



Iowa AEA Standard for Services §281—72.4

03. Early Childhood

Description: The purpose of the **Early Childhood Program** is to provide birth to five-year-old children, families, and preschools with early learning technical assistance. The delivered services include: **assisting families with individualized family service plans to meet birth to preschool aged children’s unique developmental learning needs; facilitating the continuous improvement of preschool education and meeting the needs of diverse learners within preschools; and coordinating early childhood supports with community and governmental agencies.** These services are delivered through specialized AEA early childhood teachers and consultants directly to children and their families that have specific and unique developmental delays and/or disabilities, and preschools. These services also include physical therapy and occupational therapy.

Program Services:

- a. Child Find – Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSP)
- b. Early Childhood Services
 - Early Access
 - Early Childhood Coordinating Council
 - Early Childhood Education
 - Early Childhood Professional Development
 - General Education Consultants
 - Iowa Quality Preschool Programs
 - Parent & Educator Connection Program
 - Parent & Educator Program Resource Library
 - “Partners”
 - Program-Wide Positive Behavior Supports
 - Quad-City Early Childhood Conference
 - Ready to Learn Conference
 - Statewide Voluntary Preschool Program
- c. Occupational Therapy
- d. Physical Therapy



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ALIGNMENT OF PROGRAMS & SERVICES TO IOWA AEA STANDARDS FOR SERVICE

The alignment of the Program to Iowa’s AEA Standards for Service is presented. Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency (Agency) provides comprehensive services to meet the school and school district school improvement teaching and learning needs. These comprehensive services delivered to schools and school districts to meet those identified needs are aligned to the Agency’s goals and the Iowa AEA Standards for Service, Iowa Code §281—72.4.

SCHOOL & COMMUNITY PLANNING STANDARD		
The AEA shall deliver services for school-community planning that assist schools and school districts in:		
SCP 1	Assessing needs for all students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide schools with assistance to meet and/or exceed Iowa Code Chapter 12 comprehensive school improvement requirements and expectations. • Facilitate the development of common strategic planning and collaboration to continually improve teaching and learning supports among community agencies.
SCP 2	Developing collaborative relationships among community agencies.	
SCP 3	Establishing shared direction.	
SCP 4	Implementing actions to meet goals.	
SCP 5	Reporting progress toward goals.	

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT STANDARD		
The AEA shall deliver professional development services for schools, school districts and AEA instructional, administrative and support personnel that:		
PD 1	Anticipates and responds to schools’ and school districts’ needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct ongoing needs assessment to anticipate and respond to children, families, and schools. • Provide school leaders with strategic planning opportunities and networks to establish shared direction, implementing actions to meet goals, and reporting progress toward goals. • Facilitates and develops professional development trainings, workshops, and classes that comply with the Iowa Professional Development Model and effective use of adult learning theory.
PD 2	Supports proven and emerging educational needs.	
PD 3	Aligns with school and school district comprehensive long-range and annual improvement goals.	
PD 4	Uses adult learning theory.	
PD 5	Supports improved teaching.	
PD 6	Uses theory, demonstration, practice, feedback, and coaching.	
PD 7	Addresses professional development activities as required by the Iowa Code and administrative rules.	



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CURRICULUM, INSTRUCTION & ASSESSMENT STANDARD

The AEA shall deliver curriculum, instruction and assessment services that address the areas of:

CIA 1	Reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver reading, language arts, mathematics, and science curriculum, instruction, and assessment development and implementation assistance. Deliver training to preschools to develop and sustain effective curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices through specialized expertise, high quality professional development, coaching, and collaborative data-teams. Supports curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices that facilitate data-driven decision-making practices to meet the learning needs of all children.
CIA 2	Language Arts	
CIA 3	Mathematics	
CIA 4	Science	
CIA 5	Other curriculum areas	

These services support the development, implementation, and assessment of rigorous content standards in, but not limited to reading, mathematics, and science. The AEA assists schools and school districts in:

CIA 6	Gathering and analyzing student achievement data as well as data about the learning environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate early childhood leadership to address the needs of all educators and families to improve learning for children. Support curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices that facilitate data-driven decision-making practices to meet the learning needs of all children. Partner with educators to select research or evidenced-based practices to meet the diverse learning needs of children.
CIA 7	Comparing those data to external knowledge base.	
CIA 8	Using that information to guide school and school district goal setting.	
CIA 9	Implementation of actions to improve student learning.	

