

Attention Early Learning Stakeholders: Your Input is Required!

Early learning experts and community stakeholders are revising the S.C. Early Learning Standards. The team is making every effort to ensure the standards reflect a shared vision for what we want for our state's children and to ensure SC's earliest learners enter kindergarten prepared for success.

You can help with the next step in the review process. Early learning stakeholders are asked to review the current draft of the S.C. Early Learning Standards and complete this survey to provide feedback.

Don't worry about formatting edits; the final document will be



professionally edited and formatted. Your feedback shouldn't change the structure or fundamentally modify the document's content but should be designed to increase the document's applicability to SC's children and usefulness to our state's teachers.

For this round of review for public comment, all six domains of the Early Learning Standards are included. As you review the document, there will be opportunities to provide input on each domain.

Please view and participate in the survey; our children's futures depend on the foundation we lay for them.

Public comment period will be open until 4 p.m. on September 26, 2016. To access the survey, please click [here](#).

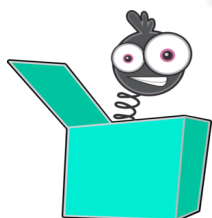
Please contact [Penny Danielson](#) or [Noelle McInerney](#), co-chairs of the Early Learning Standards Executive Committee, with questions or additional comments.

Community Conversations

The South Carolina Early Childhood Association (SCECA), the South Carolina Association for the Education of Young Children (SCAEYC), Children's Trust of South Carolina, and the Palmetto State Teacher's Association (PSTA) invite you to a Regional Community Conversation to discuss the SC Early Childhood Public Policy Agenda. Four "Community Conversations" are planned across South Carolina this fall, and all participants will receive equivalent hours of DSS credit for attending.

To register and for more information, click on the links below

- September 29, Columbia, 9-12 noon [SCAEYC Conference- Embassy Suites](#)
- October 11, Greenville, 6-8pm [University Square](#)
- October 18, Florence, 6-8pm [Florence-Darlington Technical College](#)
- October 25, Charleston, 6-8pm [Trident Technical College](#)



Product Recalls Related to Child Care

DSS Regulation 114-507C(2) states that furniture, toys, and recreational equipment shall meet the standards of the US Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), if applicable, and that recalled products shall not be accessible to children. For more information, call CPSC's hotline at **800-638-2772** or visit their website: www.cpsc.gov. To report a dangerous product or related injury, go to <http://saferproducts.gov>.

- ◇ **IKEA MALM and other models of chests and dressers** because of serious tip-over hazard
- ◇ **GSI Outdoors children's water bottle** because of violation of lead standard
- ◇ **IKEA safety gates and safety gate extensions** because of fall hazard
- ◇ **Embrace Technologies little lotus baby swaddle & sleeping bag** because of choking hazard caused by shoulder snaps
- ◇ **Mayborn Tommee Tippee electric bottle & food warmers** because of fire hazard
- ◇ **Things Remembered children's jewelry** because of violation of lead standard
- ◇ **The Land of Nod octopus rattles** because of choking hazard caused by detachable tentacles
- ◇ **Pacific Cycle Swivel Wheel Jogging Strollers** because of crash and fall hazards caused by front wheel

BACK TO SCHOOL: HAPPY, HEALTHY, AND SAFE*

September is "National Childhood Obesity Month." One out of every 5 children in the United States is obese. Healthy habits, such as getting proper nutrition and physical activity, will help your child grow, learn, and build strong bones, muscles, and self-esteem as well as reduce their risk of developing diseases and becoming obese. Parents play a major role in forming their children's habits on eating and physical activity.

Healthy Eating Tips:

- Provide a balanced breakfast
- Supply fruit for breakfast, snacks, and desserts
- Prepare foods with less salt and keep the salt shaker off the table
- Substitute salty snacks for fruits and vegetables
- Substitute refined grains (i.e. white bread, pasta, and rice) for whole grains (i.e. wheat bread, whole wheat pasta, and brown rice)
- Reduce added sugar intake (i.e. sugar sweetened drinks and desserts)
- Serve water or low-fat or fat-free milk instead of soda or sugar sweetened juices
- Choose cereals with low sugar or with dried fruits
- Reduce solid fats (i.e. lard, butter, and margarine)
- Use olive or canola oil instead of butter or margarine
- Bake or roast instead of frying
- Try "oven-frying" for a crispy texture
- Limit fast food

Physical Activity Tips:

- Join your child outside in the sunlight
- Take children for a walk or bike ride instead of watching TV
- Make physical activity fun with trips to the zoo or a park
- Include your child in family activities such as walking the dog or washing the car
- Discuss how walking helps you feel better and is a fun way to spend time together
- Encourage your children to play sports or dance video games that get them up and moving
- Preschoolers need at least two hours of active play time every day.
- Toddlers should have at least an hour of active play time each day.
- Babies should have short periods of "tummy time" every day.



For more tips on healthy eating and physical activity visit ABCQuality.org