

Choosing a quality child care provider is one of the most important decisions a family will ever make.

Research shows that children who attend high quality programs do better in school and throughout life. A high quality early learning environment is vital to each child's growth and development. And it also provides stability to families—encouraging parents to be productive employees and helping local economies to grow.

QUALITYstarsNY is New York's five-star quality rating and improvement system, a voluntary child care system for all types of regulated early childhood programs in centers, family home child care and primary schools with PreK programs serving children from birth to age five. To help ensure success, QUALITYstarsNY provides coaching, technical assistance and financial support to improve program leadership, administration and teaching staff as well as the program and classroom environment.

In 2017, QUALITYstarsNY served 600 programs across New York State, representing nearly 34,000 children and their families. A recent evaluation of QUALITYstarsNY showed that, over the course of their participation, 84% of early childhood programs demonstrated improvements in quality across key indicators linked to child outcomes. The number of highly-rated programs and schools rated 4 or 5 stars after participating in QUALITYstarsNY for three years increased by 65%. **Parents can now trust that a 3, 4 or 5 star program will provide them and their children with a higher quality program.**

600

participating early
childhood programs

34,000

NYS children and
families benefited

65%

increase in programs rated
4 or 5 stars after participating

New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute

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About the Institute

The New York Early Childhood Professional Development Institute is a nonprofit catalyst advancing access to excellence in early childhood. It is a public-private partnership within the City University of New York that focuses on improving opportunity for all children from birth through age eight. The Institute builds systems to promote best practices, raise standards and measure effectiveness; it promotes data-driven solutions and accountability; it communicates research results and recommendations to affect lasting change.

About the The New York State Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC)

The New York State Early Childhood Advisory Council (ECAC) is comprised of experts in education, health care, child welfare, family support, and mental health. Members represent state agencies, advocacy groups, foundations, higher education, unions and other key organizations concerned with the wellbeing of young children and their families, as appointed by the Governor. This ensures that a diversity of perspectives and experiences inform our work. The ECAC was formed in 2009 to provide counsel to the Governor on issues related to young children and their families.



Improving the Quality of Early Childhood in New York State

QUALITYstarsNY
a winning beginning for all our children™

QUALITYstarsNY.org

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The Four Key Areas of a Quality Early Childhood Program

QUALITYstarsNY uses four key areas to assess the quality of an early childhood setting. These areas fit together to form a nurturing and exciting place for children to play, learn and grow.

1 Learning Environment

Here children play, learn and grow. In a quality setting, spaces are clean and inviting, and equipment, materials and planned activities stimulate learning. Adults interact with children in nurturing, respectful and responsive ways.

2 Family Engagement

Family engagement is the way staff works with families to support and strengthen household stability and to advance children's development. Family members feel respected, welcomed, and invited to participate in decisions that affect their child.

3 Staff Qualifications and Experience

Programs known for their excellence have teachers with knowledge and experience in child development and early education.

4 Management and Leadership

Strong leadership and management supports the entire early childhood program by setting its vision and establishing policies to ensure the program functions properly. This makes it possible for teachers, providers and families to focus on the children.

How QUALITYstarsNY Works to Ensure Quality Early Childhood Programs

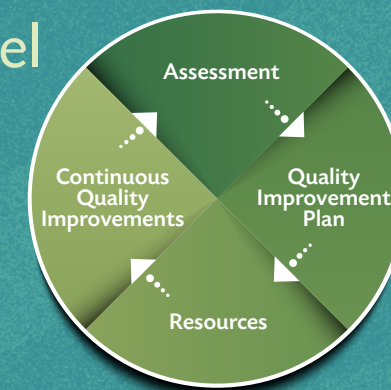
Improving quality leads to better services and opportunities for children in your community. Participating programs have access to a variety of resources:

- Outstanding support services, including individualized coaching and technical assistance
- Scholarships, professional development, and training opportunities to help staff further their educational goals and meet higher standards
- Targeted quality improvement supports, including materials, furnishings and supplies
- Program management and fiscal tools to help the program thrive

QUALITYstarsNY Model



Programs earn a star rating based on their level of quality, with 5 stars being the highest. With ongoing coaching, technical assistance and financial support, programs improve their ratings over time.



“ I would like to thank QUALITYstarsNY for helping me improve my program. The materials we received made a huge difference in the daily learning activities for the children. They also provided me and my staff with a better and more interesting way to teach. ”

—YOHANNY ALEJANDRO
STARS OF WONDER CHILD CARE
SLEEPY HOLLOW, NY

Investing in QUALITYstarsNY

QUALITYstarsNY currently serves less than 5% of early childhood programs in New York State. Additional investments are needed to bring QUALITYstarsNY to more children and families in your community and statewide.

Visit us online for more information

- Resources for choosing a quality early childhood program in your area
- Tools and tips for working with your program to improve quality
- Join our mailing list

QUALITYstarsNY.org

QUALITYstarsNY is great for entire communities.

Children



Children benefit from participating in high quality, nurturing learning environments, rooted in proven research and techniques that maximize cognitive, social and emotional development to improve school readiness.

Parents



Parents benefit from having access to online resources with information about the quality of local early childhood programs to help them make the best choice of care for their child

Employers



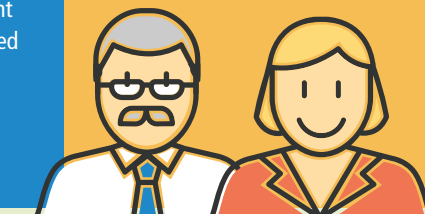
Employers benefit from a workforce that is more productive with less absenteeism and turnover when parents are confident their children are being cared for in a high quality setting.

Teachers & Providers



Teachers, providers, and leaders benefit from valuable professional development and resources, customized to strengthen children's learning outcomes.

Taxpayers, Policymakers & Donors



Taxpayers, policymakers and donors benefit from a set of quality standards that guide improvement and investment, ensure accountability and cost-effectiveness and maximize limited resources.