

Transition Skills Summary FAQ

What Is the Transition Skills Summary (TSS) Collaborative Project?

The Transition Skills Summary (TSS) is a collaborative project in Stark County. The TSS is an online observation tool used to capture a child's progress in five developmental areas using 47 key developmental skills. The skills reported on the TSS form address the skills and concepts that are recognized as foundational skills for school success. The TSS is a snapshot of a child's readiness for kindergarten measured within the following five domains:

- Approaches Toward Learning
- Cognition & General Knowledge
- Language & Literacy Development
- Physical Health & Motor Development
- Social and Emotional Development

The skills reported on the TSS address the concepts that are recognized as foundational skills for school and life-long success.

Is the TSS aligned to the Early Learning and Developmental Standards (ELDS)?

Yes. The TSS is aligned to ELDS which is used in early learning programs throughout Ohio. The standards promote the understanding of early learning and development, provide a comprehensive and coherent set of early childhood educational expectations for children's development and learning, and guide the design and implementation of curriculum, assessment and instructional practices with young children. (Source: ODE's Birth Through Kindergarten Entry Learning and Development Standards)

How are the TSS and Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment (KRA) connected?

According to research conducted by the Summit Education Initiative (SEI), scores on the TSS are predictive of how a child will perform on the KRA.

What is the TSS format?

The TSS is available online.

How do I administer the TSS?

- Step 1- Check the TSS webpage for the administration timeline.
- Step 2 - Complete the TSS Participation Form.
- Step 3- Receive and complete the TSS Training.
- Step 4- Register as an official TSS Site.
- Step 5 - Administer the TSS.
- Step 6- Receive and review TSS site, classroom, and student reports.

Why should I participate and what will our site receive if we administer the TSS?

Unlike other tools, the TSS provides a snapshot of your student's skills during the time of administration that can be used to inform current teaching practices within your program. In addition, your site will be able to use the summative data to determine your teacher's professional development needs. Access to identified professional development will be offered to meet the needs of educational sites throughout Stark County. All participating sites will receive the following TSS reports:

- Site Report
- Classroom Report
- Parent/Caregiver (Student) Report

How do I use my TSS Report?

TSS Reports can be used in the following ways:

- guide classroom instruction;
- demonstrate progress in the developmental skills to support kindergarten readiness;
- determine what remediation or intervention supports are needed for students; and
- determine what professional development or technical assistance support is needed by your site.

Who can participate in the TSS Collaborative Project?

Any Ohio Department of Education (ODE) or Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) licensed early childhood program in Stark County.

Is there a cost to participate?

No. Thanks to the generous financial contribution of Stark Education Partnership (SEP), there is no cost to participate.

Who will provide TSS training?

Thanks to the in-kind contributions of the Early Childhood Resource Center (ECRC) and the Ohio Department of Education's State Support Region 9 (SST9), training will be provided to participating sites.

Who will provide TSS registration support?

The ECRC will provide TSS registration coordination support.

Who can provide further assistance?

Additional questions should be directed to the following:

Stark County-Kristine Filhour, ECRC Regional Coordinator at kfilhour@ecresourcecenter.org or (330) 491-3272 x5688