

Is your child's center...

Racing for the STARS


Kentucky
UNBRIDLED SPIRIT™

What is STARS for KIDS NOW?

Kentucky's voluntary
quality rating
system for Licensed
Type I, Type II and
Certified Family
Child Care Homes



What is STARS for KIDS NOW?



Part of Kentucky's Early
Childhood Initiative



Kentucky Invests in **D**eveloping **S**uccess

Must all programs be STARS rated?



It is a voluntary program, but there are regulatory requirements.

Licensed TYPE I Facilities

www.lrc.state.ky.us/kar/922/002/170.htm

Licensed TYPE II and Certified Homes

www.lrc.state.ky.us/kar/922/002/210.htm

What makes a rating?

To earn a STARS rating, a program must meet the **STARS Standards** for the STARS Level **and** attain the **ERS Score** required for that level

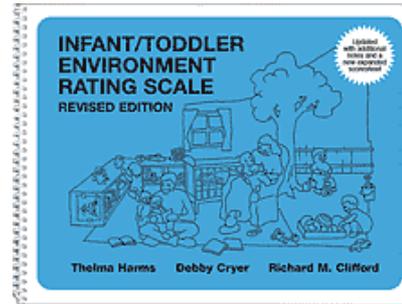
Standards + ERS = STARS Rating



ERS ~ Environment Rating Scales

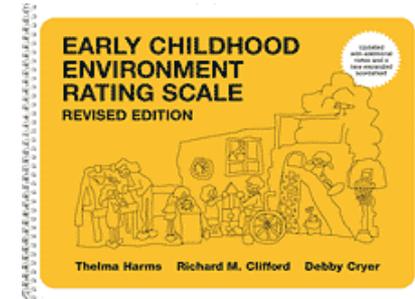
ITERS-R

Infant/Toddler Environment
Rating Scale



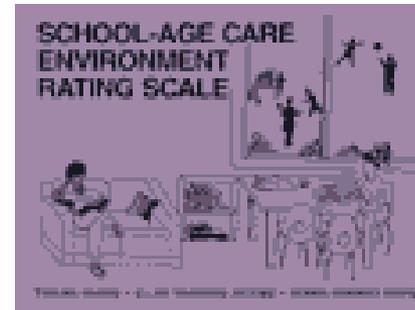
ECERS-R

Early Childhood Environment
Rating Scale



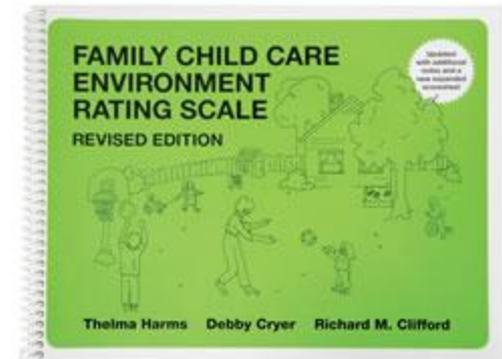
SACERS

School-Age Care Environment
Rating Scale



FCCERS-R

Family Child Care Environment
Rating Scale



What indicates quality?

Indicators of quality include

- Child to Caregiver Ratios
- Program Curriculum
- Child Care Staff Training
- Program Regulatory Compliance
- Personnel Policies

STARS for KIDS NOW Standards Requirements are based on these indicators.

What difference does quality make?

- Better parent-child relationships
- Greater thinking skills
- Better attention skills
- Enhanced academic performance
- Better relationships with peers



How does a STARS rating indicate quality?



STARS Standards...for ALL STARS levels

- Parents can participate in family involvement activities
- Child care program owner/director has completed an evaluation of the program using a nationally standardized tool, the ERS (by Harms, Cryer and Clifford)
- Center/Program develops annual improvement plan based on previous ERS score/rating
- Child care staff are offered the opportunity to participate in Kentucky Early Childhood Development Scholarship to further education



Child to Caregiver Ratios

Type I Licensed Facilities

- **Level 1 and 2** ... Current Licensing standards

- **Level 3**

Age	Ratio	Group Size
0 - 1	1:4	8
1 - 2	1:5	10
2 - 3	1:8	16
3 - 4	1:11	22
4 - 6	1:12	24
6 - 12	1:14	28

- **Level 4**

Staff/Child ratios consistent with National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) recommendations (*ratios vary according to group size*)

Child to Caregiver Ratios

Type II Licensed Facilities

- Level 1 and 2

Current Licensing standards; 12 maximum number of children in care

- Level 3 and 4

Age	Ratio
0 - 1	1:4
1 - 2	1:5
2 - 3	1:8
3 and older	1:12

Child to Caregiver Ratios

Certified Home

Level's 1 and 2

Current Certification Standards

Level 3

If caring for **six** or fewer children, no more than **three** infants unless an assistant is present.

