



The Rating Points System

All QUALITYstarsNY programs are on a path to excellence and earn a Star Rating. With ongoing support and resources, programs at every Star level enhance and sustain their quality over time. A program’s Star Rating in QUALITYstarsNY is determined using a point system. Sites earn points for meeting Standards in each of the four categories: Learning Environment, Family Engagement, Qualifications & Experience, Management & Leadership.

Total Possible Points

All sites can earn up to 290 possible points before receiving points for the ERS assessment.

ERS Assessment-Scores

Programs Provisionally Rating 3-5 Stars will undergo an Environmental Rating Scale (ERS) assessment by QUALITYstarsNY’s independent assessment team and their average score will be used to calculate their Active Rating. These programs can earn up to 50 points based on the ERS observation scores.

Standards Based on Site-specific Conditions

Some Standards relate to best practices when serving specific populations of children, which may apply to some programs that meet the condition. Up to 20 possible additional points may be scored depending on the populations of children served. These conditions include:

- Serving infants
- Serving toddlers/preschoolers
- Serving children with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs)/ or Individualized Family Service Plans (IFSPs)
- Serving children whose home language is not English
 - Serving 50% or more of children whose home language is not English

Score Threshold Requirements

- Programs that do not earn at least 10% of total points in each category will automatically receive a rating of 1 Star.
- Programs that undergo an ERS assessment as part of the rating process and earn an average score of 4.25 or below will automatically decrease a Star level for their Active Rating.

Summary of Point Structure

	Learning Environment	Family Engagement	Qualifications & Experience	Management & Leadership	Total Possible Points
Total possible for all sites (without ERS & site-specific conditions)	53	57	90	90	290
Minimum points required to exceed threshold of 10% of points in category	6	6	9	9	N/A
Total possible for all sites with ERS (no site-specific conditions)	103	57	90	90	340
Total possible under all conditions with ERS	108	72	90	90	360



How QUALITYstarsNY Calculates Star Ratings

0% – 9% points	★
10% – 39% points	★★
40% – 59% points	★★★
60% – 84% points	★★★★
85% – 100% points	★★★★★

Star Ratings are based on the percentage of total points a program earns out of the total possible points they were eligible to earn in the rating process.

Star Rating = (Total points earned ÷ Total possible points) X 100

Provisional Rating Calculation

To calculate a site's Provisional Rating, divide the number of points earned, including any conditional points but without ERS points, by the total possible points (without ERS) and multiply that number by 100. The resulting percentage determines the site's star level.

Active Rating Calculation

For programs Provisionally Rated 1-2 Stars, their Star Rating becomes their Active Rating. Programs Provisionally Rated 3-5 Stars will undergo an independent ERS assessment. To calculate a site's Active Rating, add the number of points earned in the independent ERS observation to points earned in the Provisional Rating, divide that by the total possible points, now including the 50 total possible ERS points, and multiply that number by 100. Programs that earn an average score below a 4.25 on their ERS assessment will automatically drop a Star level.

**Please note that decimal points are not rounded up. Ex: a resulting percentage of 59.56% is 59% (3 Stars).*

Example of Points & Star Rating Calculation

Program A is a preschool program that serves children with special needs. Like all other sites, Program A is eligible for up to 290 points before factoring in the ERS points. Since Program A also serves children with special needs and serves preschoolers, it can earn an additional 4 points (for Standards CPI 7 & PH 2). Therefore, Program A's Provisional Rating is based on the number of points earned out of 294.

Program A receives 168 points from their Standards Inventory submissions before factoring in an independent ERS observations. The 168 points they earned is divided by 294 and multiplied by 100 to obtain 57%. Program A therefore receives a Provisional Rating of 3 Stars.

$$\text{Provisional Rating} = \frac{168}{294} * 100 = 57\% = \text{★★★ Three Stars}$$

Since Program A earned a Provisional Rating of 3 Stars, an ERS assessment will be conducted to calculate their final rating. Program A receives an average ECERS-R score of 5.25 for a total of 40 additional points (Standards CE3-5). The 40 points are added to the initial 168 points for a total of 208 points. Since sites can receive up to 50 additional points for the ERS observations, 50 is added to the 294 original total possible points for a total now of 344. 208 is divided by 344 and multiplied by 100 to obtain 60%. Program A therefore receives an Active Rating of 4 Stars.

$$\text{Active Rating} = \frac{208}{344} * 100 = 60\% = \text{★★★★ Four Stars}$$