

Credential AREA: Family Child Care Credential (Levels 4 & 5)
TOPIC: Leadership/Advocacy Domain-Specific Assessment Example
Advocacy Letter

I. Assessment Competency & Standard Alignment

Gateways Competencies Assessed
LA4: Advocates for policies, regulations, and safeguards that support family child care quality improvement, alignment and high-quality programming that is responsive to the development and learning of all children and families served within family child care homes
LA5: Demonstrates professionalism through participation in collaborative decision-making and extends care and compassion to colleagues and families in the community.
LA7: Advocates for quality, excellence, and professionalism within and on behalf of the family child care community

The following assessment measures competencies for the Leadership and Advocacy content area, as indicated below. The assessment addresses competencies at levels 4 and 5.

Advocacy Letter (LA 4, LA 5, LA 7)

Length: As Needed (typically 500-1,000 words)

A letter of advocacy is an argument directed to an individual or organization who has an interest in the subject and has the ability to make change. Typically, an advocacy letter is written in order to change the thinking of the recipient/readers and, thus, to change the direction of a particular policy initiative or plan of action, funding etc.

Technology Option:
- Video/audio record options (ex. disseminating on social media)

For your letter, choose an individual or organization (or a publication, if you opt for a letter to the editor) that can make a difference on your issue (the issue should be related to young children, family child care and community collaboration!). You may advocate broadly for a shift in paradigm or in a more limited fashion for a specific action. Make sure to use a professional and measured voice that displays the dispositions and professionalism of your role as an early childhood advocate. You must

clearly address the letter to the intended recipient, establishing your credibility on the subject before launching into your argument. Answer the following questions for yourself:

1. Why should this person or organization trust you?
2. What authority do you bring to the issue?
3. Have you allowed room for the recipient’s point of view? (which may function as a counter argument depending upon your own view).
4. Make sure to briefly detail the recipient’s position before describing the changes you advocate.

III. Assessment Rubric

FCC Leadership and Advocacy Master Rubric					
Competency	Distinguished	Competent	Developing	Unsatisfactory	Unable to Assess
LA4: Advocates for policies, regulations, and safeguards that support family child care quality improvement, alignment and high-quality programming that is responsive to the development and learning of all young children and families served within family child care homes	Promotes and advocates for policies, regulations, and safeguards that support family child care quality improvement, alignment and high-quality programming that is responsive to the development and learning of all young children and families	Consistently supports and encourages policies, regulations, and safeguards that support high quality programming that is responsive to the development and learning of all young children and families served within family child care homes	Supports policies, regulations, and safeguards that support high quality programming	Through action and/or example, does not support policies, regulations, and safeguards that support high quality programming	

	served within family child care homes				
Competency	Distinguished	Competent	Developing	Unsatisfactory	Unable to Assess
LA5: Demonstrates professionalism through participation in collaborative decision-making and extends care and compassion to colleagues and families in the community	Models and encourages professionalism by participating in collaborative decision-making and extending caring and compassion to colleagues and families in the community	Shows professionalism by participating in collaborative decision-making and extending caring and compassion to colleagues and families in the community	Attempts to show professionalism by extending caring and compassion to colleagues and families in the community	Demonstrates unprofessional behavior by not collaborating and or exhibiting behaviors, opinions or responses that lack caring and compassion	
Competency	Distinguished	Competent	Developing	Unsatisfactory	Unable to Assess
LA7: Advocates for quality, excellence, and professionalism within and on behalf of the family child care community	Promotes others through example and support in defending quality, excellence, and professionalism within and on behalf of the family child care community	Supports and defends quality, excellence, and professionalism within the family child care community	Verbally supports quality and professionalism within the family child care community; however, practice is inconsistent	Does not, through words or practice, promote or support quality and professionalism within the family child care community	

Yellow = Level 2

Green = Level 3

Orange = Level 4

Blue = Level 5

IV. Data Collection & Analysis Tool

Competency & Standards Alignment	Cumulative Assessment Data					
	Competency	Distinguished	Proficient	Needs Improvement	Unsatisfactory	Unable To Assess

<p>LA4: Advocates for policies, regulations, and safeguards that support family child care quality improvement, alignment and high-quality programming that is responsive to the development and learning of all children and families served within family child care homes</p>					
<p>LA5: Demonstrates professionalism through participation in collaborative decision-making and extends care and compassion to colleagues and families in the community.</p>					
<p>LA7: Advocates for quality, excellence, and professionalism within and on behalf of the family child care community</p>					