

2024 Rhode Island Early Learning Curriculum Review and Endorsement for Vendors of Published Curriculum

Question and Answers

Introduction

Below please find the Questions and Answers pertaining to the 2024 Rhode Island Early Learning Curriculum Review and Endorsement "Request for Curriculum Letter" received during the open question and answer period, which ended at **4 PM on Friday, February 26, 2024**.

Please note that the questions have been answered in the order that they were received, and duplicate questions may have been combined or merged with a similar question. Those interested in submitting a curriculum for review must submit all necessary documentation to the Rhode Island Department of Education by **4 PM on Friday, April 5th, 2024**.

Questions and Answers

- 1. My company participated in a prior Rhode Island curriculum review. Do we need to resubmit in response to this RFC window?**

Currently endorsed curricula do not need to be resubmitted. If a curriculum was previously not endorsed and there is now an updated version available, you may choose to resubmit for review.

- 2. Is there an intent to bid form or letter that vendors will need to fill out and submit in addition to completing Appendices A and B?**

No; vendors of published curriculum may follow the "Submission Instructions" provided in the [Request for Curriculum letter](#).

- 3. Will the state accept a proposal from a content-specific core curriculum with which the prime vendor has a reseller agreement in place to provide supplemental instructional materials? For additional context, the combination of the prime vendor's content-specific core curriculum and the partner's supplemental curriculum, together, constitutes a complete core resource.**

If the vendor decides to submit the curriculum as a single, comprehensive package, then the RIDE Early Learning team requests that clear guidance is provided within Appendix A (where applicable) and/or as a supplemental email or mailed attachment with the submission detailing the relationship between the content-specific core curriculum and the partner's supplemental curriculum in terms of teacher unpacking and usability, implementation, assessment, professional learning, to facilitate a streamlined user experience.

4. **Can RIDE please indicate whether a program should address all and/or multiple subjects within the standards to be approved? Is it possible for a literacy curriculum to be endorsed?**

RIDE welcomes submissions of content-specific and/or comprehensive curricula, and partnerships between vendors to support a comprehensive package. By our definition, “comprehensive” covers the development of the whole child across all domains of the development recognized by the 2023 RI Early Learning and Development Standards while “content-specific” curriculum is focused on a specific area of development (e.g., Mathematics; Language/Literacy).

If submitting a content-specific (e.g., Literacy) curriculum, the vendor will need to specify that this curriculum is “Content-Specific” in [Appendix A: Cover Page](#) for submission. Vendors will then select the domain(s) of the RIELDS that the curriculum is intended to cover (e.g., language; literacy). Within [Appendix B: Curriculum Alignment Technical Report](#), vendors will provide alignment evidence in accordance with the domains identified in Appendix A.

5. **Do the requested materials for “early childhood” refer to kindergarten as well?**

“Early Childhood” for the purposes of this curriculum review, would describe curriculum intended for use with children ages three to five years (preschool or prekindergarten curriculum). We are not reviewing Kindergarten curriculum at this time.

Within the Appendix A Cover Page submission document, vendors are asked to identify other ages and grades that their company may develop curriculum for. If the early childhood curriculum is endorsed, this information is helpful to share with programs as they make larger, programmatic decisions on curriculum adoption and transitions between different classrooms.

6. **The curriculum that my company developed is available both digitally and in print. Which should I submit?**

If there are no differences between the digital- and printed-editions of the curriculum, the vendor may use their discretion to submit either one or the other to RIDE for review. If the materials vary between the two modalities, the vendor will need to ensure that the RIDE team is granted access to view all materials (digitally and/or in print) for the curriculum to ensure a comprehensive review.

7. **Could you please provide a definition of the statement located in the instructions of the Appendix B_Technical Report document that reads, “The evidence provided should**

include examples from a representative sample of units that show the breadth and depth of the early learning standard it is cited for.”?

When completing the Appendix B_Technical Report document, the curriculum vendor will want to provide page numbers, and if submitting digitally, direct hyperlinks to locations within the curriculum as evidence for each standard within the “Curriculum Submission Alignment” column.

For the submission, RIDE expects to see depth of a standard, meaning that all aspects of the standard are addressed in the curriculum. For example, for SS 2.a, RIDE expects to see citations of learning activities that reflect the development of children’s increasing knowledge of supply and demand, occupations, and currency.

Furthermore, RIDE also expects to see breadth of the standard, meaning that evidence of this standard is supported throughout the span of the curriculum from start to end of the school year. For example, the cited evidence for SS 2.a would include supply and demand, occupations, and currency examples throughout units that span the breadth of the school year.