



HEALTHY child
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INTERIM GUIDANCE FOR TRAINERS, COACHES, AND PROGRAMS

BACKGROUND

The Pyramid Plus Approach has been Colorado's statewide effort to implement the Pyramid model, as well as integrate inclusion principles and strategies from the Special Quest approach. Over the years, the Pyramid Plus Approach (PPA) training has provided many programs and communities with evidence-based strategies and a foundation for quality early care and education as well as a pathway to increased qualifications. At the same time, other programs and communities have chosen to utilize the national Pyramid modules, also with great success.

As Healthy Child Care Colorado (HCCC) and partners complete the transition of the Pyramid Plus Center, we have used feedback and suggestions from those who implement Colorado's Pyramid efforts. Stakeholders with a variety of roles have clearly shared the importance of creating a unified approach across Colorado maximizing available resources to support both state and local Pyramid efforts.

With this in mind, and after significant reflection and conversation, the collaborative Transition Team supporting the Pyramid refresh and transition has recommended that Colorado adopt the Pyramid modules being used nationally. A related and equally important recommendation is to maintain Colorado's emphasis on inclusive strategies and principles. The Transition Team believes that inclusion of children with disabilities and special needs is included and embedded in the national Pyramid model. Additionally, we are currently taking the following steps to ensure that Colorado's values and strengths related to inclusion continue to be reflected:

- Facilitating a review of existing inclusion resources from the National Center for Pyramid Model Innovations.
- Creating a crosswalk between PPA training content and the national Pyramid modules to identify any gaps in content that could be maintained in a possible "Colorado" module.

Both HCCC and the Transition Team are committed to continuing and enhancing inclusion principles and content so that all children in Colorado are supported equitably.

Some additional exciting 'refresh' activities, in response to feedback we have received, will continue in 2021 including:

- Conducting assets, needs, and capacity mapping to further identify support that can be provided to communities
- Developing a State Team fortified with greater involvement from implementers
- Updating certification and recertification processes to ensure quality and sustainability
- Reconnecting with trainers, coaches, demonstration sites and implementation communities



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- Seeking further integration of Pyramid training and coaching into Colorado's broader early childhood workforce efforts and facilitating further incentives for Pyramid implementation
- Improving data collection processes to strengthen our ability to use data to inform practice, evidence change and growth, and report results and impact

HCCC has developed some initial interim guidance that we hope will be helpful in reducing the confusion and uncertainty during this exciting transition. During this interim period, we welcome questions, requests for support, and suggestions from communities, programs, trainers, and coaches. We welcome the experience and expertise that so many have developed over years of implementing Pyramid practices in your chosen format. Your questions and suggestions will help us become a stronger network!

PYRAMID PLUS CERTIFICATION & RECERTIFICATION

Certification as a Pyramid Plus trainer or coach is a critical part of ensuring fidelity to the evidence-based practices in the Pyramid model. Colorado has a very rigorous certification process that will be reviewed and refreshed to ensure that it is as accessible and affordable as possible, while still maintaining the necessary level of rigor. We will also revisit the recertification process. Additionally, part of this refresh will involve integrating the content from the national Pyramid modules.

New Certifications

The next opportunity to complete a new certification as a Pyramid trainer or coach in Colorado will likely be offered in late summer or fall of 2021. That certification cohort will be using the national Pyramid Model with associated resources. Additionally, this inaugural HCCC cohort will be asked to provide feedback related to the refreshed process and integrations with the state systems. This will be an exciting opportunity to learn together and evaluate the new certification process. Please [sign up](#) for updates with Healthy Child Care Colorado to be informed of the next cohort.

Recertifications

If your certification has expired or will expire in 2020 or 2021, you will receive notice by email of a one-year extension of your certification. We also anticipate offering recertifications in late summer or fall of 2021. Please sign up for updates with Healthy Child Care Colorado for additional information.

PYRAMID COLORADO TRAINERS

Certified trainers may continue to offer Pyramid Plus Approach (and/or Pyramid module training) in Colorado as our transition from Pyramid Plus Approach to Pyramid modules progresses. The current Pyramid Plus Approach sessions will not be updated or refreshed in the future. You may continue to use the current PPA certificate for training participants. Training certificates will continue to be honored by the state in PDIS. If you have additional questions, please email info@healthychildcareco.org.

When offering a PPA or Pyramid Module training, we ask that you:



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- Create a free account on our website and post any open training (not specific to one program) to the Healthy Child Care Colorado [Training Calendar](#).
- Have training participants complete an electronic training evaluation which is now available. Please contact becky@healthychildcareco.org to receive the electronic link and/or access your training evaluation.

PYRAMID COLORADO COACHES

Coaches need to be reliable in the TPOT and/or TPITOS and understand how this data is used to support Pyramid implementation in classrooms. Coaches frequently assist program leadership teams in completing the Benchmarks of Quality (BoQ) to support program wide implementation practices. An electronic Program Wide BoQ and TPOT is now available.

Please contact becky@healthychildcareco.org to set up a Google folder to store and access your data.

FINDING A PYRAMID TRAINER OR TRAINING

We are currently updating rosters of currently certified trainers and coaches. This list will be available soon and we will update you when it is available. In the meantime, you can continue to access the list at the old [PPC website](#).

You can also look on Healthy Child Care Colorado's [Training Calendar](#) to find scheduled trainings.



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