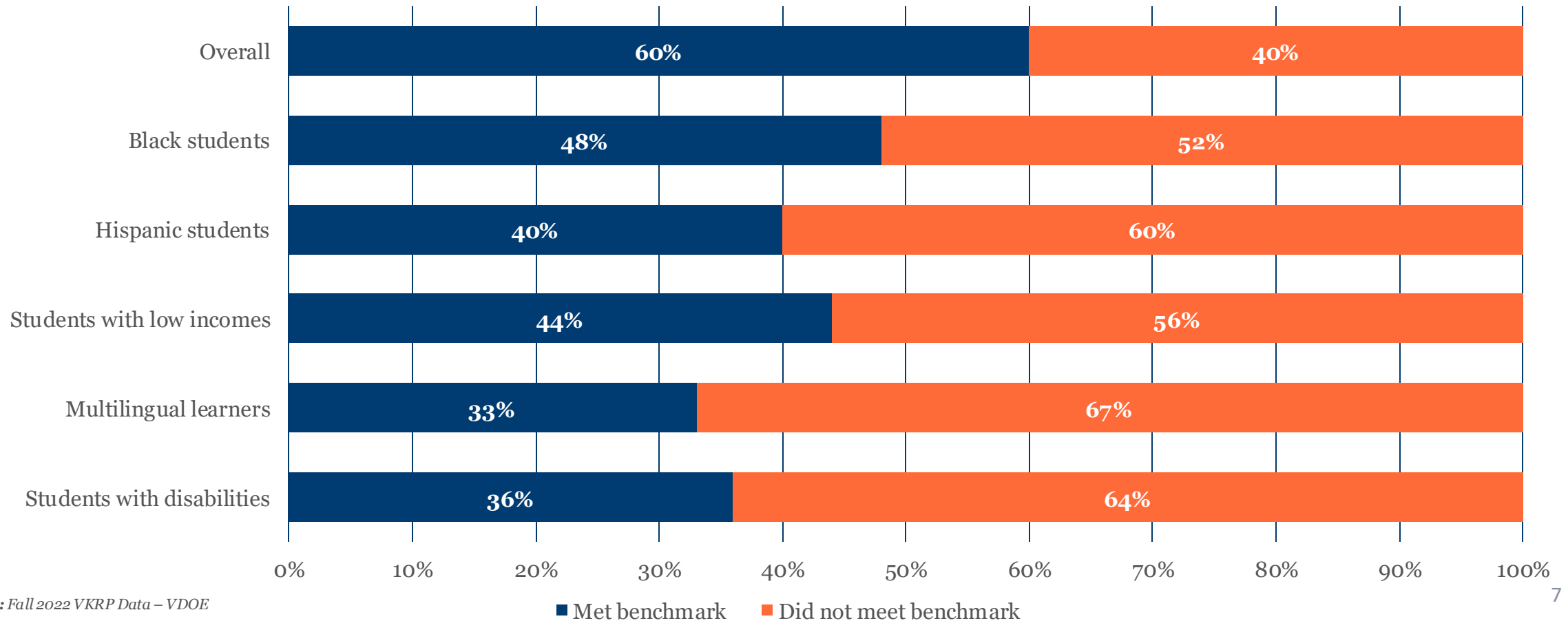


Source: Fall 2022 VKRP Data – VDOE

* Students with complete data on each individual measure were included to obtain these estimates.

PERSISTENT DISPARITIES IN READINESS

Students who have historically faced barriers are less likely to enter kindergarten with the skills needed to succeed.



VQB5 THEORY OF CHANGE

Virginia's early childhood system must ensure that all children have access to quality teaching and learning experiences that meet their unique needs.

Working together, through VQB5, we will:

UNIFY around shared and equitable expectations for quality.

MEASURE and strengthen teacher-child interactions and curriculum use in all publicly-funded birth-to-five programs.

IMPROVE supports for educators, prioritizing those who need it most.

VQB5 CURRICULUM USE AND EXPECTATIONS FOR SITES

MEASURING QUALITY IN VQB5

VQB5 measures the quality of infant, toddler, and preschool teaching and learning based on two nationally-recognized quality indicators.

