Star Rating Readiness Checklist
for NAEYC-Accredited Programs

NAEYC-accredited Head Start programs: Complete the Star Rating Readiness Checklist for Head Start programs and submit all NAEYC Accreditation certificates/reports.

Instructions: When your program is ready to begin the rating process, **complete "File for Rating" in the Grow NJ Kids dashboard of NJCCIS and email a copy of this completed checklist to GNJKRating@montclair.edu**. Please also upload this document to the NJCCIS File Cabinet using the GNJK Readiness Checklist document type**.** Standards and training documentation should also be added to the NJCCIS File Cabinet using the applicable GNJK category for the document type. Grow NJ Kids Rating will review this completed checklist, and your program's standards documentation, curriculum trainings and NAEYC documents (Accreditation Certificate, NAEYC Accreditation Decision Report, and annual reports for years 1-3, as applicable).

About the Star Rating Readiness Checklist: The checklist is designed to help centers/schools after they have completed all Grow NJ Kids requirements for 1- and 2- Star Ratings with their Quality Improvement Specialist (QIS), Technical Assistant Specialist (TAS) or Master Teacher (MT) and have decided to seek a 3-, 4- or 5-Star Rating. The information on this page and on the Classroom Information List must be fully completed and submitted with any additional applicable documents requested for their program. This checklist will serve as notification to Grow NJ Kids Rating of your readiness to begin the rating process.

Date: _____ Center/School Name: _____

Center/School Address: _____

Primary Contact Name: _____

Primary Contact #: _____ Primary Contact Email: _____

School Closing Phone # and/or Website: _____

TAS or MT Name: _____ ☐ Information may be shared with my TAS during the rating process, including the Rating Summary Report

TAS/MT Primary Contact #: _____ TAS/MT Email: _____

Please indicate which of the following apply: ☐ NAEYC Accredited ☐ Receives Subsidy Curriculum used: _____

Applying for Star Rating of: ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 Applying for 3-Year Renewal: ☐ Yes ☐ No Date last Star Rating received: _____

Initial Star Rating Received: ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ Extension

Parking available? ☐ Yes ☐ No Location If no, please check the days of alternate side parking (if applicable): ☐ M ☐ T ☐ W ☐ Th ☐ F

Location of Parking: _____

Instructional day start time: _____ Arrival time for children: _____ Building hours: _____

Number of children enrolled in program: _____ Age range of students: _____

Number of classrooms per age group: Preschool Programs: 3yr old: _____ 4yr old: _____ Mixed 3/4yr old: _____

Infant/Toddler Programs: Infant (under 11 months): _____ Toddler/Twos (12 months – 35 months): _____

Licensing Certificate Number: _____

NJCCIS Facility ID: _____

Two-Month Window: Please provide a window of two months during which an onsite rating visit can occur. Please list any dates of exclusion within this time (e.g., holidays, in-service days, meetings, days of special events). **Up to 10 dates of exclusion within your selected two-month window are permitted**. Once documentation has been reviewed, Grow NJ Kids Rating will contact you with a 10-day time period within the requested two-month window of which during the rating visit will occur. Please note: The 10-day window assigned by Grow NJ Kids Rating may not necessarily be on consecutive days.

Requested Two-Month Window: _____

10 Days of Exclusion: _____

Additional Items Required from NAEYC-Accredited Programs *(NAEYC-accredited programs seeking Official Star Rating 3 must only submit Staff Hire Dates from below as no classroom observations are required.)*

Please upload the following items on NJCCIS, as applicable, with this checklist:

☐ Staff hire dates for all administrators, head/group/lead teachers, and paraprofessionals/teacher assistants. Please note if a staff member is part time (14 hours or less)

☐ A list with the dates of birth of all children enrolled, using the format MM/DD/YY, for **each Infant/Toddler classroom**

☐ Classroom schedules for all classrooms

All NAEYC-accredited programs must submit:

☐ Copy of current NAEYC Accreditation Certificate

☐ Copy of most recent NAEYC Accreditation Decision Report

☐ Copy of completed NAEYC Annual Reports for years 1-3 as appropriate (can be paper-based or from the online portal)

