

BBAC Assessment Work Group: A Review

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Who

As Part of a Comprehensive Early Learning Assessment System the State Leadership Team and a **work group formed from the Best Beginnings Advisory Council** will make a recommendation on a valid and reliable Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA).



Assessment Work Group

ASSESSMENT SELECTION

KEA

CLASS

34 members

ECERS

DIAL

Diverse Voices

Inventory of Group Membership

Categories

Needs:

- Health
- Mental Health
- Early Childhood providers (birth – Three Years)
- Private Care Providers
- Parents of preschool age children

Interested

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What

As Part of a Comprehensive Early Learning Assessment System the State Leadership Team and a work group formed from the Best Beginnings Advisory Council will make a **recommendation on a valid and reliable Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA).**



Ongoing Communication

Montana Preschool Development Grant

Grant assessments

Assessment Team



Key Activities

Recommend valid and reliable Kindergarten Entry Assessment (KEA).

Provide information about the purpose

Professional development on how to administer, interpret, and utilize the results

What's Happening

FIRST MEETING

Purpose

MPDG language

Vision

- Personal goals
- Inclusive vision

Diverse Voices

School readiness defined

KEA nationally

SECOND MEETING

MPDG assessment updates

Team Vision

Top 7 Readiness Descriptors

State Definitions

State review (work group members)

Assessment resource review (work group members)

KEA goals and action plan

Identification of next steps

Vision

KITT

Kindergarten

Information

Transition

Tool



Vision

The development of a Montana state recommended KITT (Kindergarten Information Transition Tool) is a comprehensive, developmentally-based process that will guide instruction. The goal of the tool is to support schools, children, and families. It is reflective and supportive of the diversity in our state and is inclusive of all children. The information provided by the KITT will facilitate opportunities for collaboration among early childhood providers and state-wide systems by using consistent language and transitional practices, as well as a common understanding of school readiness. The process will support the uniqueness of individual children and is designed to meet the needs of each learner without exclusion or judgment.

Our Top 7 Readiness Descriptors

1. Core Domain 3 Communication - Sub-domain Communication and Language Development 3.1 – 3.3
2. Core Domain 1 Emotional and Social - Sub-domain Emotional Development 1.4 – 1.7
3. Core Domain 1 Emotional and Social - Sub-domain Social Development 1.8 – 1.9
4. Core Domain 4 Cognition - Sub-domain Approaches to Learning 4.1 – 4.4
5. Core Domain 2 Physical - Sub-domain Physical Development 2.1 – 2.3
6. Core Domain 3 Communication - Sub-domain Literacy 3.5 – 3.8
7. Core Domain 4 Cognition, Sub-domain Mathematics and Numeracy 4.10 – 4.11

Sub-groups

Sub-goal - Define school readiness in the state of Montana to reflect the vision of the work group, the uniqueness of our state, predictive indicators for later learning, and the well-being of the child and his or her family.

Sub-goal - Develop and recommend a communication plan for sharing the definition with sub-grantees and other stakeholders in the state.

Sub-groups

Sub-goal - Recommend a tool/s to evaluate children's school readiness upon entry to kindergarten.

Sub-goal - Develop a training plan for those who will administer the child evaluation tool/s and for those who will interpret and share the data.

Sub-groups

Sub-goal - Develop and recommend plan for successful transition from home or early learning facility into kindergarten and early elementary school. The plan will focus on the transition of the child and his or her family.

Sub-groups

Sub-goal - Develop and recommend a plan for coordinating and working with community resources that support children and families which lead to greater school readiness.

When



KEA Time Table

MPDG Years	Timeline activities
First School Year 2015-2016	Develop
First School Year 2016-2017	Develop and train
First School Year 2017-2018	Pilot and review
First School Year 2018-2019	Pilot and review Recommend

Assessment Work Group Meetings

Meeting Dates

- March 1, 2016
- May 24, 2016
- Scheduling sub-group meeting in July and August
- September 14, 2016
- Continue to schedule meetings

Where



Helena, MT



Why



Why

Close the school-readiness gap at Kindergarten entry

Inform instruction in early elementary, K-3

Share information with families about children's status at school entry

Partner with families

Panel Share Out



Question and Answer