DIVERSE LEARNERS STANDARD

The AEA shall address the diverse learning needs of all children and youth, including but not limited to, services that address gifted and talented students, and meet the unique needs of students with disabilities who require special education.

DL 1	Gifted and talented students.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver highly specialized special education services to comply federal and state expectations including Child Find support services, direct services, and specialty areas for early childhood. Facilitate supports for diverse learning needs. Deliver high quality learning support assistance to support a highly engaging learning environment for all students.
DL 2	Students with special education needs.	
DL 3	Students with diverse learner needs.	
DL 4	Provide support to schools and school districts.	
DL 5	Include special education compliance with 2007 Iowa Special Education Rules.	



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MULTICULTURAL GENDER FAIR STANDARD

The AEA shall deliver services for school-community planning that assist schools and school districts in:		
MCGF 1	Take actions that ensure all students are free from discriminatory acts and practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist early childhood programs with multicultural gender fair approaches pursuant to Iowa Code §256.11. Assist early childhood programs with actions to ensure all students are free from discriminatory acts and practices and assist in the establishment of policies and actions that ensure all students are free from harassment. Support the development of instructional programs within schools and school districts related to responsibilities, rights, and the respect for diversity which are necessary for successful citizenship in a diverse community and a global economy. Incorporate, within professional development activities, the knowledge and skills necessary to prepare and assist all employees to work effectively with diverse learners.
MCGF 2	Establish policies and take actions that ensure all students are free from harassment.	
MCGF 3	Incorporate into the educational program instructional strategies and student activities related to responsibilities, rights, and the respect for diversity which are necessary for successful citizenship in a diverse community and a global economy.	
MCGF 4	Incorporate on an ongoing basis activities within professional development that prepare and assist all employees to work effectively with diverse learners.	

MEDIA SERVICES STANDARD

The AEA shall deliver media services that:		
MS 2	Support effective instruction.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide media services to early childhood programs. Provide media assistance to preschool programs including community-based preschools.
MS 3	Provide consultation, research and information services, instructional resources and materials preparation and dissemination to assist schools and school districts to meet the learning needs of all students and support local media services.	
MS 4	Support the implementation of content standards in, but not limited to, reading, mathematics, and science.	
MS 5	Support and integrate emerging technology.	



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SCHOOL TECHNOLOGY STANDARD

The AEA shall supplement and support effective instruction for all students through school technology services by providing:

ST 1	Technology planning.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide planning and technical assistance to early childhood programs.
ST 2	Technical assistance.	
ST 3	Professional development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide technical training and modelling so that educators learn new skills, gain more access, and create opportunities for more personalized learning environments.

School technology services will support:

ST 4	The incorporation of instructional technologies to improve student achievement.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assist early childhood programs with technology integration to create opportunities to improve student learning. Assist educators with additional technologies to engage diverse learner populations. Assist classroom teachers with technologies to advance content rigor and relevance. Assist educators with continual needs assessment and development activities to identify and implement new technologies.
ST 5	The implementation of content standards in, but not limited to, reading, mathematics, and science.	
ST 6	School technology services shall support and integrate emerging technology.	

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT STANDARD

AEA Leadership Services assist with:

L 4	Professional development of educational leaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate school leader professional development assistance related AEA leadership programs.
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AEAs develop and deliver leadership programs based on:

L 5	Local educational needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide public schools, accredited non-public schools, and school districts with assistance to meet and/or exceed Iowa Code Chapter 12 comprehensive school improvement requirements and expectations. Provide school leaders with strategic planning opportunities and networks to establish shared direction, implementing actions to meet goals, and reporting progress toward goals. Assist school leaders with processes to identify and implement effective teaching and learning practices.
L 6	State educational needs	
L 7	Best practices	