Help Your Child Reach for the Stars

Join Us.

94,000+ ★ Children are in Star Rated programs.

Finding Star Rated Programs is Easy!
Just look for our Step Up To Quality star logos displayed at participating programs.

Helpful Websites
Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association
Enter your county to connect with your local Child Care Resource & Referral Agency, which can direct you to Step Up To Quality programs in your area.
https://ocrra.org/member-agencies/earlychildhoodohio.org

State Support Teams
Click on “State Support Team Contact Information” to find out more about your local Step Up To Quality programs.
education.ohio.gov/Topics/School-Improvement/State-Support-Teams

Welcome to Step Up To Quality
Step Up To Quality is Ohio’s Star Rating system for licensed early learning and development programs. Step Up To Quality makes it easy to find a great program for your child.

Why Should You Choose a Star Rated Program?
• Development of school readiness skills
• Commitment to continuous improvement
• Focus on family engagement
• Highly trained teachers

Ohio Department of Education
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

Mike DeWine, Governor
State of Ohio
Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction
Ohio Department of Education
Kimberly Henderson, Director
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

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Choose Your Program by Star Rating

Step Up To Quality was created to help families identify early learning and development programs that go beyond the minimum standards of licensing. Star Rated programs demonstrate higher levels of quality in a variety of ways.

What Kinds of Programs Are Star Rated?
Most early learning and development programs can be Star Rated including:

- Family child care
- Full day, part day, part year
- Head Start
- Montessori
- Parent co-ops
- Preschool
- Preschool Special Education
- Public school preschool
- Reggio
- Faith-based centers

How Will Step Up To Quality Help My Child?

- According to the 2016 SUTQ Validation Study, children who regularly attend Start Rated programs score higher on Ohio’s Kindergarten Readiness Assessment.
- Step Up To Quality rated programs plan learning activities that meet your child’s individual needs using the Ohio Early Learning and Development Standards.
- Teachers in Step Up To Quality rated programs focus on building relationships with families and communities which support your child’s progress and well being.

How to Find a Star Rated Program Near You
Visit: childcaresearch.ohio.gov

How Does Your Child Spend the Day?
There are 1,892 days from birth until school starts. Step Up To Quality programs know every day matters.

Research Shows That Quality Matters
Research confirms that when a program takes steps to increase quality, the children they teach are better prepared for the future. Children display more confidence, a curiosity about the world around them and are eager to learn. These are important skills for success in school and in life.