**The Child Outcomes Summary Process**

* Provides a consistent way for teams to rate a child’s functioning relative to age-expected behavior at a specific point in time. Use of the decision tree and rating definitions are key for consistent ratings.
* Is *not* an assessment tool and is *not* intended for eligibility decisions – it is a mechanism to synthesize information about a child, including that learned from assessment tools as well as other sources.
* Requires information about the child’s everyday functioning across a variety of settings and from multiple sources. Rating is *not* based on discrete skills only observed occasionally in isolated situations.
* Allows states to identify the appropriate progress category for each child. Progress categories are derived from the child’s COSF rating at program entry, the rating at program exit, and the answer to the question at program exit about whether the child acquired *any* new skills or behaviors since entry.
* Age-appropriate expectations are based on chronological age without correction for prematurity.

**Child Outcomes Summary (COS) Process - Rating Definitions**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Overall Age-Appropriate** | **7** | **Completely** | * Child shows functioning expected for his or her age in all or almost all everyday situationsthat are part of the child’s life. Functioning is considered appropriatefor his or her age.
* No one has any concerns about the child’s functioning in this outcome area.
 |
| **6** | **Between Somewhat & Completely** | * Child’s functioning generally is considered appropriatefor his or her age but there are some significant concernsabout the child’s functioning in this outcome area. These concerns are substantial enough to suggest monitoring or possible additional support.
* Although age-appropriate, the child’s functioning may border on not keeping pace with age expectations.
 |
| **Overall Not Age-Appropriate** | **5** | **Somewhat** | * Child shows functioning expected for his or her age some of the time and/or in some settings and situations. Child’s functioning is a mix of age-appropriate and not age-appropriate behaviors and skills.
* Child’s functioning might be described as like that of a slightly younger child.
 |
| **4** | **Between Nearly & Somewhat** | * Child shows occasional age-appropriate functioning across settings and situations. More functioning is notage-appropriate than age appropriate.
 |
| **3** | **Nearly** | * Child does not yetshow functioning expected of a child of his or her age in any situation.
* Child uses immediate foundational skills,most or all of the time, across settings and situations. Immediate foundational skills are the skills upon which to build age-appropriate functioning.
* Functioning might be described as like that of a younger child.
 |
| **2** | **Between Not Yet & Nearly** | * Child occasionally uses immediate foundational skillsacross settings and situations. More functioning reflects skills that are notimmediate foundational than are immediate foundational.
 |
| **1** | **Not Yet** | * Child does not yetshow functioning expected of a child his or her age in any situation.
* Child’s functioning does not yet include immediate foundational skillsupon which to build age-appropriate functioning.
* Child’s functioning reflects skills that developmentally come before immediate foundational skills.
* Child’s functioning might be described as like that of a much younger child.
 |



*Note.* Adapted by the ECO Center from materials developed by Naomi Younggren (Feb. 2010) Department of Defense for EDIS.

Does anyone have concerns about the child’s functioning with regard to the outcome area?

Does the child ever function in ways that would be considered age-appropriate with regard to this outcome?

Does the child use any immediate foundational skills related to this outcome upon which to build age-appropriate functioning across settings and situations?

Is the child’s functioning age-appropriate across all or almost all settings and situations?

To what extent is the child using immediate foundational skills across settings and situations?

To what extent is the child’s functioning age-appropriate across settings and situations?

No (consider rating 1-3)

Yes (consider rating 4-7)

No

Yes

No

Yes

Rating = Not Yet

Between Not Yet & Nearly

Rating = Nearly

Between Nearly & Somewhat

Rating = Somewhat

Between Somewhat & Completely

Rating = Completely

Occasional use of immediate foundational skills

Uses immediate foundational skills most or all of the time across settings and situations

Occasional use of age-appropriate skills; more behavior that is not age-appropriate

Uses a mix of age-appropriate and not age-appropriate behaviors and skills across settings and situations

No

Yes

Uses skills that are not yet immediate foundational