

Answering 7 Frequently Asked Questions about Early Childhood Outcomes

KSDE Indicator 7

Session Objectives

- Discuss 7 FAQs related to the Early Childhood Outcome Rating process.
- Understand the resources available to support accurate and consistent ECO ratings.
- Provide tips and actionable steps for enhancing data quality and improving practices related to the Early Childhood Outcome Rating Process.



Supporting Children's Growth through Early Childhood Outcomes

- Focuses on how children are developing in three key areas:
 - Social- Emotional Skills
 - Acquisition and Use of Knowledge and Skills
 - Taking Appropriate Action to Meet Needs
- Supports Child Learning and Instruction
- Provides Rich Information for
 - IEP development (strengths and needs of each child)
 - Program and practice improvements



FAQ #1: Why Does the Rating Require a Curriculum-Based Assessment ?

- Functional Skills
- Informs IEP goal development
- Supports program-wide consistency
- Encourages holistic observations
- Strengthens family communication
- Aligns with best practices
- Supports data-informed decisions



Curriculum-Based Assessment Tips for Administrators

- Select and Support the use of High-Quality Tools.
- Provide Ongoing Professional Development.
- Build a Culture of Data Use and Reflection.
- Support Calibration and Consistency.
- Integrate CBA data with IEP and Program Improvement.
- Strengthen Onboarding for New Staff,
- Use Data to Advocate for Supports,



Curriculum-Based Assessment Resources

- [AEPS-3 \(Assessment, Evaluation, and Programming System\)](#)
- [Carolina Curriculum for Infants and Toddlers/Preschoolers with Special Needs](#)
- [Child Observation Record \(High Scope\)](#)
- [Desired Results Profile \(DRDP\)](#)
- [Teaching Strategies GOLD and The Creative Curriculum](#)
- [Hawaii Early Learning Profile \(HELP\)](#)
- [Transdisciplinary Play-Based Assessment \(TPBA2\)](#)
- [Work Sampling System](#)



Curriculum-Based Assessment Resources (pg. 2)

- [ECTA COS Data Collection and Guidance Page](#)
- [Kansas Early Learning Standards \(KELS\)](#)
- [KSDE Eligibility Indicators](#)



FAQ 2: How Can We Build Competence in ECO Ratings?

- Provide Professional Development on the ECO rating process.
- Facilitate Collaboration Activities
- Strengthen Data-Informed Decision Making
- Onboard New Staff
- Foster a culture of continuous Improvement



Professional Development Tips and Resources for Administrators

- [Outcome Web System User Guide- May 2025](#)
- [Outcome Web System \(OWS\) Video Screencast Playlist](#)
- [Child Outcome Summary \(COS\) Process Training](#)
- [Decision Tree for Early Childhood Outcome Summary Rating Discussions](#)
- [Definitions for ECO Ratings](#)
- [Documenting the Basis for the Rating](#)
- [Kim Case Study Materials](#)



FAQ 3: What is the ECO Process for Children Transitioning from Part C?



Transition ECO Tips for Administrators

- Establish clear procedures
- Foster collaboration between Part C and B teams
- Emphasize Family Engagement
- Monitor Data Entry in OWS
- Use Transition Data for Program Improvement



Transition Resources

- [KSDE Early Childhood Special Education Indicator 12 page](#)
- [Transition from IDEA Part C to Part B FAQ](#)
- [KITS Transition C to B Resources](#)
- [Outcomes Web System \(OWS\) User Guide](#)



FAQ 4: What Are The Red Flags I Should Look For When Reviewing my Indicator 7 Data?

- Missing Data
- Incomplete COSF
- Unreasonable Exit Numbers
- Unusual Data Patterns
- Too Many Children in Category “a” or “e”
- Lack of Trajectory Change
- Not Meeting Target
- Lack of Year-to-Year Improvement
- Significant Differences by Outcome



Data Quality Resources

- [Kansas Early Childhood Outcomes Data Drilldown Guide](#)
- [Federal Reporting Categories for Child Outcomes Data](#)
- [Kansas APR Reports](#)
 - District Progress and Slippage
 - EC Addendum Reports



OWS Reports

- Missing Entry Exit Report
- KIDS Full Data Report
- KIDS Parameterized Data Report
- KIDS No Permanent Exit Report
- KIDS with Permanent Exit Report
- Summary Statement Report
- ECO Report
- KIDS Gain Loss Report



FAQ 5: How Can We Use Our Indicator 7 Data to Inform Program Improvement?

- Ensure Data Quality
- Locate and Examine District Indicator 7 Data
- Focus on Continuous Improvement
- Identify Strengths and Areas for Growth
- Guide Professional Development
- Support Data-Informed Conversations
- Improve Curriculum and Instruction
- Strengthen Family Engagement



Continuous Improvement Resources

Indicator 7

- [DEC Connect Modules](#)
- [Itinerant Service Delivery](#)
- [KSDE ECSE Indicator 7 page](#)
- [ECTA Practice Improvement Tools – Practice Guides](#)



FAQ 6: What Are the Important ECO and OWS Timelines?

- **COS Completion** – ratings must be completed within **30 calendar days** of a child entering or permanently exiting services.
- **Annual Data Entry Collection Period – July 1st – June 30th**
The last day to enter COS ratings into OWS for previous fiscal year is **July 31st**
- **Annual Data Verification Period** – for the previous fiscal year, verification occurs between **August 1st and September 15th**.
- **Deadline for Data Correction** – after **September 15th** KSDE cannot make any changes to previous fiscal year data.



Tips for Administrators

- Unexpected Summer Exits
- Children with Summer Birthdays uncertain about Kindergarten
- Missing Entry /Exit COS - Consequences of Incomplete or Inaccurate ECO data
- Exits prior to 6 months



Resources for Timelines

- [Outcome Web System \(OWS\) User Guide](#)
- [Outcome Web System \(OWS\) Video Screencast Playlist](#)



FAQ 7: How can I use the COS process to engage families meaningfully in discussions about their child's development?



Tips and Action Steps for Administrators

- Frame the COS as a Collaborative Discussion and not an “assessment”.
- Prepare Families Ahead of Time
- Use Everyday Language and Real Child Examples
- Validate and Honor Family Perspectives
- Use Visuals or Tools to Guide the Conversation
- Focus on Strengths and Next Steps



Resources to Support Family Engagement

- [A Family Guide to Participating in the Child Outcomes Measurement Process](#)
- [DEC Family Engagement Practices Checklist](#)
- [ECTA Getting to the Bottom Line of Family Engagement](#)



Bonus FAQs

- Do we have to use the same CBA for everyone?
- Who is responsible for completing the COS rating?
- How are the ECO ratings used by the state?



Who Do I Contact for Help?

- For questions concerning Indicator 7 contact [Amanda Petersen](#), KSDE Early Childhood Director.
- For Questions concerning the OWS Systems contact [Beccy Strohm](#), Administrative Specialist Early Childhood
- For information regarding in person training on ECO ratings, data entry, or other early childhood special education questions, [request assistance](#) through TASN.

