

How to Conduct an Internal Assessment Using the Climate of Healthy Interactions for Learning and Development (CHILD[®])

NOTE: The CHILD is currently unavailable to the public for purchase; it can only be accessed and used by a trained and reliable Program Quality Assessment (PQA) CHILD Assessor (hereinto referred to as “Assessor”). Although the CHILD is being used for internal assessment, it will be conducted as an external assessment by an Assessor.

Requesting an external assessment (for internal assessment): Please contact your Quality Coach regarding your interest in a CHILD assessment for internal assessment purposes. Your coach will inform the Program Quality Assessment team who will assign an Assessor to schedule the CHILD observation for your program.

CHILD assessment at-a-glance

- Approximately two hours are needed to complete (four coding blocks of 20 minutes each, with 5-10 minutes between coding blocks for scoring)
- No teacher interview
- No documents needed from the program as source of evidence for scoring
- Assessment based on observation only
- May include all classroom activities including outdoor play and meals
- Must observe some unstructured activities

Required materials

The Assessor will provide the CHILD Observer Manual for conducting the assessment. The program is not expected to purchase any CHILD related materials for this internal assessment process.

Supplemental materials

- **CHILD Practitioner’s Guide:** The Assessor will share information about using the CHILD Practitioner’s Guide to support ongoing quality improvement work. If the program is interested in this additional support, it will be provided free of charge to the program.

Purchase the materials

The program is not expected to purchase any of the CHILD assessment related materials.

The external assessment process expectations and information for the program

1. Learn About the CHILD

- It is recommended that the teaching team from each assessed classroom and the internal assessment team become familiar with the CHILD's expectations.
- Register for the online self-paced PA Foundations of the Climate of Healthy Interactions for Learning and Development (CHILD) course on the [Professional Development \(PD\) Registry \(papregistry.org\)](https://papregistry.org) (available sometime in 2024/2025).
- Request a [Facilitated Program Observation Instrument Orientation \(FPO\)](#). This one-hour session with an Assessor