

December 2, 2020

Dear Alaska State Board of Education and Early Development,

The Alaska Early Childhood Advocacy Group, a coalition of seven statewide organizations, recommends your endorsement of the 2020 revised Alaska Early Learning Guidelines. The original ELG's were produced in 2007 and endorsed by the State Board of Education and Early Development, and the update is needed.

The revision process was inclusive of stakeholders and organizations across the state, with over 75 participants contributing ideas and recommendations at three regional one day focus groups. Fifteen University early childhood faculty from all three campuses completed an in-depth review of the early learning domain goals, indicators, and strategies, to align with changes in Head Start Outcomes Framework and K-3 standards. The revised Alaska Early Learning Guidelines are more accessible to parents, mobile and web friendly, with increased visual appeal, and more culturally responsive to reflect Alaska. Alaska Native tribal organizations were integral partners in the revision.

The revised Alaska Early Learning Guidelines are now more accessible throughout the state in a printable web based format, and ongoing revisions can be accomplished more frequently as needed in the future. Please adopt the 2020 Revised Alaska Early Learning Guidelines at your December meeting.

Members of the Alaska Early Childhood Advocacy Group

AEYC Affiliates of Alaska: Margaret Bauer, Joy Lyon, AnnMarie Mattacchione
Alaska Head Start Association: Mark Lackey
Alaska Infant Learning Association: Brynn Bolling
All Alaska Pediatric Partnership: Tamar Ben-Yosef
Best Beginnings: Abbe Hensley
Parents As Teachers State Affiliate: Kirstin Ramstad
thread Alaska: Stephanie Berglund



The Alaska Early Childhood Advocacy Group is a coalition of early childhood experts and leading organizations with representation across Alaska working to increase the number of children ready to succeed in school and beyond.

- Name: Jennifer Russell
- Telephone: 907-978-8856
- Email: jlrussell2@alaska.edu
- Commenting On: Alaska ELG's Revision
- Comment: This was a wonderful update, and I would recommend a revision every 3-5 years due to changes that occur regularly. This will help our ELG's stay current with research, as well as with new technology and recommendations.

Regulation: Commissioning regulations

- Name: AnneMarie Mattacchione
- Telephone: 9074790752
- Email: amattacchione@alaska.edu
- Commenting On: Adoption of the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines <http://www.alaskaelg.org/>
- Comment: The Early Learning Guidelines are important for supporting the parents, early learning teachers, and childcare workers in our state's understanding of the growth and development of our youngest children. This understanding translates to appropriate care and education for Alaska's children. When we grow stronger children, we grow stronger societies, thus a stronger Alaska. The guidelines were created with all Alaskans in mind and reflect the linguistic and cultural norms of our urban, rural, and remote communities. They are for all Alaskans. The guidelines also align with K-12 standards ensuring our youngest children are prepared for our state's need to provide continuity of learning. This is the first revision in 13 years. I encourage revision more frequently, perhaps, every 3-5 years to enable the guidelines to respond to the cultural and educational changes in best practices and education locally, state-wide, and nationally. Thank you for considering adoption and possibly more frequent updates of the revised Alaska Early Learning Guidelines

Regulation: Commissioning regulations

- Name: Lisa Arehart
- Telephone: 19077891235
- Email: larehart@aeyc-sea.org
- Commenting On: Early Learning Guidelines
- Comment: Please adopt the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines for use through out the state by early educators and parents alike. In the updating process we revisited how valuable the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines are in help adults guide children in the 5 Domains of Learning and Development. As a Professional Development Trainer I have seen first hand how the Alaska Early Learning Guidelines has helped adults broadened their developmental appropriate practices when working with children. Thank you, Lisa Arehart

Regulation: Commissioning regulations

- Name: Patty Meritt
- Telephone: 907 455-2883
- Email: pameritt@alaska.edu
- Commenting On: Early Learning Guideline update
- Comment: I am so glad after 13 years that these are being updated! The process was very inclusive and the product reflects Alaska's diverse cultures very well. We use these in the university early childhood classes. It would be great if they could be revised every 3 years or so, now that they are fully on-line.