

## **Change to Policy/Procedure Memo**

**Date:** 7/17/23

**Policy:** Consideration of the appropriate year for National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) standards aligned to Grow NJ Kids (GNJK) Standards when determining waived standards for NAEYC-accredited programs.

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**Rationale:** Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, programs prepared for NAEYC accreditation by completing NAEYC standards from a previous year rather than the standards from the year in which they received accreditation.

**Existing policy/procedure:** Currently, Quality Rating Coordinators (QRCs) are using the date on programs' NAEYC Accreditation Decision Reports and Accreditation Certificates to determine the year for NAEYC standards aligned to GNJK standards. This date is used to determine the waived GNJK standards for the program.

**Change to policy/procedure:** Effective immediately, **programs whose NAEYC accreditation was granted based on standards from a year other than the year during which they received their accreditation should provide evidence as such.** Appropriate evidence includes a candidacy letter reflecting the year of NAEYC application, or a screenshot from the NAEYC portal reflecting this information.

This documentation should be uploaded to the program's NJCCIS File Cabinet with other NAEYC reports (Accreditation Certificate, Accreditation Decision Report, completed NAEYC Annual Reports for years 1-3 as appropriate). The QRC will use this information to determine the GNJK standards aligned to NAEYC standards from the year the program applied for NAEYC accreditation, and which standards may be waived for the program.

**If the candidacy or application documentation is not received, the QRC will review the GNJK standards aligned to the NAEYC standards from the year the program received accreditation documentation** when determining which GNJK standards are waived for the program. *CREEHS and the QRCs are not able to ascertain the year of NAEYC application without evidence from the program.*

Note: Programs should upload reports received from NAEYC or the online portal to the NJCCIS File Cabinet. If reports are not accessible, the program should discuss with their QRC alternative options for providing accreditation evidence.