

LifeCubby Aligns to Montana's Best Beginnings Stars to Quality

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The LifeCubby software platform serves early education programs with management systems and classroom apps for daily documentation, observations, assessments, portfolios, reports, tuition tracking and more.

The following pages detail how LifeCubby aligns to **Montana's Best Beginnings Stars to Quality**: (see <http://dphhs.mt.gov/Portals/85/hcsd/documents/ChildCare/STARS/CenterStandards.pdf>).

Best Beginnings Stars to Quality	Met by LifeCubby
Star 1	
HIGH QUALITY SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS (HQSE)	
HQSE 1: The program must have documentation that Daily Health Checks are taking place.	Teachers can use LifeCubby to document Daily Health Checks in the Daily Health Check form.

Star 2	
FAMILY/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (FCP)	
FCP 2: A written enrollment process is in place that facilitates an exchange of information between the program and families, which works to assure strong partnerships. This process should include the following: description of the program and policies; family culture; and wishes around topics such as eating, sleeping, toileting, and discipline.	LifeCubby is the preferred means of providing information to families. LifeCubby's communication tools include: eMail, Daily Information Sheets, Newsletter Uploader Tool, eBlasts, etc. Programs can use LifeCubby to publish their Parent Handbook and other materials.
HIGH QUALITY SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS (HQSE)	
HQSE 1: All programs apply to participate in the Montana Child and Adult Care Food Program. This criteria is met if the program is currently participating in MT CACFP.	LifeCubby offers a CACFP report.

<p>HQSE 1: If a program is not eligible for MT CACFP, the following indicators must be met: * MENU POSTED Written menus must be posted for the current and future week at the entrance to the facility and visible to the public. * 'DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITY' in FEEDING Ellyn Satter Institute 'Division of Responsibility' is followed in meal services to children. * Special Dietary Needs Statement for Children and Protected Health Information form is completed for all children who require this.</p>	<p>LifeCubby offers a CACFP report.</p> <p>Schools can use LifeCubby to post the day's snacks and meals.</p> <p>LifeCubby allows schools to indicate food allergies, which the teachers can view when posting meals.</p>
<p>HQSE 3: The program has an appropriate plan for moving children within the program, when applicable. This plan must be documented, and will include the process to assist children, families, and caregivers in moving from one room to another.</p>	<p>LifeCubby allows for a child's cubby/records to be moved from one homeroom to another.</p> <p>Schools can use LifeCubby to document a child's movements from classroom to classroom during the day.</p>
<p>HQSE 5: Program has a policy and process in place for ensuring routine assessment of all enrolled children's immunization records at least every 6 months.</p>	<p>LifeCubby offers several Health Data forms, including immunizations and growth charts. Parents see the health information for their child(ren) only.</p>
<p>STAFF/CAREGIVER-TO-CHILD RATIO & GROUP SIZE (RGS)</p>	
<p>RGS 1: A written staffing plan * is in place assuring continuity of care (including a plan for substitute staff situations), appropriate adult to child ratios, appropriate group size, and that children are benefitting from having Primary Caregivers.</p>	<p>Classroom ratios display at the top of the screen. LifeCubby also offers a customizable ratio alert as well as 15-minute ratio reports. Directors can also see ratios in all classrooms on the Director's Dashboard.</p>

<p>Star 3</p>	
<p>FAMILY/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (FCP)</p>	
<p>FCP 2: The program provides families with information regarding community resources.</p>	<p>LifeCubby is the preferred means of providing information to families. LifeCubby's communication tools include: eMail, Daily Information Sheets, Newsletter Uploader Tool, eBlasts, etc. Programs can use LifeCubby to publish their Parent Handbook and other materials.</p>
<p>FCP 4: The program provides families with multiple opportunities for involvement such as: open house, opportunities to volunteer, social events, potluck meals, parent/family surveys, parent resource center.</p>	<p>Schools can use LifeCubby's communication tools to keep parents informed about events.</p>

HIGH QUALITY SUPPORTIVE ENVIRONMENTS (HQSE)	
HQSE 2: Program must meet all criteria during the annual County Health Department review to receive the Certificate of Excellence *. The Certificate of Excellence is awarded to child care facilities which are found to have all records up-to-date for all children enrolled, and at least 90% of enrolled children up-to-date with immunization requirements.	LifeCubby offers several Health Data forms, including an immunizations form.
HQSE 5: The program has a written curriculum plan that is aligned with the MT Early Learning Standards and Developmentally Appropriate Practice (2009, 3rd Ed. by Carol Copple & Sue Bredekamp, eds).	LifeCubby's Lesson Planning tool and Observation tool can be customized to fit any curriculum and any educational framework.
HQSE 6: The program demonstrates that observations of the children are used to inform curriculum and environment to support the individual needs of children.	<p>LifeCubby portfolios are robust as teachers include evidence or observations to document the child's growth. Anecdotal notes and evidences of what the child has learned, how the child thinks, and how the child interacts, as well as assessment data, goals, and artifacts of the child's work are included in LifeCubby child portfolios.</p> <p>LifeCubby equips staff to be intentional about planning by using ongoing, age-appropriate assessments. LifeCubby's Lesson Plan Tool allows Teachers to pull in assessment data and tailor lessons to individual student needs across all developmental goals.</p>

