

# Developmental and Social-Emotional Screening Policy, 2021-22

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the DECE screening guidance at a glance?

Developmental Screening	Social-Emotional Screening
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaluates developmental milestones across domains such as language, cognition, perception, and motor development</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Focuses specifically on social-emotional skills and behavior, including self-regulation, interaction, and adaptive functioning.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DECE provides ASQ-3 materials by request at no cost. Programs may purchase other DECE-approved tools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DECE provides ASQ:SE-2 materials in English and Spanish to all programs at no cost.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use <a href="#">this form</a> to order ASQ-3 materials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use <a href="#">this form</a> to order ASQ:SE-2 materials in additional languages, note delivery instructions, or to opt-out.</li> </ul>

### What is the full DECE developmental and social-emotional screening policy and which tools are approved?

As in previous years, for the 2021-22 school year, teaching teams are required to administer a developmental screening to all children within 45 calendar days of enrollment. Staff administering the developmental screenings should take into consideration the needs and backgrounds of the children that they are serving and ensure that screenings are implemented using culturally, linguistically and developmentally responsive materials. The DEC-approved developmental screening tools are [Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third Edition \(ASQ-3\)](#), [Brigance Early Childhood Screens III](#), [Early Screening Inventory, Third Edition \(ESI-3\)](#). Please note, the Early Screening Inventory - Revised (ESI-R) is outdated and no longer approved for DECE use. The DECE will provide ASQ-3 materials free of charge by request.

In addition, as part of a trauma-informed response to COVID-19 for the 2021-22 school year, teaching teams are encouraged to administer a social-emotional screening to all children this fall or winter. Social-emotional screening can also be used throughout the year with specific classrooms and/or children whenever it may be supportive. The DECE will provide materials free of charge for all programs to complete social-emotional screening with the [Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional, Second Edition \(ASQ:SE-2\)](#). Family Child Care Networks, EarlyLearn, 3-K for All, and Pre-K for All programs are encouraged to use the ASQ:SE-2 as a companion tool to their required developmental screening tool to address the social-emotional needs of all children. Please note, Early Head Start and Head Start programs are required to use a social-emotional screening

tool; please see the Head Start Program Performance Standards for more information.

For more information, please see the [Infohub](#). For questions, please contact [developmentalscreening@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:developmentalscreening@schools.nyc.gov). Please see below for more information regarding developmental and social-emotional screening by program type (EarlyLearn, 3-K for All, Pre-K for All, Family Child Care Networks, Early Head Start, and Head Start).

### EarlyLearn, 3-K for All, and Pre-K for All

Programs are required to use *one* of the following developmental screening tools:

- [Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third Edition \(ASQ-3\)](#)
- [Brigance Early Childhood Screens III](#)
- [Early Screening Inventory, Third Edition \(ESI-3\)](#)

The DECE will provide materials for the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third Edition (ASQ-3) developmental screening tool by request at no charge. Programs can continue to purchase other approved screening tools, not provided by the DOE by visiting the publishers' websites. To confirm which developmental screening tool your site will use, and to order ASQ-3 materials, click [here](#).

In addition, programs are encouraged to use the [Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional, Second Edition \(ASQ:SE-2\)](#) as their social-emotional screening tool. All early childhood programs will receive ASQ:SE-2 materials in English and Spanish at the start of the 2021-22 school year. Please note, ASQ:SE-2 materials can be photocopied and reprinted at your program as your wish, year after year - be sure to keep your master copies in a safe place. To order ASQ:SE-2 materials in Arabic and/or French, note special delivery instructions, or to opt-out of receiving ASQ:SE-2 materials, click [here](#). Please look for additional information regarding social-emotional screening and ASQ:SE-2 professional learning opportunities in the coming months.

Programs should submit developmental and social-emotional screening outcomes to the Vendor or Payroll Portal.

### Family Child Care Networks

Networks are required to use *one* of the following developmental screening tools:

- [Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third Edition \(ASQ-3\)](#)
- [Brigance Early Childhood Screens III](#)

The DECE will provide materials for the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third Edition (ASQ-3) developmental screening tool by request at no charge. Networks can continue to purchase other approved screening tools, not provided by the DOE by visiting the publishers' websites. To confirm which developmental screening tool your site will use, and to order ASQ-3 materials, click [here](#).

