



Early Childhood Higher Education Programs

Check out our NEW and NEWLY REVISED Higher Education Accreditation Resources!

In case you haven't yet heard, we have some new and newly revised accreditation resources now available in the [online resource library](#) specifically for programs and peer reviewers. From on-demand training modules to self-assessment tools, webinar recordings to guidance documents, we're hard at work developing new supports in a variety of formats for different learning styles and will continue to keep you updated as additional resources roll out!

In addition to new resources, we will also soon be rolling out a **new online resource library**. This new easier-to-navigate hub will be available this fall and will become your go-to source for guidance documents, templates, and more, so please keep an eye on your email in the coming weeks for access information. For the first few months after rollout, we will keep both the new resource library and the current one in Basecamp accessible simultaneously, with the intent to eventually sunset the Basecamp version for program contacts (peer reviewers and commissioners will continue to utilize Basecamp in their review work).

"The positive impact of being NAEYC-accredited in the communities we serve is extensive, from leverage in application for grant requests, to university articulations, to participating in statewide ECE policy, and to modeling high-quality programing. NAEYC's accreditation process was organized, easy to follow, and amazing to work with!" —Lisa Morley, Professor of ECE at West Shore Community College, MI

Fall Report Submissions

Programs preparing to submit a first-time Self-Study Report, a Response to Conditions Report, or an Interim Report this fall, please note that **the submission deadline is September 30**. For programs preparing to submit a renewal Self-Study Report, the deadline is **November 30**. Please log in to the [Accreditation Resource Library](#) to access current report templates, guidance documents, and more.

Professional Development Opportunities at NAEYC's Annual Conference

Join NAEYC staff and Commissioners for higher education accreditation training sessions November 5-9 in Anaheim, CA at NAEYC's Annual Conference, the largest early childhood education conference in the world! From a pre-conference workshop for those new to the accreditation system to several sessions throughout the week for those already involved in the process, there are plenty of options for increasing your accreditation know-how. [Learn more and register online](#).

As a reminder, while NAEYC announced in June that 2024 was the final Professional Learning Institute (PLI) in its current format, attendees can expect an enriched Annual Conference with expanded sessions and content areas that were popular at PLI. If you typically attended PLI in the past, we encourage you to stay tuned for other professional development offerings as NAEYC continues to develop more digital and regional offerings, and we hope to see you at this year's Annual Conference!



Meet the Chair of the Commission on the Accreditation of Early Childhood Higher Education Programs

Tiffany E. Hunter serves as the Vice President of Workforce and Economic Development at Metropolitan Community College in Kansas City, Missouri, where she resides with her husband and two sons. Prior to beginning her career in higher education, Dr. Hunter served as a public-school Special Education Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten teacher in North Carolina. Her career in higher education has included community college and four-year college faculty as well as administrative roles in both two and four-year colleges. Her career in education has spanned over 25 years, with over 15 years being early childhood focused. In her free time, Dr. Hunter enjoys traveling, doing word search puzzles, all things Disney, going to Disney World, and spending time with her family. She frequently attends NAEYC's Annual Conference, so if you see her around, please stop and say hi!

Call for Commissioner and Peer Reviewer Applications

NAEYC's accreditation of early childhood higher education programs depends upon the commitment and professionalism of our volunteer peer reviewers and Commissioners.

The NAEYC Commission on Early Childhood Higher Education Accreditation is currently seeking to fill three seats with terms beginning January 1, 2025

and running through December 31, 2027. Wondering if this is a good fit for you? If you find yourself answering “yes” to the questions below, then view the full description of the Commission and the responsibilities of Commissioners.

- Are you passionate about ECE professional preparation program quality?
- Are you looking for a meaningful service opportunity that supports the ECE profession?
- Do you geek out over matters related to program evaluation and/or accreditation?
- Are you able to consume large quantities of reading without being overwhelmed?
- Do you like zooming in on small details AND zooming out to look at the big picture?
- Do you want to work with a group of people who value community, collegiality, robust discussions, and diverse perspectives?

We hope that you will consider applying for a seat! See the [full description](#) for details on how to apply. The deadline to apply is **October 15, 2024**.

In addition, applications to serve as a peer reviewer are currently being accepted through **September 30**. Becoming a higher education peer reviewer is an excellent way to learn more about this quality assurance system, as well as to give back to the early childhood field. Current or former full- or part-time early childhood faculty members who meet the qualifications are encouraged to apply! Qualified applicants will be invited to participate in an online training program. More information and the link to apply can be found on the [peer reviewer page of our website](#).

Accreditation Policy Updates

If your program is preparing a ***Response-to-Conditions report*** (Year 1, 2, or 3) for conditions cited under the 2010 standards, fall 2024 is the final semester in which programs may choose to align key assessments with 2010 or 2020 standards; to include either five or six key assessments (for key assessment conditions); and to include or omit a learning opportunities chart (for submissions in the 2020 standards). Beginning in spring 2025, aligning key assessments to the 2020 standards, submitting six key assessments (for key assessment conditions), and submitting an updated learning opportunities chart (for programs that have key assessment alignment conditions) will be required. In many cases, including some or all of these updates even while they are still optional may make it easier for your program

to demonstrate that conditions have been met. This policy does not impact programs submitting a Response to Conditions for the September 30th deadline. Please reach out to staff at highered@naeyc.org with any questions about what may be required and/or advisable for your program.

To obtain the most benefit from the Commission review of **Year 4 Interim Reports**, programs submitting these reports are now **required** to align learning opportunities and key assessments with one of the **2020 Professional Standards and Competencies** (it is OK if candidate performance data were collected from versions of assessments previously aligned with the 2010 standards).

Programs anticipating challenges submitting reports by their scheduled deadline may submit an **extension request form** in accordance with the extension policies found on pp.41-44 of the **Accreditation Handbook**.

Survey on Transitioning to the Professional Standards and Competencies

Now that most higher ed programs that were previously accredited under the 2010 Professional Preparation Standards have completed the transition to the 2020 Professional Standards and Competencies, we'd love to learn from your experiences! In an effort to continue to provide feedback to the **Commission on Professional Excellence in Early Childhood Education** who oversees this set of professional standards for the field and the NAEYC Commission on Early Childhood Higher Education Accreditation who provides accreditation related guidance on the standards, we are collecting feedback from you! We'd love to have your program's input and insight into the implementation of the new *Professional Standards and Competencies* within your program. Please consider taking a few minutes to complete **this feedback tool to share your experiences** with us.