Star 4	
FAMILY/COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (FCP)	
FCP 3: Opportunities are available to facilitate exchange of information between the program and families, such as home/school journals or notebooks, bulletin boards, newsletters, parent/family advisory councils, parent/family volunteers, parent/family participation.	LifeCubby is the preferred means of providing information to families. LifeCubby's communication tools include: eMail, Daily Information Sheets, Newsletter Uploader Tool, eBlasts, etc. Programs can use LifeCubby to publish their Parent Handbook and other materials.
STAFF/CAREGIVER-TO-CHILD RATIO & GROUP SIZE (RGS)	
RGS 1: Programs must meet NAEYC Accreditation Standards for correlation ratios, group size, ages for Centers.	LifeCubby offers a digital NAEYC accreditation portfolio.

Star 5	
NAEYC ACCREDITATION/HEAD START PERFORMANCE STANDARDS	
Centers must be NAEYC Accredited and maintaining accreditation standards for the five criteria areas (Education, Qualifications, & Training (EQT); Staff/Caregiver-to-Child Ratio & Group Size (RGS); Family/Community Partnerships (FCP); Leadership & Program Management (LPM); and High Quality Supportive Environments (HQSE)).	LifeCubby offers a digital NAEYC accreditation portfolio.

DISCLAIMER:

This Alignment Document provides information that is current as of the publication date, pursuant to the state information available at that time. If this document is out-of-date, please be aware that we are likely working on an updated version. Should you like to alert us to the need to update this alignment document pursuant to any new rules/regulations or updates, please contact us at:

contact@lifecubby.me

For an Outline of LifeCubby's Assessments, See Attachment A (next page)

LifeCubby's Comprehensive Suite of Assessments

Attachment A

LifeCubby offers the following three (3) series of **Evidence-Based** Assessments:

- Vine Progress Recording Assessments
- Desired Results Developmental Profile - 2015 (DRDP) - *used by permission*
- Common Core Kindergarten and Common Core 1st Grade Assessments

Photo/Video evidence can be posted to any Indicator. Overlaps exist between these Assessments, and programs can choose to use any of the Assessments in any combination.

Vine Assessments - Total Number of Indicators							
Domains	Counts by Domain						
	1-3 Months	4-7 Months	8-12 Months	1 Year	2 Years	3 Years	Pre K
Approaches to Learning	5	6	7	8	8	8	8
Social & Emotional Development	6	7	7	9	9	9	9
Language & Communication	2	3	4	6	7	6	6
Literacy Knowledge & Skills	1	1	3	3	4	4	4
Cognition: Mathematics	1	2	4	4	6	8	8
Cognition: Science	1	2	5	6	6	9	9
Social Studies	1	1	2	2	2	5	5
Perception, Motor & Physical	10	10	10	14	14	14	14
Creative & Cultural Arts	2	2	3	4	4	4	4
TOTAL	29	34	45	56	59	67	67

Desired Results Developmental Profile – 2015 (DRDP) Infant & Toddler	Domains	Measure Count
<i>Used by Permission</i>	Approaches to Learning – Self-Regulation	5
	Social and Emotional Development	5
	Language and Literacy Development	5
	Cognition, Including Math and Science	11
	Physical Development - Health	8
	TOTAL MEASURES	34

Desired Results Developmental Profile – 2015 (DRDP) Preschool	Domains	Measure Count
<i>Used by Permission</i>	Approaches to Learning – Self-Regulation	7
	Social and Emotional Development	5
	Language and Literacy Development	10
	English - Language Development	4
	Cognition, Including Math and Science	11
	Physical Development - Health	10
	History – Social Science	5
	Visual and Performing Arts	4
	TOTAL MEASURES	56

Desired Results Developmental Profile – 2015 (DRDP) Kindergarten	Domains	Measure Count
<i>Used by Permission</i>	Approaches to Learning – Self-Regulation	4
	Social and Emotional Development	5
	Language and Literacy Development	10
	English - Language Development	4
	Cognition: Math	6
	Cognition: Science	4
	Physical Development	4
	Health	5
	History – Social Science	5
	Visual and Performing Arts	4
	Language and Literacy Development in Spanish	4
	TOTAL MEASURES	55

Core Kindergarten	Domains	Indicator Count
<i>Based on The Common Core</i>	Reading Standards: Literature	9
	Reading Standards: Informational Text	10
	Reading Standards: Foundational Skills	14
	Writing Standards	7
	Speaking and Listening Standards	7
	Language Standards	17
	Counting and Cardinality	9
	Operations and Algebraic Thinking	5
	Number and Operations in Base Ten	1
	Measurement and Data	3
	Geometry	6
TOTAL INDICATORS		88

Core 1st Grade	Domains	Indicator Count
<i>Based on The Common Core</i>	Reading Standards: Literature	9
	Reading Standards: Informational Text	10
	Reading Standards: Foundational Skills	19
	Writing	7
	Speaking and Listening	9
	Language	27
	Operations and Algebraic Thinking	8
	Number and Operations in Base Ten	9
	Measurement and Data	4
	Geometry	3
	TOTAL INDICATORS	