

## Finding Star Rated Programs is Easy!

Just look for our Step Up To Quality star logos displayed at participating programs.



## 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

## 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://occrra.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](https://education.ohio.gov/Topics/School-Improvement/State-Support-Teams)



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 Hall, **Director**  
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services

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



## Help Your Child Reach for the Stars



Ohio's Tiered Quality Rating & Improvement System

# Choose Your Program by Star Rating

Step UpTo 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 UpTo Quality Help My Child?

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

How I feel is important and my teacher knows that.



I learn in lots of different ways and my teacher encourages me to use all of them.



There's so much to know and my teacher gives me lots of chances to discover my world.



I learn new words every day. My teacher talks with me, asks me questions, reads to me and helps me write down my ideas.



My body is growing fast and my teacher knows I need to move to be healthy and strong.



## How Does Your Child Spend the Day?

There are 1,892 days from birth until school starts. Step UpTo 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.



How to Find a Star Rated Program Near You Visit: [childcaresearch.ohio.gov](http://childcaresearch.ohio.gov)