Interactions	Curriculum
Measure teacher-child interactions and instruction in a developmentally-appropriate way using the Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) [™] .	Measure the use of approved curricula that are aligned with Virginia’s Early Learning and Development Standards.
Research shows that stimulating and supportive interactions between teachers and children and effective use of quality curricula promote children’s holistic learning and development, <i>resulting in improved school readiness.</i>	

VQB5 QUALITY RATINGS

VQB5 Quality Ratings are calculated at the end of the program year using the following point system.

Interactions Points <i>(700 total points)</i>	Average of all local CLASS scores from the fall and the spring (<i>all classrooms</i> at a site) x 100*
Curriculum Points <i>(100 total points)</i>	Programs using an approved curriculum in <i>at least one classroom, by May 31st</i> , will receive 100 points added to their score
Total Points	Interactions Points + Curriculum Points = Total Points
Quality Ratings	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Exceeds Expectations = 700 - 800 points• Meets Expectations = 400 - 699 points• Needs Support = 100 - 399 points

**If there are significant discrepancies between comparable local and external scores, a score replacement protocol will be used when calculating the interaction points for the total as outlined in Section 6.2.1 in the VQB5 Guidelines.*

CURRICULUM SUPPORTS QUALITY INTERACTIONS AND IMPROVEMENT

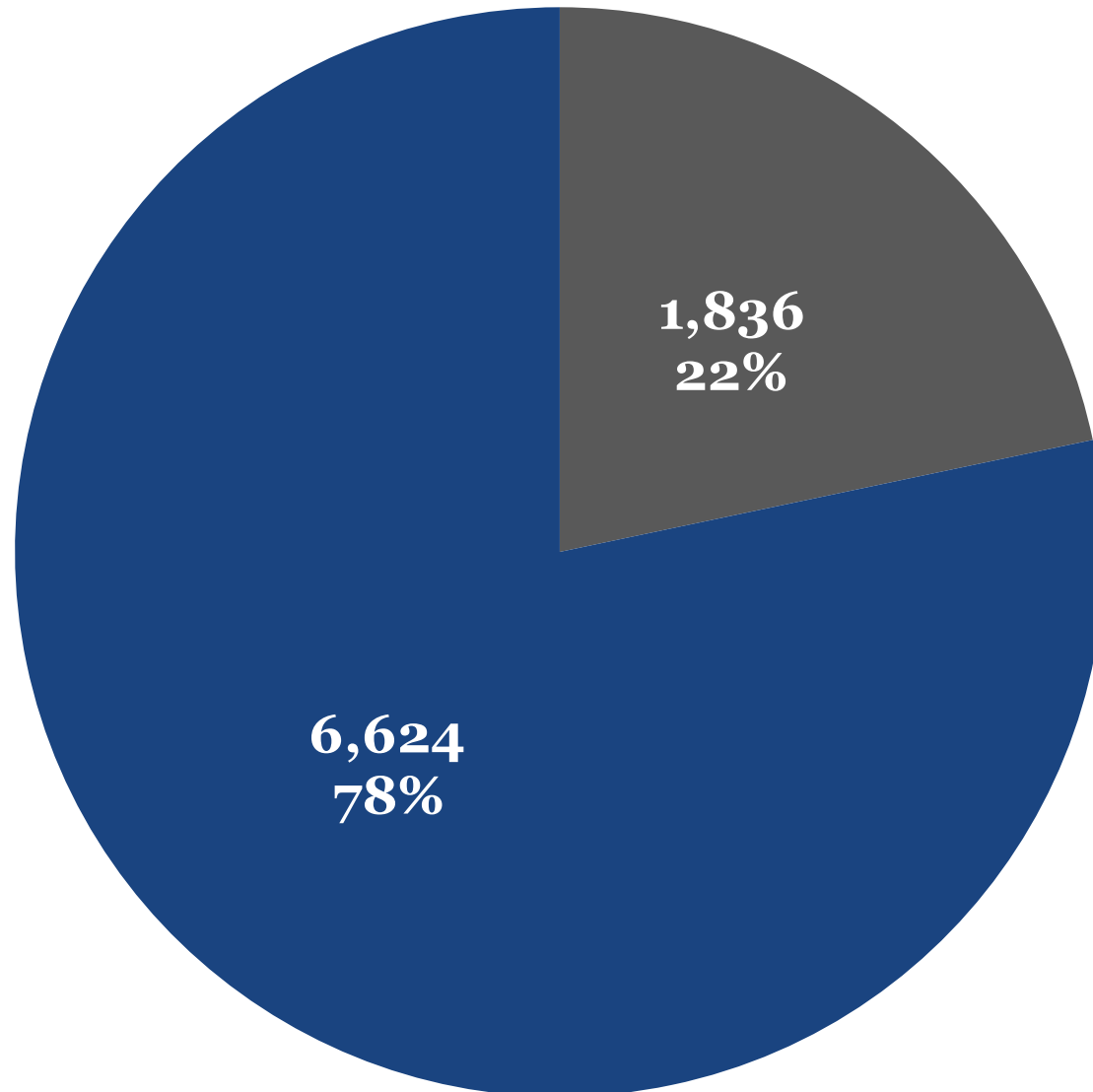
Curriculum consists of the “plans for the learning experiences through which all children acquire knowledge, skills, abilities, and understanding.”