This documentation can be uploaded to the NJCCIS File Cabinet using the GNJK Rating Readiness Checklist document type

Documentation Review Waiver for NAEYC-Accredited Programs

Programs should consider the NAEYC standards from the year in which the program was accredited, and the aligned GNJK standards to determine the number of points possibly waived. The standards successfully met through NAEYC Reports will be put towards the total points for the requested Star Rating. The program should also review their **NAEYC Accreditation Decision Report**. Grow NJ Kids standards aligned to the NAEYC standards listed as "unmet" on the decision report or found on the Areas for Ongoing Improvement section of the decision report are **not waived**. Based on the findings from the Accreditation Decision Report and the completed NAEYC Annual Reports for years 1-3 by Grow NJ Kids Rating, additional documentation may be required to demonstrate evidence of meeting Grow NJ Kids standards and meeting points requirements for the requested Star Rating. The required amount of points for each Star Rating can be found on Page 20.

Submitting Documentation

A program may submit documentation from ***any level or category*** in order to ensure they have reached enough points for the applied for star rating. If additional documentation is required to submit and/or resubmit in order to ensure point requirements have been met, Grow NJ Kids Rating will notify you of this information.

Classroom Information List

Please fill out the following information for each classroom in your program. **Indicate Head/Group/Lead Teacher with a (T).**

Classroom Name/Number	Names of instructional staff members	Age range of children	Primary language of instruction	Inclusion/ Self-contained	Number of children enrolled in class	Days of operation (If not open M-F) Indicate here if Half-Day Session AM/PM

Classroom Information List

Please fill out the following information for each classroom in your program. **Indicate Head/Group/Lead Teacher with a (T).**

Classroom Name/Number	Names of instructional staff members	Age range of children	Primary language of instruction	Inclusion/ Self-contained	Number of children enrolled in class	Days of operation (If not open M-F) Indicate here if Half-Day Session AM/PM

Summary Sheet for 3-, 4-, & 5-Star Ratings

The summary sheet lists documentation by GNJK Criteria #. According to the star rating sought, please upload documents on the NJCCIS File Cabinet using the applicable GNJK category for the document type, check off the box, and write the file name inside each box. Items **which may be waived** for NAEYC-accredited programs are noted accordingly for each item.

Note: Grow NJ Kids standards which are aligned to any NAEYC standards listed as "unmet" on the program's **NAEYC Accreditation Decision Report**, or found on the Areas for Ongoing Improvement by Program Standard section of the decision report are **not waived.**

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
1.3.1; 1.4.4	**Outdoor Play Area Inspection Logs**	☐ Completed outdoor play area inspection logs for *each playground* from prior 3 months NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 9.B.07; 10.B.04 **2018/2019:** 10D.4; 9B.3; 9D.5 **2022:** 9B.3; 9B.4; 10D.4 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	☐ Completed outdoor play inspection logs for *each playground* from prior 6 months NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 9.B.07; 10.B.04 **2018/2019:** 10D.4; 9B.3; 9D.5 **2022:** 9B.3; 9B.4; 10D.4 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	
1.3.2	**Breastfeeding Policy and Documentation of Staff Orientation to the Breastfeeding Policy (I/T Programs Only)**	☐ Copy of the breastfeeding policy *(or as noted in Parent Handbook)* **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:** ☐ Copy of documentation of staff orientation to the breastfeeding Policy **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:** NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 5.B.09 **2018/2019:** 5.B.1; 5.B.6; 5.B.7; 9.A.4 **2022:** 5B.6; 5B.7; 9A.4		

