

Tipsheet for New SACERS-U Additional Notes

Items 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 33, 34, 35, 38, 39, 40, and 41 are eliminated since the indicators measure structural quality, usually as reported by staff, and do not measure features of a program that children directly experience.

The 30-minute requirement for access to materials must be observed (not just scheduled or reported) during the 3-hour observation. If the program operates for less than 3 hours the requirement is adjusted proportionally.

Five well-defined interest centers must be observed to give credit for 7.1 in **Room Arrangement**.

There can be no major repair problems with routine care furniture that is likely to result in serious injury to receive credit for 5.2 in **Furnishings for Routine Care**.

In **Furnishings for Learning and Recreational Activities** there can be no serious repair problems with the furniture that is likely to result in serious injury to receive credit for 3.1. There must be 2 pieces of children's work and 2 other materials of interest display to receive credit for 5.2. At least 3 pieces of specialized furniture must be accessible weekly to receive credit for 7.2.

At least 3 soft furnishings must be accessible for at least 30 minutes during the observation to meet 5.2 in **Furnishings for Relaxation and Comfort**.

To receive credit for 5.1 and 5.2 in **Furnishings for Gross Motor Activities** the stationary equipment must be safe and appropriate and stimulate 3 different age-appropriate skills. The portable equipment must stimulate at least 5 different skills to receive credit for 5.3.

To give credit for 5.1 in **Dramatic Play/Theatre** must be plentiful props representing at least 2 themes. The materials should go beyond the traditional home living them and must be accessible for 30 minutes during the 3-hour observation.

One example of staff interacting with children around the use of a language game must be observed to receive credit for 3.2 in **Language/Reading Activities**. There must be at least 2 appropriate language games and 10 appropriate books for 3.1 and at least 3 appropriate language games and at least 30 appropriate books for 5.1.

One example of staff interacting with children around the use of a math/reasoning material must be observed to receive credit for 3.2 in **Math/Reasoning Activities**.

If any child has trouble becoming integrated into the group upon arrival, staff must be observed helping them get settled into the ongoing activities of the program to receive credit for 5.3 in **Greeting/Departing**.

To receive credit for 5.4 in **Staff-Child Communication**, 2 examples of staff asking children questions that elicit longer, more complex answers must be observed.

Children should be able to move freely and experience natural peer groupings for at least 30 minutes of the 3-hour observation to receive credit for 3.1 in **Peer Interactions**.

In **Schedule** a fine motor or language activity must be set up for children and accessible to receive credit for 3.3. Som gross motor time must be observed to receive 3.4. At 5.3 some outdoor (weather-permitting) gross motor time must be observed for the children.

To receive credit for 5.1 in **Free Choice** children must have the opportunity to engage in free play for 1 hour of the 3-hour observation including indoors and/or outdoors.