

AREA III

**LEARN NEW SKILLS
Utah Afterschool Quality Assessment and Improvement Tool**

A quality program provides a variety of learning experiences that support the physical, social, emotional and cognitive growth and development of all participants. Active involvement in intentionally designed learning experiences provides youth the opportunity to explore their interests, build talents and develop critical thinking and problem solving skills. Participation in program planning, real world learning and social action projects promotes the development of leadership skills and attachment to community.

A. COGNITIVE / ACADEMIC (DOMAIN)

A-1. Youth are actively engaged in learning activities that promote critical/creative thinking skills and build on individual interests/strengths. (MAJOR STANDARD)	Observations / Rationale	Performance Level			
INDICATORS		1	2	3	4
1) Program includes interactive, project-based activities that encourage critical thinking and self-expression.					
2) Program offers a balance of academic and enrichment activities that are age and skill level appropriate.					
3) Program offers enrichment activities that allow youth to explore new ideas in a variety of learning environments(e.g., art, music, drama, dance, film, technology etc.).					
4) Program encourages cognitive development through experimentation, exploration, simulation and play.					
5) Program facilitates learning opportunities that reflect the cultures of participating youth and their families.					
A-2 Academic support/interventions are aligned with school-day curricula and address student learning needs. (MAJOR STANDARD)	Observations / Rationale	Performance Level			
INDICATORS		1	2	3	4
1) Program establishes communication with school day staff to monitor academic and behavioral progress of participants.					
2) Program offers needs-based academic support, including tutoring and/or homework help.					

Performance Level

1 = Must address and Improve/Standards Not Met 2 = Some Progress Made 3 = Meets Standards 4 = Exceeds Standards

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B. SOCIAL / EMOTIONAL (DOMAIN)

B-1. Program provides opportunities for personal growth and development, emotional well-being, character development and independence. (MAJOR STANDARD)	Observations / Rationale	Performance Level			
		1	2	3	4
INDICATORS					
1) Activities include opportunities for youth to develop the skills needed to make positive choices and promote self responsibility.					
2) Activities include opportunities for youth to work with others in a team setting (compromise, setting goals, dividing up tasks).					
3) Activities include opportunities for youth to develop interpersonal traits (empathy, encouragement, acceptance, communication).					
4) Activities include opportunities to develop intrapersonal traits (self-discipline, integrity, honesty, self-awareness and self-efficacy).					

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C. HEALTHY BEHAVIORS/LIFESTYLES (DOMAIN)

C-1 Program offers a variety of life skill activities and support based on identified needs that promote responsible behaviors toward self and others. (MAJOR STANDARD)	Observations / Rationale	Performance Level			
INDICATORS		1	2	3	4
1) Program activities are designed to teach essential life skills, (decision-making, problem solving, negotiation, communication, etc.).					
2) Program offers age-appropriate prevention/intervention education and support (e.g..healthy relationships; substance abuse, cyber safety etc.) to promote social success of youth.					
3) Program staff are responsive to youth that require individualized attention and support.					
C-2. Program provides opportunities and activities that promote healthy lifestyles and behaviors (MAJOR STANDARD)	Observations / Rationale	Performance Level			
INDICATORS		1	2	3	4
1) Program regularly provides a variety of indoor/outdoor sports, recreation and fitness activities to promote healthy physical lifestyles (team and individual sports, games, etc.).					
2) Program provides a variety of portable equipment for active and quiet play (e.g. jump ropes balls, frisbees, hacky sacks, hula hoops, side walk chalk, outdoor crafts).					
3) Program provides personal nutrition and health education.					
4) Program provides personal hygiene education.					

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D. LEADERSHIP/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (DOMAIN)

<i>D-1 Program provides a variety of leadership opportunities that enhance personal growth and development. (MAJ OR STANDARD)</i>	Observations / Rationale	Performance Level			
INDICATORS		1	2	3	4
1) Program involves youth in planning, implementation and evaluation (e.g. Youth Councils).					
2) Program provides varied opportunities for the development of personal responsibility, self-direction and leadership skills.					
<i>D-2 Program provides opportunities for community service, real world learning and career exploration. (MAJOR STANDARD)</i>	Observations / Rationale	Performance Level			
INDICATORS		1	2	3	4
1) Program involves youth in community service activities and projects.					
2) Program incorporates age-appropriate career exploration and financial literacy activities.					
3) Program provides for opportunities that build community awareness and attachment..					
4) Program coordinates with community specialists to provide instruction in their area of expertise (guest speakers community professionals, etc).					

Performance Level

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PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT

Indicator	Timeline/Date to be completed	Strategies	Responsibilities	Resources	Assistance Needed