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆
1.3.3	**Sample menus**	☐ Sample menus for 3 months for each infant/toddler and preschool classroom as appropriate <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 5.B.15 **2018/2019:** 5B; 10.D.3 **2022:** 10D.3 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		
1.3.4	**Flyers/Sign-In sheets from health and safety workshops**	☐ Copies of flyers or sign-in sheets from health and safety workshops from within past year (about 2-3 different workshops) **File Name:**		
1.3.6	**Copy of developmental screening tool and protocol/policy**	☐ Copy of developmental screening tool and protocol/policy. Copies of completed screening tools may be reviewed onsite. See Onsite Documentation section below <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 4.C.01 **2018/2019:** 4C.3 **2022:** 4C.3 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
2.3.2; 2.4.2	**Copy of policies for completed structured classroom observation/assessment tool(s) (e.g. ECERS-3; SELA; PCMI; PRISM; QBCC; ITERS-3; CLASS; TPOT; TPITOS)**	☐ Copy of policy for one structured classroom observation/assessment tool used NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 4.C.03; 4.D.03 **2018/2019:** 4.A.1 **2022:** 3A.1; 3A.2; 3A.3; 3A.4 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	☐ Copies of each *additional* policy for structured classroom observation/assessment tool used NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 4.C.03; 4.D.03 **2018/2019:** 4.A.1 **2022:** 3A.1; 3A.2; 3A.3; 3A.4 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	
2.3.4	**Evidence of how results from performance-based assessments are used to modify/accommodate children's specific needs and abilities**	☐ Evidence **and** descriptions of how results from the performance-based assessment are being used to modify or accommodate children's specific needs and abilities Submit 1 weeks' worth of lesson plans **with descriptions** from 50% of all classrooms. Grow NJ Kids Rating will review the plans and descriptions onsite Performance-based assessment must be aligned with the research-based curriculum chosen by the program NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 4.D.01; 4.D.04; 4.D.08 **2018/2019:** 4A.2; 4B.2; 4D.1; 4D.2 **2022:** 4D.1; 4D.4; 4D.5 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
2.4.3	**Evidence of data summaries from performance-based assessment with descriptions of how it is used to inform program practices/individual student growth**		☐ Data summaries from performance-based assessment **and** a description of how it is being used in the program to inform program practices/ individual student growth (e.g., trainings planned, experiences/activities, materials ordered to support content learning in areas of need) Performance-based assessment must be aligned with the research-based curriculum chosen by the program **File Name:**	
2.4.4	**Documentation of screening and referral policy**		☐ Copy of screening and referral policy NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 4.C.01 **2018/2019:** 7B.3 **2022:** 4C.1; 4C.2; 4C.3 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	
2.4.5	**Documentation of transition policy**			☐ Copy of policy outlining the transition process, including who gets transition folders, with whom the folders are shared and a list of the documents in each folder NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 7.C.06; 10.B.14 **2018/2019:** 4B **2022:** Not aligned **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆	☆☆☆☆☆
2.5.2	**Aggregated classroom data summaries of comparative progress over 5-10 months from 50% of classrooms**			☐ Aggregated classroom data summaries of comparative results showing progress over 5-10 months from performance-based assessment for 50% of classrooms Submit electronically, or this can be reviewed onsite through hard copies or electronic database. Performance-based assessment must be aligned with the research-based curriculum chosen by the program **File Name:**
3.3.1; 3.4.1; 3.5.1	**Documentation of Strengthening Families Protective Factor (SFPF) Framework used in program; collated survey results; annually updated Quality Improvement Plan and self-assessment; evidence of program fully integrating SFPF**	☐ Collated summary sheet with number of families enrolled and number of surveys returned from families. Copy of any/each survey(s) completed in prior 12 months should be submitted. Completed surveys from at least 50% of enrolled students must be returned <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 10.B.07 **2018/2019**: 7.A **2022:** 7A.2; 7A.3 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	☐ Evidence that SF Quality Improvement Plan is based on self-assessment and annually updated **File Name:**	☐ Evidence that SFPF principles and strategies are fully implemented into the program **File Name:**
3.3.2; 3.4.2	**Parent/Family Group Meeting agendas and/or minutes**	☐ Agenda **and/or** Sign-In Sheets from 2 meetings within 1 year (current school year; unless date of ratings notification is early school year; agenda from last school year is acceptable) **File Name:**	☐ Agenda **and/or** Sign-In Sheets **and/or** Minutes from 3 meetings within 1 year (current school year; unless date of ratings notification is early school year; agenda from last school year is acceptable) **File Name:**	

