

**Nebraska’s Early Childhood Education Endowment
(Sixpence)**

Sixpence Quality Indicators Serving Groups of Children	Minimum Criteria for Existing Programs to Apply for a Quality Enhancement Grant	<u>Access Expansion</u> - Minimum Criteria to Apply Quality Enhancement – Must meet by end of Year 3
Staff Qualifications	<u>Lead Teachers/Caregivers</u> - Associate’s Degree or higher in Early Childhood Education, Child Development, Nursing or related field	<u>Lead Teacher/Caregiver</u> – BS/BA in ECE, Child Development (specific to infant/toddler) or related field <u>Assistant/Paraprofessional</u> – A Child Development Associate (CDA) or higher
Staff/Child Ratio	1:4 = Infants 0-18 months of age 1:6 = Toddlers 18-36 months of age	<u>Center-Based</u> 1:3 = Infants 1:4 = Toddlers <u>Family Child Care I</u> 1:3 = Infant-only home 1:4 = Mixed-age home <u>Family Child Care II</u> 1:3 = Infant-only home 1:4 = Mixed-age home
Group Size	Infants = 8 Maximum Toddlers = 12 Maximum	<u>Center-Based</u> Infants = 8 Toddlers = 8 <u>Family Child Care I</u> Infant-only home = 3 Mixed-age home = 4 <u>Family Child Care II</u> Infant-only home = 6 Mixed-age home = 8
Sixpence Quality Indicators Family Engagement Programs	Minimum Criteria for Existing Programs to Apply for a Quality Enhancement Grant	<u>Access Expansion</u> - Minimum Criteria to Apply Quality Enhancement – Must meet by end of Year 3
Staff Qualifications	<u>Family Educator/Home Visitor</u> - Minimum of Associates Degree in Early Education, Nursing, Social Work or related field	<u>Family Educator/Home Visitor</u> - Minimum Bachelor’s in Early Education, Nursing, Social Work or related field
Intensity/Duration of Services	Contact with each enrolled family at least twice per month, either in groups or individual personal visits (must be year round basis)	Contact with each enrolled family at least 3 times/month for a minimum of 180 minutes per month; two visits must be personal with at least 180 minutes per month; duration must last a minimum of 18-24 months; year round services
Caseload	No more than 25 families	No more than 12-20 children depending on program model

1. Quality Enhancement Grant
 - Provides existing programs with funding to enhance the quality of services for children and families already receiving services
2. Access Expansion Grant
 - Provides funding to new or existing programs already meeting the higher level of quality as required by the trustees
 - Programs may increase the number of children served, expand part-time programs to full-day or offer a new service component