Evaluation and Student Progress Monitoring Guidance

In implementing Rider 78, school districts and open-enrollment charter schools should implement a program evaluation aligned to the following statutory provisions:

a) A school district shall:
   a. Select and implement appropriate methods for evaluating the district's program classes by measuring student progress; and
   b. Make data from the results of program evaluations available to parents
b) A school district may administer diagnostic assessments to students in a program class to evaluate student progress as required by subsection (a)) but may not administer a state standardized assessment instrument.
c) An assessment instrument administered to a prekindergarten program class must be selected from a list of appropriate prekindergarten assessment instruments identified by the commissioner.

In implementing Rider 78, school districts and open-enrollment charter schools should assess their students and submit the student progress monitoring data into ECDS from a tool that is listed on the 2017-2021 Commissioner's List of Approved Prekindergarten Assessment Instruments.

TEA Guidance for Program Evaluation and Student Progress Monitoring

All five developmental domains (listed below) should be assessed at least three times during the school year using a tool from the 2017-2021 Commissioner's List of Approved Prekindergarten Assessment Instruments.

- Emergent Literacy – Reading
- Emergent Literacy – Writing
- Language and Communication
- Health and Wellness
- Mathematics

Tools and Resources

A free approved assessment tool for Texas public prekindergarten may be accessed at: CIRCLE - https://cliengage.org/public/tools/child-progress-monitoring-tools/

The Early Childhood Education Division of TEA has developed a High-Quality Prekindergarten Self-Assessment tool to assist districts and charter schools with evaluating the quality of their prekindergarten program and defining specific pathways for continuous improvement leading to positive child outcomes. The self-assessment tool is available for download and supports the program evaluation component of Rider 78.

The Texas Education Agency's Early Childhood Education Division team is available to provide guidance on implementation of high-quality prekindergarten programming. The Division can be contacted at earlychildhoodeducation@tea.texas.gov.