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
3.3.3	**Family Education workshop agendas; and sign-in sheets; minutes**	☐ Family Education workshop agendas **and** Sign-In Sheets or minutes from 2 workshops within 1 year (current school year; unless date of rating notification is early school year; agenda from last school year is acceptable). Topics should include: early/adult literacy, positive parent interactions, cultural awareness, developmental issues, or any other topics identified as needs or interests of the families NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 10.F.04 **2018/2019:** 7A **2022:** Not aligned **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		
3.3.5; 3.4.5	**List of community organizations with parent representatives**	☐ List of community organizations where parent representatives are involved/participate or evidence the program encourages families to participate in community organizations **File Name:**	☐ List of community organizations in which parents are involved and identify which organizations have at least 1 parent representative. Also submit meeting minutes or agendas from at least 2 meetings **File Name:**	
3.3.6	**Documentation of Absenteeism Policy**	☐ Copy of policy as noted in Parent Handbook **File Name:**		

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
3.4.3	**Examples of communication strategies with families**		☐ Samples of communication strategies (e.g. newsletters, letters, workshops, flyers from past 6 months) (3-4 examples, which can be electronic, paper and/or in multiple languages). <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 1.A.01; 7.A.08 **2018/2019:** 7B **2022:** 1A; 7B.1; 7B.2; 10B.18; 10B.19; 10B.20 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	
3.5.2	**List of ethnic demographics of student population; Annual current calendar of culturally relevant dates and activities reflecting student demographics**			☐ Calendar of current school year **with activities noted** <u>and</u> list of school demographics with represented ethnicities **File Name:**
4.3.4	**Description of the annual performance evaluation process including copy of evaluation, self-assessment, family surveys and Individual Professional Development Plans, as applicable**	☐ Description of annual performance evaluation process including copy of evaluation, self-assessment, family surveys and Individual Professional Development Plans, as applicable <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 6.B.01 **2018/2019:** 4A.02; 6D.10; 6D.11 **2022:** 6D.11 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		
4.4.5	**Copy of completed curriculum implementation/Fidelity instrument**		☐ Copy of completed curriculum implementation/fidelity checklist/instrument used from 50% of *Preschool* **and** *Infant/Toddler* classrooms (if applicable) **File Name:**	*Note: If a program is seeking a 5-star rating, this item MUST be submitted/reviewed to meet curriculum requirements for ALL classrooms and age groups as part of the 5-star rating full implementation requirements*

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
4.4.6	**Copy of staff meeting schedule and at least 3 agendas**		☐ Schedule/Staff Meeting Agendas (at least 3) _NAEYC-Aligned Standards_ **2016:** 4.D.02; 4.D.04; 6.B.02 **2018/2019:** 4D.4; 4D.5; 4D.6 **2022:** Not aligned **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	
4.4.7	**Evidence of aggregated classroom/program/child level data reports and program improvement plan**		☐ Evidence demonstrating aggregated data used 2x in a 10- month program from 50% of classrooms **with** Program Improvement Plan _NAEYC-Aligned Standards_ **2016:** 4.C.03; 4.D.04 **2018/2019:** 4A **2022:** 4A.2 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	
4.5.1	**Agency Training Plans**			☐ Evidence of agency training plans (can include plans for workshops, conferences and trainings) **File Name:**
4.5.2	**Evidence program is enrolled as a Pyramid Model Implementation Site: new enrollment paperwork (centers enrolled within the last year prior to rating submission) or checklist (centers enrolled over a year prior to rating submission)**			☐ Pyramid Model Implementation Site new enrollment paperwork, or checklist indicating program is moving towards full implementation **File Name:**

