

# STARTwithSTARS

A Project of QUALITYstarsNY

## What is Start with Stars?

Start with Stars is a QUALITYstarsNY initiative designed to support early childhood programs that are just starting out as well as those with challenges related to meeting licensing requirements. At no cost to programs, Start with Stars is a short-term, intensive program that aims to rapidly address foundational issues and set programs on a path to providing high quality early learning opportunities before they begin participation in QUALITYstarsNY. Over the course of their participation, programs receive frequent contact from a designated Quality Improvement Specialist (QI Specialist)—an early childhood expert who works closely with program leadership to define improvement goals. In collaboration with their QI Specialist, program leaders identify tailored strategies and resources needed to meet their goals. Upon demonstrating measurable and significant progress, programs transition to QUALITYstarsNY to continue their ongoing quality improvement efforts.

## How can Start with Stars help my program?

Start with Stars participants benefit from a variety of resources, at no charge to programs, to support them through the quality improvement process.

Like QUALITYstarsNY, programs participating in Start with Stars receive:

- One-on-one support from a QI Specialist, an expert in the early childhood field, who partners with programs to develop a Quality Improvement Plan to meet their program's goals;
- Access to materials, resources, and equipment to improve the quality of the learning environment;
- Professional development and trainings for program staff;
- Technical assistance to understand and resolve regulatory issues;
- **...And much more!**

## How do I get started?

- Visit **qualitystarsny.org** to learn more about QUALITYstarsNY and Start with Stars.
- Join The Aspire Registry for New York's Early Childhood Workforce and create an Organization Account for your program. Please note, you must have an Organization Account created to apply and participate in either Start with Stars or QUALITYstarsNY. For more information on how to create your Organization Profile, please visit **nyworksforchildren.org**.
- If you're interested in participating in Start with Stars, fill out program interest form at **qualitystarsny.org/apply** to receive more information about how to access and complete the Start with Stars application. The program interest form will help QUALITYstarsNY determine if you are eligible to participate in Start with Stars.
- Identify program leaders who will be responsible for working with the QI Specialist to carry out quality improvement efforts.

For more information, visit **qualitystarsny.org**. Questions? Contact **support@qualitystarsny.org**.