

A Pyramid to Retention: A Mentoring Culture for PEI

FAQ

1. What is the Pyramid Model?

The Pyramid Model is an evidence-based framework that uses observation tools, prevention, intervention, and nurturing relationships to provide individualized support to children in their social, emotional development and addressing challenging behaviors.

2. What are the objectives of the Pyramid to Retention project?

- Aim to meet the social and emotional developmental needs of children 0-5 within the Early Learning and Childcare sector in PEI by providing them with high-quality early year's experiences.
- Implement the Pyramid Model within the PEI licenced ELCC system
- To support ECEs by providing mentorship and training in prevention and intervention strategies.
- Provide resources and support to ECEs to improve their skills, confidence, and interest in their work.
- Increase certified ECEs skills and capacity to navigate with challenging behaviors by children to prevent their suspension and contribute to staff retention.

3. Why the Pyramid Model?

The Pyramid Model enhances children's social and emotional development and well being and develops problem solving skills. It creates positive supportive relationships while providing educators the training and support to share resources with families and colleagues.

4. How do you get selected to participate?

The selection process was developed by other organizations and adapted to the climate of PEI. Interested sites must consider the criteria provided in the Expression of Interest before applying for participation.

5. What supports are in place for participating sites?

Each site will be assigned a mentor. They will be provided with all resources, materials, and training required to successfully implement and support the Pyramid Model. Additionally, there will be annual stipends provided to the centre for the duration of the project (until 2025) to help support additional meets, flex time, and roll out.

6. How many Centres will be participating?

Our initial roll out will see the participation of 15 to 20 centres across PEI.

7. When will the Pyramid to Retention rolling out?

ECDA has done much of the groundwork to have a successful project roll out. It is the intention to have the program begin in centres prior to the end of the fiscal year (March 2023), and will run until March 2025, at which time we hope to secure additional funding based on research and direct results.

8. What observation tools are used?

Observation tools like TPOT (Teaching Pyramid Observation Tool) and TPITOS (Teaching Pyramid Infant-Toddlers Observation Scale) help mentors support educators in assessing their environments, practices, and serves in relation to challenging behaviors in the classroom.

9. What are the expectations of participation?

Participating sites will select one educator to establish a collaborative partnership with their mentor to strengthen and build on their skills. Regular meetings will be scheduled between mentor and mentee to develop actions plans to support all children in their environment. Pyramid Model training and resources will be available to participating centres. Centers will establish an internal leadership team that partners with their mentor to support the guidance and implementation of the Pyramid Model in their centre.