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
5.3.1; 5.4.1; 5.5.1	**Self-Assessed PAS score sheet**	☐ Score sheet: Required minimum score of 3 **File Name:**	☐ Score sheet: Required minimum score of 4 **File Name:**	☐ Score sheet: Required minimum score of 5 **File Name:**
5.3.2	**Written definition of roles and responsibilities of the governing body (if non-profit/public)**	☐ Copy of the written definition of roles and responsibilities of the governing body NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 10.B.06 **2018/2019:** 10B **2022:** 10C.4 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		
5.3.3	**Written policy/manual that includes financial operating procedures**	☐ Copy of written description of financial operations/procedures NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 10.C.01 **2018/2019:** 10C.3; 10C.4 **2022:** 10C.3 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		
5.3.4	**Marketing Plan addressing increasing enrollment**	☐ Copy of Marketing Plan **File Name:**		
5.3.5	**Current operating budget including statement of income and expenditures**	☐ Copy of current year's operating budget including statement of income and expenditures NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 10.C.01 **2018/2019:** 10.C1 **2022:** 10C.1 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
5.3.6	**Evidence of parent/staff feedback used to evaluate program**	☐ Evidence of parent/staff feedback used to evaluate program (e.g., surveys or other written communications) <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 6.B.01 **2018/2019:** 10.F.4 **2022:** 6A; 10F.2 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		
5.3.7	**Evidence of internal communication strategies with staff**	☐ Samples from at least 3 types of strategies currently utilized within past 3 years of notification of rating (e.g., regularly scheduled staff meetings, written procedures of policies, handbook, staff bulletin board, in-house newsletters, memos, verbal communication, e-mail) <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 4.E.03 **2018/2019:** 10.F **2022:** 6D.5; 6D.14 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		
5.3.8; 5.5.2	**Benefit policy describing the benefit(s) employees receive (Employee Handbook)**	☐ Evidence of at least one benefit offered <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 10.B.09 **2018/2019:** 6A.11; 6A.12; 6A.13; 6A.14 **2022:** 6A.11; 6A.12; 6A.13 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**		☐ Evidence of at least two benefits offered <u>NAEYC-Aligned Standards</u> **2016:** 10.B.09 **2018/2019:** 6A.11; 6A.12; 6A.13; 6A.14 **2022:** 6A.11; 6A.12; 6A.13 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	★★★	★★★★	★★★★★
5.4.2	**Advisory council meeting minutes/sign-in sheets**		☐ Meeting Minutes **or** Sign-In Sheets from meeting from current school year (if early in school year, acceptable to submit from last school year) **File Name:**	
5.4.3	**Business/Strategic Plan**		☐ Written description of Business/Strategic Plan **File Name:**	
5.4.4	**Written description of system for tracking teacher turnover with evidence**		☐ Written description of system with evidence (e.g., an Excel graph indicating percentage of teacher turnover each year and their reason for separation) – at least 3 years of turnover tracked **File Name:**	
5.4.5	**Annual report for previous year with financial system information**		☐ Copy of annual report for previous year NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 10.C.01 **2018/2019:** 10.C2 **2022:** 10C.2 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	
5.4.6	**Quarterly accounting review report from independent third party**		☐ Copy of quarterly accounting review report from independent third party NAEYC-Aligned Standards **2016:** 10.C.01 **2018/2019:** 10C.1 **2022:** 10C.1 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	

GNJK Criteria #	Evidence/Documentation Required	⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐	⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐
5.4.7	**Signed contract with CPA and most recent audit**		☐ Signed contract with a CPA and most recent Audit _NAEYC-Aligned Standards_ **2016:** 10.C.01 **2018/2019:** 10C.2 **2022:** 10C.2 **NAEYC waived** ☐ **File Name:**	
5.5.3	**Documentation of ongoing reflective practice opportunities within the program**		☐ Evidence of ongoing reflective practice opportunities or evidence of coaching/ mentoring using the reflective cycle from minimum of 4 staff files or 25% of staff files (whichever is greater) **File Name:**	
5.5.4	**Evidence of Professional Learning Community and incentive programs**			☐ Minutes from Professional Learning Community within 6 months and evidence of incentive program. If staff is formally recognized at a staff meeting, meeting minutes could be used as documentation **File Name:**

Onsite Documentation

Onsite Documentation: During the onsite documentation review, Grow NJ Kids Rating will be pulling samples of listed onsite documentation at random. Therefore, please provide clear details of where Grow NJ Kids Rating will be able to find the documentation that is listed (e.g. where all children's folders are located together, where all staff folders are located together).