If caring for more than **six** children, no more than **three** under the age of **24 months** unless an assistant is present. *(Includes own and related children.)*

Level 4

Level 3 restrictions, and maximum capacity of **nine**. *(May care for up to 3 own or related children in addition to 6 unrelated children.)*

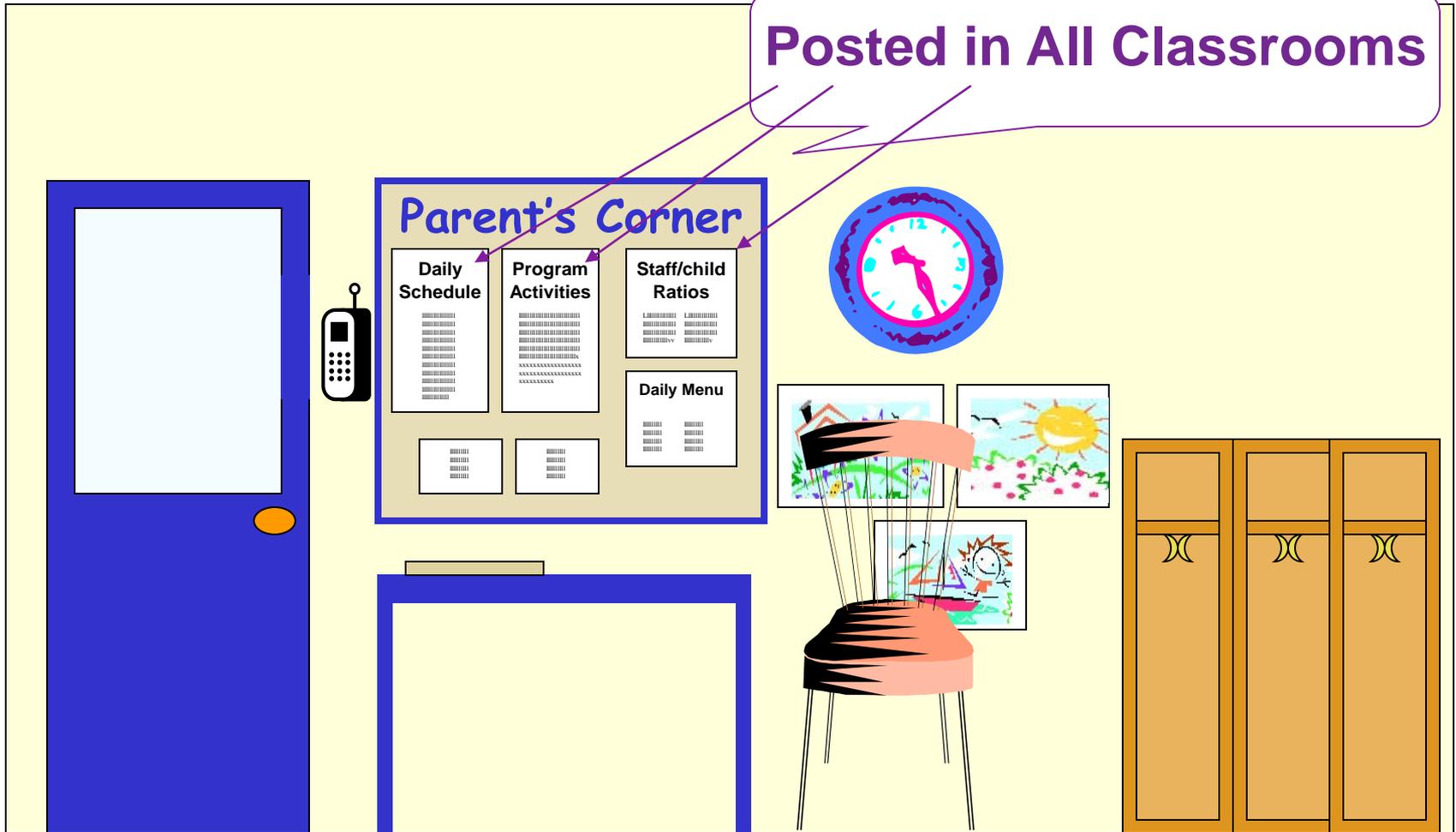
What do I look for?



Posted in EACH classroom...

Staff/Child Ratios, Program Activities (Lesson Plan) and Daily Schedule

Posted in All Classrooms



Ask to take a tour of the facility...

- **Be sure to ask yourself...**
 - Do the children seem happy and involved?
 - Is the caregiver warm, friendly, calm and patient with them?
 - Can children make choices and do things for themselves?
 - Are the toys right for your child's age? Are they easy for the children to reach?
 - Does the caregiver listen to the children when they talk?
 - Is the facility or home clean, well-lit, cheerful and bright?



Look closely and trust yourself!

What do I ask?



Sample Questions...

- Is the caregiver trained and experienced?
- What special training or credentials does the caregiver have?
- How does the program encourage further training for its child care providers?
- Can I visit my child's class at anytime?
- Do you welcome parent involvement? If so, how do you do so?
- What is your discipline policy and do you have that in written form?



Additional sample questions...



- Is there a balance of planned activities?
- How long has the caregiver been at the center?
- Will my child stay with the same caregiver at least one year?
- Is your program accredited? If so, by whom?
- Is your program STARS rated? If so, at what level?

We have the same goal...



We want Kentucky's children to experience the best quality child care possible.

Every day in a child's life makes a difference, so choose child care carefully.

Look for the STARS!



Thank you.

**Contact us at: 1 (800) 421-1903 or visit the
STARS website at:
www.starsforkidsnow.com**