In addition, networks are encouraged to use the [Ages and Stages Questionnaires: Social Emotional, Second Edition \(ASQ:SE-2\)](#) as their social-emotional screening tool. All networks will receive ASQ:SE-2 materials in English and Spanish at the start of the 2021-22 school year. Please note, ASQ:SE-2 materials can be photocopied and reprinted at your program as your wish, year after year - be sure to keep your master copies in a safe place.

To order ASQ:SE-2 materials in Arabic and/or French, note special delivery instructions, or to opt-out of receiving ASQ:SE-2 materials, click [here](#). Please look for additional information regarding social-emotional screening and ASQ:SE-2 professional learning opportunities in the coming months.

Networks should record developmental and social-emotional screening outcomes. The method of recording is at the discretion of the network.

## Early Head Start and Head Start

Programs must use *one* of the following screening tool options:

- [Ages and Stages Questionnaire, Third Edition \(ASQ-3\)](#) used alongside [Ages and Stages Questionnaires – Social Emotional, Second Edition \(ASQ:SE-2\)](#)
- [Early Screening Inventory, Third Edition \(ESI-3\)](#) used alongside [Ages and Stages Questionnaires – Social Emotional, Second Edition \(ASQ:SE-2\)](#).
- [Brigance Early Childhood Screens III](#)

For more information, please see the Head Start Program Performance Standards. To confirm which developmental screening tool your site will use, and to order ASQ-3 materials, click [here](#). All programs will receive ASQ:SE-2 materials in English and Spanish at the start of the 2021-22 school year. Please note, ASQ:SE-2 materials can be photocopied and reprinted at your program as your wish, year after year - be sure to keep your master copies in a safe place. To order ASQ:SE-2 materials in Arabic and/or French, note special delivery instructions, or to opt-out of receiving ASQ:SE-2 materials, click [here](#).

Programs should submit developmental and social-emotional screening outcomes to the Vendor or Payroll Portal.

## What is a social-emotional screening tool, and how is it different from a developmental screening tool?

Social-emotional screening tools like the ASQ:SE-2 focus specifically on social-emotional skills and behavior. The ASQ:SE-2 addresses seven key behavioral areas, including self-regulation, compliance, social-communication, adaptive functioning, autonomy, affect, and interaction with people.

Developmental screening tools like the ASQ-3 and the ESI-3 focus on other domains of learning including communication, gross motor, fine motor, problem solving, and personal-social. Using a social-emotional screening tool in addition to a developmental screening tool provides a more complete view of a child's development, and can support early childhood programs and families to identify potential developmental and instructional needs.

## Why is it important to complete social-emotional screening using ASQ:SE-2?

Healthy social-emotional development forms a foundation for lifelong success. Young children are developing crucial skills that will help them thrive long-term, skills like: regulating their emotions, making friends, and navigating social situations. Nurturing these skills helps children in the short-term too. Children use their social

and emotional skills in the classroom everyday to persist at tasks, regulate their responses to feelings like frustration or joy, and engage in meaningful play with their peers. All of these skills help children cope with stress and be their best.

Children need intentional instruction and practice to master social and emotional skills. Like any other content area, it takes intentional instruction. Knowing where to start is key, and the ASQ:SE-2 provides educators with a deeper understanding of each child's unique strengths and needs. This allows educators to meaningfully plan for supporting the entire class and individual children.

The ASQ:SE-2 also brings families and educators together around one of the most powerful tools we have to give our children: a solid foundation of social and emotional wellbeing. The ASQ:SE-2 tool is designed to be completed by families. This approach helps establish early and ongoing two-way family engagement, empowers families as the experts of their children, and creates an opportunity for both families and programs to learn more about child development together. These practices promote families' roles as primary caregivers, teachers, and advocates, and support families and programs to understand and respond to the needs of children. They are particularly important in the context of COVID-19 as these practices are key protective factors that help families and children mitigate the adverse impacts of trauma.

Adding ASQ:SE-2 as a companion to a developmental screening tool provides a fuller picture of a child's development. Pairing these tools provides a more thorough practice to learn about the children in your program, and provides an additional platform for engaging with families.

## How does the ASQ:SE-2 work? Who completes the questionnaire?

The ASQ:SE-2 system is composed of questionnaires designed to be completed by a child's family. It supports communication with families and provides an opportunity for teaching teams to build connections with families. It also provides an opportunity for both families and programs to learn more about child development.

Programs and families work together to complete the six steps of the ASQ:SE-2.