Curriculum helps teachers provide quality interactions by:

- Defining specific, sequenced learning goals to meet all children’s individual needs
- Providing structure, routines
- Suggesting activities that promote all children’s engagement
- Offering scripts to help teachers scaffold all children’s learning (i.e., how to explain concepts)
- Promoting consistency across all classrooms

Professional Development materials that accompany quality curriculum support educational leaders, trainers, and coaches to engage with teachers on ways to improve interactions and promote learning.

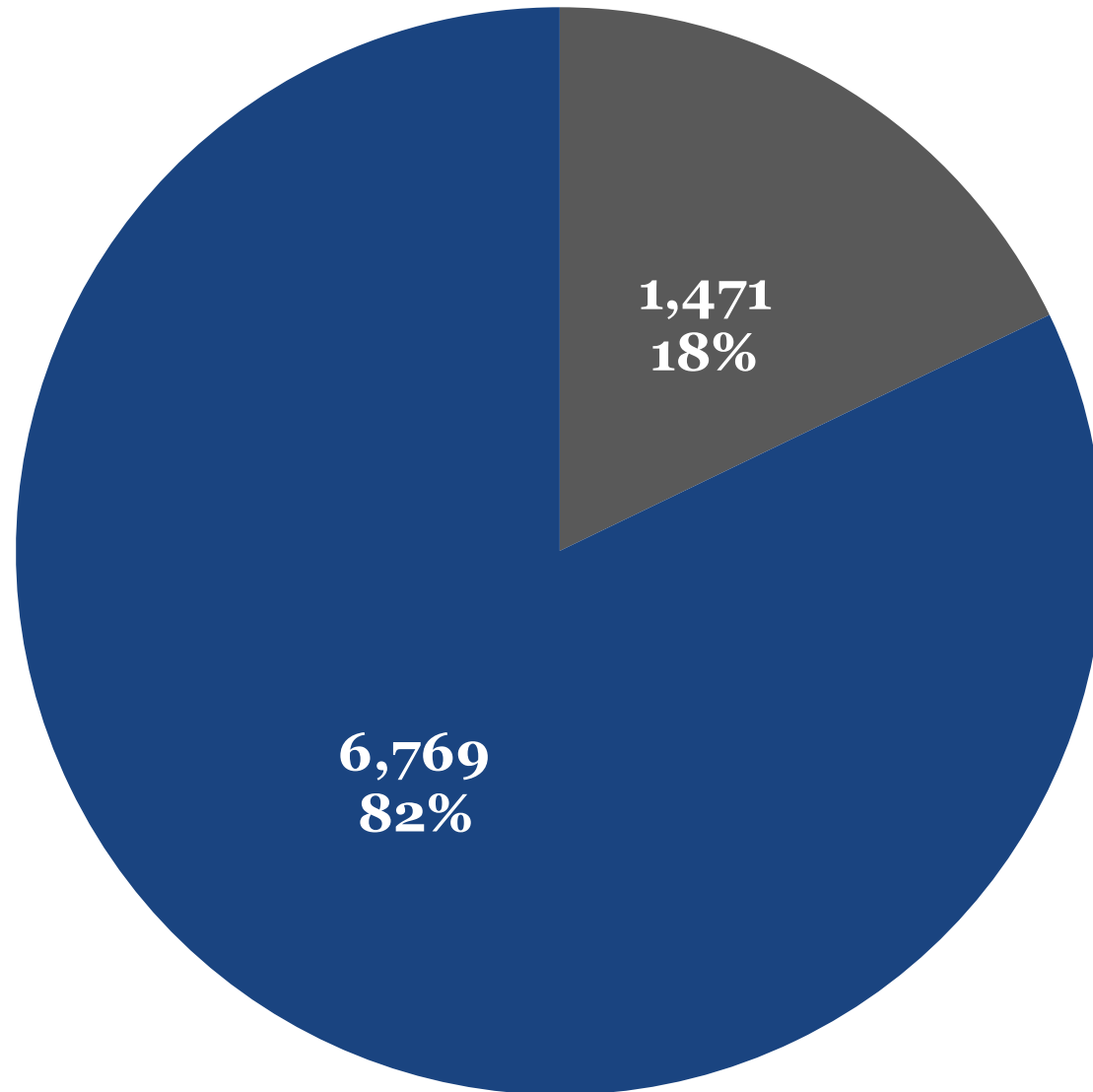
PY2 CURRICULUM USE IN CLASSROOMS FALL



- Not Using Approved Curriculum
- Using Approved Curriculum

NOTE: The guidelines currently give points to any site with curriculum in at least one classroom. However, data entry on curriculum for every classroom is required.

