

How is the Pyramid implemented?

A state Pyramid Leadership Team consisting of partners from across various systems is working together to implement the Pyramid consistently in a variety of settings. Agreements on training requirements for coaches as well as evaluation measures are in place and continuous quality improvement is underway. Expert coaches with extensive training and experience in the Pyramid are contracted with to provide coaching and to support local leadership teams. Programs must commit to two years of Pyramid training and intensive coaching in their program, leadership team development, strong administrative support, development of an implementation plan, and family involvement strategies.

State Pyramid Leadership Team Partners



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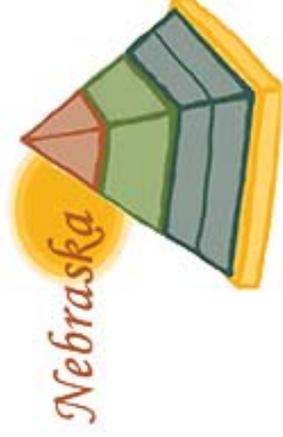
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Nebraska's Early Childhood Pyramid Model:

Supporting Social and Emotional Development for Young Children Birth - Five



Nebraska's Vision:

All early childhood environments support healthy development, well-being, and the capacity to learn for Nebraska's young children



The Pyramid is a framework of evidence-based practices that promote social, emotional and behavioral competence in young children (Fox, Dunlap, Hemmeter, Joseph & Strain, 2003). It is the positive behavior and intervention support model for early childhood (EC-PBIS).

Why are positive social, emotional, and behavioral outcomes a priority?

Research confirms that lack of social skills and persistent challenging behaviors in early childhood directly relate to lifelong difficulties in developing positive social relationships, school and job success, and social adjustment. Key social skills associated with learning in group settings include being able to get along with others, following directions, identifying and regulating emotions and behavior, solving problems, being persistent, engaging in social conversation, and playing cooperatively.

Early childhood teachers, administrators and family members consistently report that their biggest training and support needs are working effectively with children with challenging behaviors and promoting social-emotional development. Eighty percent of teachers report that problem behavior negatively affects their job satisfaction.

What is the Pyramid?

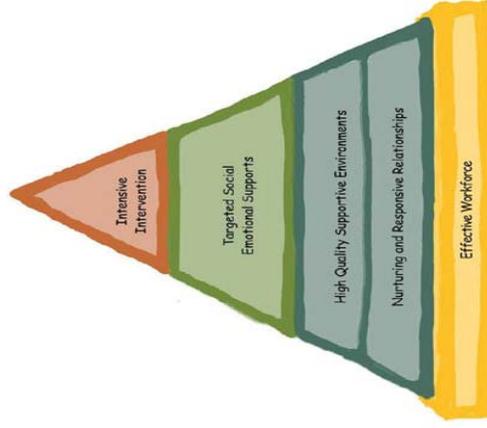
The Pyramid is designed as a promotion, prevention, and intervention framework built on the foundation of a high quality workforce (yellow tier) and three other tiers:

Yellow Tier – An effective EC workforce that promotes positive relationships with children, parents, and all involved.

Blue Tier – An EC environment that nurtures and supports all children.

Green Tier – Targeted strategies that provide social and emotional support as needed for some children.

Red Tier – Intensive, individualized support plans for those few children with serious and persistent challenging behaviors.



Who developed the Pyramid?

The Pyramid framework has been developed in partnership by two national, federally funded research and training centers to disseminate Pyramid research and evidence-based teaching practices to early childhood programs across the country.

- **The Center on Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL)** funded by the federal Office of Head Start and Child Care. csefel.vanderbilt.edu/
- **The Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention for Young Children (TACSEI)** funded by the federal Office of Special Education Programs. www.challengingbehavior.org/
- Both are now consolidated under the Pyramid Model Consortium. www.pyramidmodel.org/

Who is implementing the Pyramid?

The Pyramid framework is designed for all early childhood care and education programs including school district preschool classrooms, center and home-based child care providers.

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and Nebraska Children and Families Foundation (NCFE) are currently supporting implementation of the Pyramid in multiple sites across Nebraska. In 2013-14, NDE launched a two-year implementation cycle in nine school districts and one Head Start agency, with a total of 56 teachers/classrooms and over 1,000 preschoolers participating.

In 2015-16, twelve new school districts will begin the implementation process: Beatrice, Bellevue, Chadron-Crawford consortium, Columbus, Cozad, David City, Lewiston, Omaha Educare, Papillion La Vista, Thayer Central/Bruning Davenport consortium, Westside and York.

NCFE's Rooted in Relationships initiative is launching Pyramid implementation in child care centers and family child care homes through community collaborations in six counties: Dakota, Dawson, Dodge, Hall, Lancaster and Saline.