GNJK Documentation and Standard Number	Onsite Location of Documentation
☐ Signed receipts for the Parent Handbook (1.3.4)	**Children's Intake Folders** Grow NJ Kids Rating will randomly select minimum of 10% of the children's intake folders or a minimum of 10 folders for review (whichever is greater) per classroom **Location of folders:**
☐ Copies of completed developmental screening tools (should be completed according to program screening policy; ESI-R; ASQ; Brigance) (1.3.6) **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 4.C.01; **2018/2019:** 4C.3; **2022:** 4C.3	
☐ Policy of age-appropriate oral health care for all children including documentation of parent consent (1.4.2)	
☐ Evidence that vision, hearing and dental screenings are offered and results are shared with families (1.5.1) **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 4.C.01; 4.C.02; **2018/2019:** 4C.2; **2022:** 4C.2	

GNJK Documentation and Standard Number	Onsite Location of Documentation
☐ Evidence of performance-based assessment used: sample portfolios, observation forms, completed rubrics. Performance-based assessment must be aligned with the research-based curriculum chosen by the program (2.3.3) **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** Not aligned; **2018/2019:** 4.E.2; 4.E.5 **2022:** 4D.6; 4D.7	**Children's Classroom Folders** Grow NJ Kids Rating will randomly select minimum of 10% of the children's classroom (transition) folders or a minimum of 10 folders for review (whichever is greater) per classroom **Location of folders:**
☐ Documentation of results from performance-based assessment shared with families (2x in a 10-month program). Performance-based assessment must be aligned with the research-based curriculum chosen by the program (2.3.5) **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 7.A; 7.B.01; **2018/2019:** 4E.1; 4E.2; 4E.5 **2022:** 4E.5	
☐ Copies of completed referrals, if applicable (2.4.4) **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 4.A.03; 4.C.01; **2018/2019:** 7B.3; **2022:** 4C.1; 4C.2; 4C.3	
☐ Child's Transition Folders (2.4.5)	
☐ Documentation that home visits are offered to all families (e.g., newsletter, letter home) **once** a year with evidence home visits were completed (3.3.4) **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 7.B.01; 7.A.06; **2018/2019:** 7B; **2022:** Not aligned	
☐ Documentation that home visits are offered to all families (e.g., newsletter, letter home) **twice** a year with evidence home visits were completed (3.4.4)	
☐ Signed receipt showing teachers and teacher assistants have received a copy of the NJ Birth-Three Standards and NJ Preschool Teaching and Learning Standards (2.3.1)	**Staff Folders** Grow NJ Kids Rating will randomly select minimum of 25% of the instructional staff files or a minimum of 4 files for review (whichever is greater). For **4.4.8**, non-instructional folders will be reviewed **Location of folders:**
☐ Individual Professional Development Plans showing a system for career development (4.3.4; 5.3.9) **NAEYC waived** ☐ 4.3.4 NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 10.B.07; 10.E.10; **2018/2019:** 6D; **2022:** Not aligned 5.3.9 NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 10.B.07; 10.E.10; 6.B.01; **2018/2019:** 6D; **2022:** Not aligned	
☐ Signed receipts showing non-instructional staff have received documentation of school practices (4.4.8) **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** Not aligned; **2018/2019:** 10E; **2022:** 10E.2	

Professional Development and Trainings

Please check off the standards you would like Grow NJ Kids Rating to review.