PY2 CURRICULUM USE IN CLASSROOMS SPRING

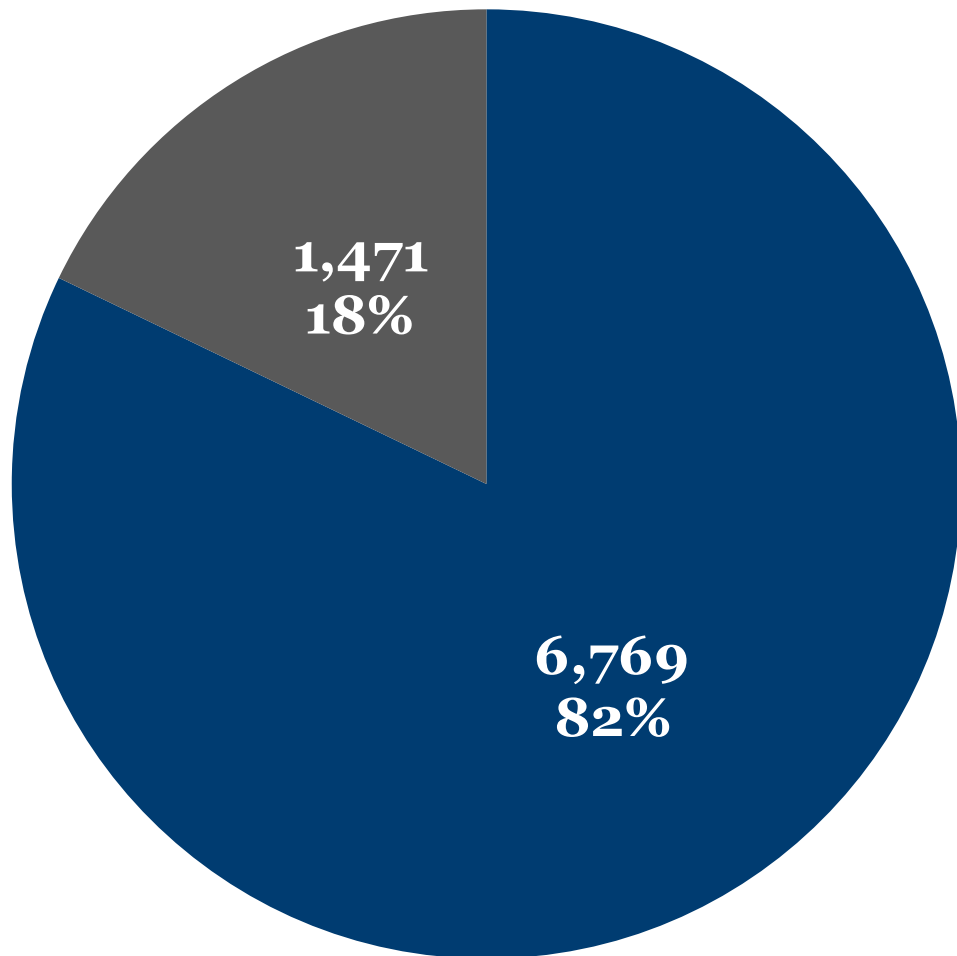


- Not Using Approved Curriculum
- Using Approved Curriculum

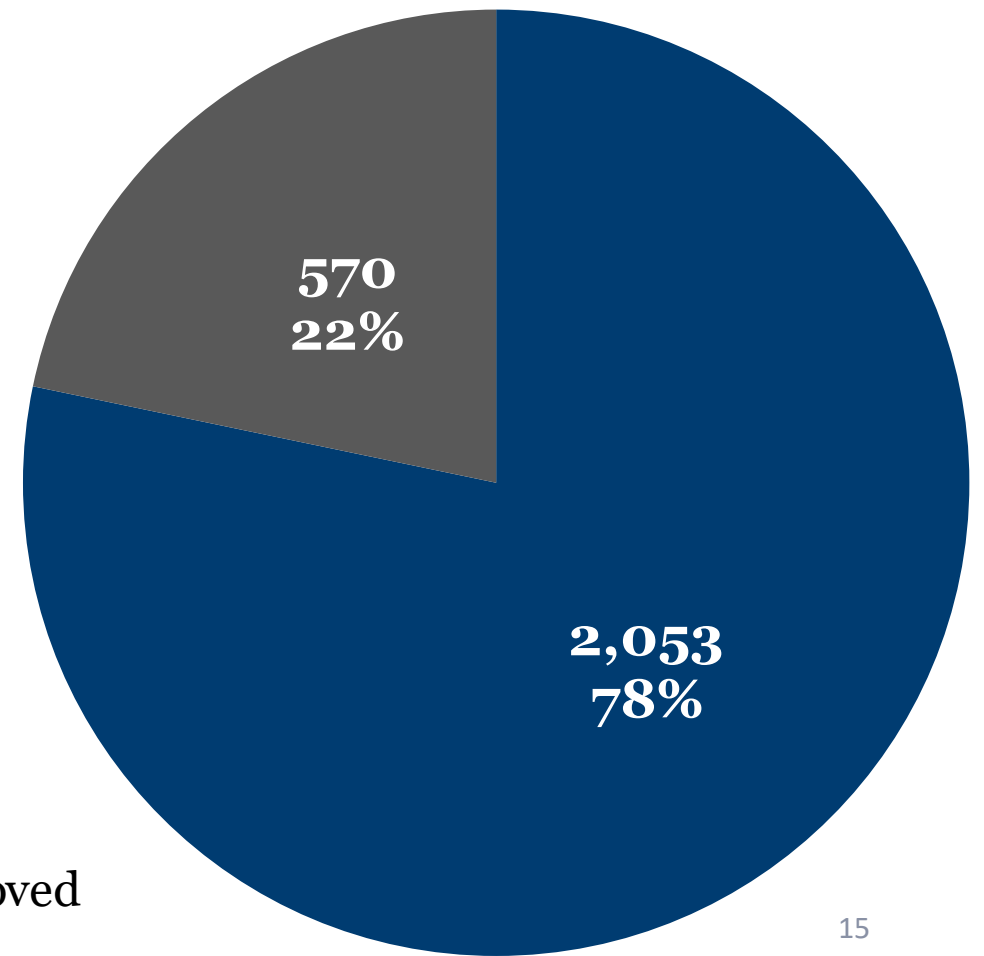
NOTE: The guidelines currently give points to any site with curriculum in at least one classroom. However, data entry on curriculum for every classroom is required.