1. Teaching teams choose the right questionnaire for the child's age.
2. Teaching teams give the questionnaire to the family to complete, either in hard copy or electronically, and return.
3. Families complete the questionnaire. The questionnaire takes about 10-15 minutes to complete. Teaching teams support families with any questions.
4. Teaching teams score and interpret results.
5. Teaching teams share results with families.
6. Teaching teams and families discuss next steps.

The administration of the ASQ:SE-2 questionnaire is flexible to fit the needs of your program. Questionnaires may be completed in collaboration with families when families visit your program, or during a home visit, if applicable; completed during a telephone interview with the child's family; or mailed or emailed to the family. Support families with understanding items and marking responses, if needed. Sites may consider using parent coordinators, if available, to support conversations with families about the ASQ:SE-2.

## What materials do I need to implement ASQ:SE-2 at my site? What training will the DECE offer?

As part of a trauma-informed response to COVID-19 for the 2021-22 school year, the DECE will provide ASQ:SE-2 materials to all sites free of charge. All early childhood programs will receive ASQ:SE-2 materials in English and Spanish at the start of the 2021-22 school year. To order ASQ:SE-2 materials in Arabic and/or French, share special delivery instructions, or to opt-out of receiving ASQ:SE-2 materials, complete the form [here](#). In addition to receiving ASQ:SE-2 materials in hard copy, all programs will have access to the ASQ Online system in order to provide electronic versions of the questionnaires to families if they prefer.

*Please note that ASQ:SE-2 materials may be photocopied and reprinted at your program as you wish, year after year, so that your site will not have to wait for material deliveries in the future. Be sure to keep your master copies in a safe place!*

Please also note that self-paced ASQ:SE-2 professional learning course is now available on Protraxx. You and other members of your teaching team can review the three modules to create an implementation plan in anticipation of the materials. This course will review the Division of Early Childhood Education developmental screening policy, how to partner with families and caregivers to complete the ASQ, and how to score ASQ and interpret scores. To enroll in this course, please follow the steps below:

1. Visit: [idpcloud.nycenet.edu](http://idpcloud.nycenet.edu).
2. Enter your DOE credentials (*for district school educators, this is your @schools.nyc.gov credentials; for NYCEEC educators, this is your @doeexternal.nyc credentials\**)
3. Click on the **Protraxx icon** to direct to the ProTraxx learning management system.
4. Under the Enrollment drop-down, select “Search Courses.”
5. Using the Keyword field, enter “ASQ:SE-2: Introduction to the Ages and Stages Questionnaire Social-Emotional Screening Tool” click the search/filter button
  - a. (please make sure that your search matches the title of the online course exactly, and that you are not using any other search terms like date range, or subject area)
6. Select View Details button next to the course.
7. At the top of the course page, click Enroll (if you haven’t already), and then select “Launch Course.”

\*A note for **NYCEEC** educators: To access DOE-supported tech applications such as Protraxx, Zoom, Google Classroom and more, you will need a DOE Account (a [doeexternal.nyc](mailto:doeexternal.nyc) account). If you work in a NYCEEC and you do not have a [doeexternal.nyc](mailto:doeexternal.nyc) account, you can request one by completing the DOE Account Request Form: <https://bit.ly/DOEexternalAccountRequest>. If you need to reset the password for your existing DOE external account, please use the [Password Reset Tool to create a new password](#) (using **Personal Details**).

## Will we need to complete social-emotional screening within the 45-day window required for developmental screening?

For EarlyLearn, 3-K for All, Pre-K for All, and Family Child Care Networks, programs are encouraged to complete social-emotional screening at the beginning of the year. If programs are using ASQ-3 as their developmental screening tool, it may be easiest to package the ASQ-3 and ASQ:SE-2 questionnaires together for families to complete at one time. However, there is no required timeline for the ASQ:SE-2. You may also use this tool again throughout the year with entire classrooms or individual children to get a better understanding of their growth and how to best support teachers, children, and/or families.

For Early and Head and Head Start programs, programs are required to complete developmental and social-emotional screening within 45 calendar days, according to Head Start requirements; please see the [Head Start Program Performance Standards](#) for more information.

*Please note that ASQ:SE-2 materials may be photocopied and reprinted at your program as you wish, year after year, so that your site will not have to wait for material deliveries in the future. Please be sure to keep your master copies in a safe place!*

## I have more questions about ASQ:SE-2. How can I find out more?

Please see [Infohub](#) for more information about screening policy. You can also email [developmentalscreening@schools.nyc.gov](mailto:developmentalscreening@schools.nyc.gov) with additional questions about ASQ:SE-2 or DECE screening guidance.