Staff Member T = Head/Group/Lead Teachers from every classroom TA = 1 FT Teacher Assistant/paraprofessional/aides per classroom D/S = Director/Supervisors TS= Teaching Staff (T's + TA's from each classroom) PT = Part-time staff h = hours	☐ 4.3.1	☐ 4.3.2; 4.3.74.3	☐ 4.3.3	☐ 4.3.5	☐ 4.3.6	☐ 4.4.1	☐ 4.4.3	☐ 4.4.4
	Formal Training in Curriculum This *additional* curriculum training should be <u>beyond</u> what is required for the star rating that the program applied for and will be counted *in addition to* the formal training for curriculum required for the star rating sought. **T, TA, D/S** **T= 5h** **TA= 3h** **D/S= 5h** **PT=1h**	**Performance-Based Assessment** **T** (Teaching Strategies GOLD, High Scope COR, Work-Sampling) **T = 5h** If a program is seeking a Star Rating of 5, <u>all head/group/lead teachers</u> must have **10 hours of** this training.	**Evaluation/ observation instruments** **D/S** **D/S ONLY= 3h** (Formal and/or informal training tools may include: checklists, ECERS, ACHIEVENJ, Danielson, etc.)	**Special Dietary Needs** (allergies, feeding issues) **T + TA** **T= 2h** **TA=1h** **PT=.5h**	**Developmental Screening Tool** **T** (ASQ; ESI-R; Brigance) **T ONLY=3 h**	**PD on children w/ special needs** (should include inclusion) **T + TA** **T=5h** **TA=3h** **PT=1h**	**PD on Pyramid, S/E, I/T EC Mental Health** (e.g. challenging behaviors; temperament) **T + TA** **T=5h** **TA=3h** **PT=1h**	**PD on:** special needs, teacher-child interactions, English-language learners, cultural competence, transitions, Strengthening Families Protective Factors, social-emotional, and infant/toddler or early childhood mental health **T + TA** **T=60h over 3y** **TA=30h over 3y** **PT=3h over 3y**
	☐ **1.4.3** – 50% TS in each classroom have current CPR & First Aid training **NAEYC waived** **(1.4.3 Only)** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 5.A.03 **2018/2019:** 5A.15 **2022:** 5A.15 ☐ **1.5.2** – 100% TS in each classroom have current CPR & First Aid Training	CDA+ ☐ **4.3.8**-20% TS ☐ **4.4.2**-35% TS ☐ **4.5.3**-50% TS **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 6.A **2018/2019:** 6.C **2022:** 6C.2 ☐ **4.3.9**-D/S **NAEYC waived** ☐ NAEYC-Aligned Standards: **2016:** 10.A.02; **2018/2019:** 6.C.3; **2022:** 6C.3	**Staff Training and Credentials:** If staff training/credentials are not found on NJCCIS or in electronically-submitted certificates/sign-in sheets, during the onsite review, Grow NJ Rating will ask to review: • Training Certificates • Sign-in Sheets • Professional development plans for any staff in the program outlining upcoming trainings to occur over the school year (only acceptable if staff has been in program <u>under one year from date of rating</u>) **Additional Information about Review of Staff Training and Credentials:** • **All trainings must be from <u>within 3 years to date of rating</u> to meet requirements** • Evidence of meeting training standard requirements for each group of listed staff members (e.g., T's, TA's, PT) are *randomly selected* by Grow NJ Kids Rating **(25% of minimum of 4 folders; whichever is greater)** • First Aid Standards (1.4.3; 1.5.2) and CDA (4.3.8; 4.3.9; 4.4.2; 4.5.3) are percentages selected from entire teaching staff				

Requirements for Star Ratings

Star Rating	ERS (ECERS-3/ITERS-3)	Implementation of Curriculum (GNJK Standard 2.4.1)	Range of Points for required documentation
⭐⭐⭐	**N/A** **Classroom observations are not required for NAEYC-accredited programs seeking an Official Star 3 Rating**	**Staff have attended minimum of 5 hours of training on selected research-based curriculum**	**30-59**
⭐⭐⭐⭐	**Average of 4.5** **No subscale below a 4.0**	**Staff have attended minimum of 10 hours of training on selected research-based curriculum**	**60-85**
⭐⭐⭐⭐⭐	**Average of 5.0** **No subscale below a 4.25**	**Staff have attended minimum of 20 hours of training on selected research based curriculum**	**86-100**

Star Rating Readiness Certification

I have identified the star rating my program is seeking and worked with my Technical Assistant Specialist to successfully prepare my center/school for the rating process as required for the star rating I am seeking. On this Star Rating Readiness Checklist, I have noted all documentation that has been submitted electronically and the onsite documentation to be reviewed and considered towards the final rating decision.

_____

Signature of Center/ School Primary Contact   **Date**

_____

Signature of Technical Assistant Specialist   **Date**