CURRICULUM IN CLASSROOMS VS. SITES

Classrooms

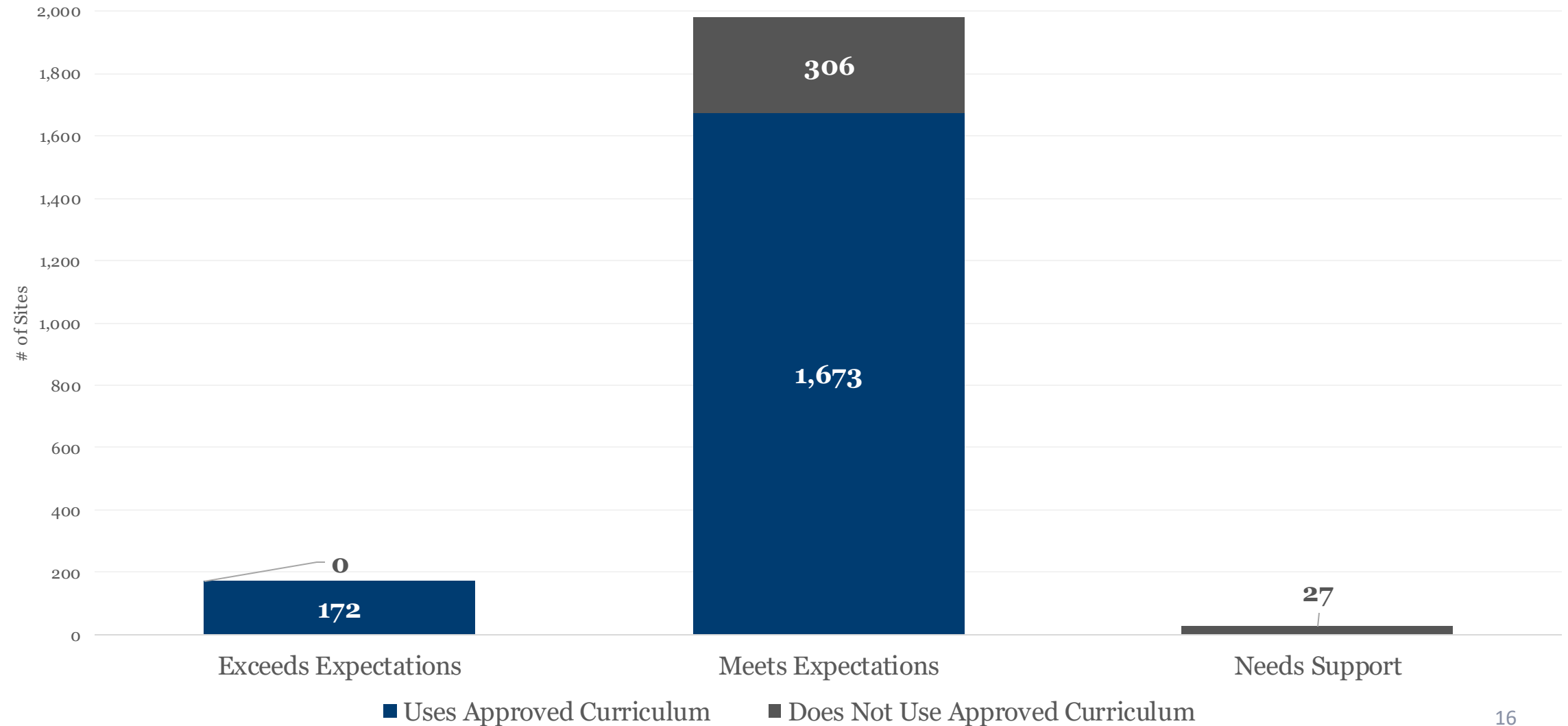


Sites



- Using Approved Curriculum
- Not Using Approved Curriculum

OVERALL PY2 RATINGS WITH CURRICULUM IMPACT



CURRICULUM USE IN VQB5



CURRICULUM IS A KEY
INGREDIENT TO HELPING
TEACHERS IMPROVE THEIR
INTERACTIONS

The choice to use an approved curriculum in at least one classroom results in some additional points towards the VQB5 Quality Rating. *However, this is not required for participation or required for receiving a rating that meets expectations.**

Programs that are interested in using an approved curriculum as part of VQB5 may:

- 1) Use one of the 60+ approved early childhood curriculum available ***or***
- 2) Request to have their curriculum of choice reviewed for possible approval.

Sites can update curriculum use information in LinkB5 classroom profiles through May 31st.

**VQB5 does not require the use of any curriculum.*

BASELINE CRITERIA FOR HIGH QUALITY CURRICULUM

- Fully aligned to Virginia's Early Learning and Development Standards (ELDS)
- Comprehensive and integrated
- Does not include copyrighted materials
- Research-based
- Inclusive resources
- Specific details about how instruction should be individualized based on the interests, strengths, and needs of all children

TYPES OF APPROVED CURRICULA

of Approved Curricula by Type

Infant	Toddler	PreK	FDH	Spanish	Free or Low-Cost	Total
26	31	50	3	11	3	63

of Independently Developed

Individual Site	System/Network of Sites	Total
4	22	26

The published approved list is updated by the 30th of each month on the [Early Childhood Curriculum webpage](#).

EVENTS AND RESOURCES TO SUPPORT CURRICULUM CHOICE

CURRICULUM FAQ

VDOE's Curriculum Frequently Asked Questions document is available on the Early Childhood Curriculum webpage.



VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION

VQB5 Curriculum Frequently Asked Questions

The following talking points are intended to address frequently asked questions and concerns regarding the Curriculum component of VQB5. More information is available in the [VQB5 Guidelines](#).

Curriculum Reminders

