What is ACSES? The Assessing Classroom Sociocultural Equity Scale (ACSES) is a measurement tool that assesses classroom interactions with the goal to incorporate the cultural knowledge, experiences, and diverse learning and communication styles of racially diverse children into classroom teachings.

How is ACSES used? ACSES measures equitable sociocultural interactions through a 40-item measure across 6 dimensions: Challenging Status Quo Knowledge, Equitable Learning Opportunities for Racially Marginalized Learners (RMLs), Inequitable Discipline, Connections to Home Life, Personalized Learning Opportunities, and RMLs Participation and Engagement.

The Community of Practice (COP) The goal of the Community of Practice (COP) is to assemble a group of early childhood educators and leaders to build a knowledge base that will enrich conversation on promoting racial and cultural equity throughout the education system. There will be two working groups in the COP. The first is the “Educator Group” which includes teachers and those in direct interaction with children on a daily basis. The second is the “Policy/Administrator Group”, comprised of directors, advocates, data administrators, and policy makers who make decisions about quality improvement, monitoring, and professional development.

Participation in the COP will:

- Build a database of video recorded classroom interactions that can be used to continue to refine the ACSES tool
- Guide discussion about how coaching and professional development programs can be implemented to drive culturally responsive, anti-bias, anti-racist interactions and teaching practices
- Engage in generative and collaborative brainstorming discussions about how administrative data from program(s) can incorporate features of ACSES into quality improvement systems
- Work with a group of program leaders who will be trained to use and code the ACSES measure as well as collect video recordings

For more information on joining CEED’s work with ACSES and the Community of Practice (COP), please contact Kyla McSweeney, Director of Practice at kylabmc@bu.edu

VISION | To plant seeds of racial justice and equity for children in Boston and beyond
MISSION | Conduct applied equity-focused research to inspire policy leaders and practitioners to cultivate health and education opportunities that optimize Black children’s wellbeing and ability to thrive | bu-ceed.org