



# Guidelines for Using Numerical Scores



The SEAM has 10 benchmarks with corresponding behavioral items to be assessed. Four responses (very true, somewhat true, rarely true, not true) are available, plus options to mark each item as a concern or focus area.

The responses are used to create a complete picture of a child's strengths and needs. In some cases, programs may want to assign numerical scales to the responses.



### Reasons to use numerical scores

- Local, regional, or state programs may require providers to track and report child progress over time.
- Providers may wish to quantify progress to determine program or intervention efforts.



### How to assign numerical values and score the assessment

- Very True—3 points
- Somewhat True—2 points
- Rarely True—1 point
- Never True—0 points

The SEAM Summary Form provides a space for recording and summarizing item scores.

Note: The application of these numerical values has not been empirically studied. No data has been gathered to indicate the validity of using these values to monitor child progress over time.

