



Looking for quality child care?

LOOK FOR THE STARS!



What is STARS for KIDS NOW?

STARS for KIDS NOW is Kentucky's voluntary quality rating system for Licensed Type I, Type II and Certified Family Child Care Homes. Ratings are from one to four STARS. A center's participation in STARS for KIDS NOW indicates that the program's staff wish to measure quality indicators above those standards required by licensing regulations.

STARS for KIDS Now is part of Kentucky's Early Childhood Initiative, KIDS NOW.

For more information about STARS for KIDS NOW:

Contact the Division of Child Care
Department for Community Based Services
275 E. Main St., Frankfort, KY 40621
Telephone: (502) 564-2524
e-mail: STARS@ky.gov

What does a STARS for KIDS NOW rating mean for your child?

STAR-rated centers and family child care homes are showing their commitment to quality by entering the STARS for KIDS NOW program.

- STARS for KIDS NOW standards and requirements are based on the quality indicators: child-to-caregiver ratios, program curriculum, child care staff training, program regulatory compliance and personnel policies.
- Parents can participate in family involvement activities.
- All STAR levels have measurable quality indicators above the state licensing minimums.
- Child care program owner/director has completed an evaluation of the program using a nationally standardized tool, the Environmental Rating Scale (ERS). (by Harms, Cryer and Clifford)
- Center/program develops annual improvement plan based on previous ERS score.
- Child care staff is offered opportunity to participate in Kentucky's Early Childhood Development Scholarship to further their education.

What difference does quality make?

- Better parent-child relationships
- Greater thinking skills
- Better attention skills
- Enhanced academic performance
- Better relationship with peers
- Greater chance for finishing school and attending college