- **Use of an approved curriculum in VQB5 is optional. There is no VQB5 curriculum requirement.**
 - Programs can participate and meet expectations without having an approved curriculum.
 - Programs using an approved curriculum in at least one classroom will **receive 100 points** towards their overall quality score, with the goal of strengthening the implementation of curricular materials and content in future years.
- **All birth to five early childhood educators benefit from access to and support to use quality curriculum to promote children's learning and development.**
 - A curriculum component was added to VQB5 because curriculum is a nationally recognized quality indicator. Programs that choose to use an approved curriculum in at least one classroom will receive 100 points.
- **VDOE-approved curricula are comprehensive and aligned to the VA-ELDS among other [baseline criteria for quality early childhood curriculum](#).**
 - Curriculum that is aligned to [Virginia's Early Learning and Development Standards: Birth-Five Learning Guidelines](#) ensures children have the opportunity to access the content and skills that are outlined in the standards.
 - A high-quality, comprehensive curriculum will include resources and provide guidance on

VDOE APPROVED CURRICULUM

Programs can find a list of currently approved early childhood curriculum options on the VDOE Curriculum webpage.

Sample of VDOE's Approved List of Curricula					
Approved Curriculum	Infants	Toddlers	Preschool	Family Day Home*	Spanish Translation Available
Frog Street	✓	✓	✓		✓
InvestiGator Club	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Seedlings	✓	✓	✓		
STREAMing	✓	✓	✓		✓
The Creative Curriculum	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

The approved list (sampled above) informs providers of the primary age group, setting type, and language of each curriculum.

CURRICULUM "GET TO KNOW YOU" SERIES

In order to provide continued curriculum support and assist Virginia Early Childhood providers with informed decision-making, VDOE will host a second round of the “Get to Know You” Lunch & Learn virtual series featuring representatives from Virginia-approved curriculum vendors.

- Providers will have the opportunity to learn more about different curriculum options and to ask questions directly from the representatives during breakout sessions.
- Participation is optional.
- Each session will feature multiple curricula to compare.
- Special sessions will be held for Family Day Home and Spanish-speaking providers.
- Series will launch this fall.

EARLY CHILDHOOD CURRICULUM WEBPAGE

All Early Childhood Curriculum information and resources are available on a curriculum specific webpage with the intent to give providers and stakeholders a central place to gain information on curriculum access and choice while participating in VQB5.

- Importance of Curricula
- Overview of Curriculum in VQB5
- [VQB5 Curriculum FAQ](#)
- Connection between CLASS and Curriculum Resources
- [Approved Curriculum List](#) (updated monthly)
- Curriculum Review Process
- Resources to support Curriculum Choice, including webinar recordings



The screenshot displays the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) website. The header includes the VDOE logo, navigation links (A-Z Index, SSWS Login, Contact Us, Translate), and social media icons. A search bar is present. The main navigation menu includes Parents & Students, Teaching, Learning & Assessment, Programs & Services, Data, Policy & Funding, and About VDOE. The left sidebar lists various categories, with 'Early Childhood Curriculum' highlighted in yellow. The main content area features the title 'Early Childhood Curriculum' and a sub-header 'Teaching, Learning & Assessment - Early Childhood Care & Education'. The text explains that VDOE promotes curriculum use in all settings to support learning and development. It also defines a high-quality curriculum as one that meets individual needs and provides appropriate structure. The page includes a 'Curriculum in VQB5' section, which states that VQB5 measures the quality of teaching and learning based on two indicators: Interactions and Curriculum. It further notes that research shows that stimulating interactions and effective use of quality curriculum promote holistic learning and development, leading to improved school readiness. Finally, it states that curriculum is a key ingredient for helping teachers improve their interactions and create nurturing environments.



ECE RESOURCE HUB



The ECE Resource Hub offers support and resources related to inquiry, imagination, math, language and literacy, motor skills, and social-emotional skills.

Whether you have 1 minute to watch a video of an educator supporting a strategy, 20 minutes to learn a new strategy that you can use right away, or a couple hours to plan and provide a PD session, the ECE Resource Hub is here to support you.

The ECE Hub is a collection of resources that come from trusted sources in the field:

- Developmental skills
- Diversity and inclusion
- Connecting with families
- Book collections

[Subscribe to the ECE Resource Hub's Newsletter](#)

VQB5'S CURRICULUM REVIEW PROCESS

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

Role	Responsibilities
Provider	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Initiate the review process by submitting a complete request.
VDOE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Communication with provider.• Communication with developer.• Communication with consultant.• Review and approve consultant timesheets.
Developer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Respond to VDOE's RFA by deadline.• Submit complete package.• Communicate directly with VDOE.
Consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete review by deadline.• Communicate directly with VDOE.• Complete a quality assurance check annually.

VQB5'S CURRICULUM REVIEW PROCESS



The curriculum is reviewed for baseline criteria using the [pre-submission checklist](#).



The curriculum and materials undergo a thorough review by a curriculum expert.



A curriculum approval decision is made, and the list is updated.

The estimated timeline for a full curriculum review is approximately 3 months.

VQB5 2023-2024 CURRICULUM TIMELINE

November - December	February 1	March 1	May 31
VDOE will host a Curriculum Vendor "Get to Know You" Series, an opportunity for providers to learn more about vetted and approved curriculum options	Pending Curriculum Vendors will receive a 60-day notice to submit materials in order to be included for this VQB5 year.	Communication will go out to providers using the pending curriculum, alerting them to its pending status for this VQB5 year.	Deadline to report curriculum use in at least one classroom for this VQB5 year.

QUESTIONS

Contact Us:

Cassandra Caffee Morelock: Cassandra.CaffeeMorelock@doe.virginia.gov

Marie LaMonica-Sarro: Marie.LaMonica-Sarro@doe.virginia.gov

For General VQB5 inquiries, contact VQB5@doe.virginia.gov