

Reach for the Stars!



Congratulations...

A Step Up To Quality program prepares children to be successful in school and in life.

Early experiences do last a lifetime, which is why you should be proud your child is enrolled in one of Ohio's best early care and education programs.

Step Up To Quality is a voluntary, three-star quality rating system created by the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services Bureau of Child Care and Development to improve the quality of early care and education programs in Ohio.

Ohio | Department of
Job and Family Services

John R. Kasich, **Governor**
State of Ohio

Michael B. Colbert, **Director**
Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
Equal Opportunity Employer and Service Provider

stepuptoquality.org

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Early Experiences Last a Lifetime



What is Step Up To Quality?

Step Up To Quality is a voluntary, quality rating system for early care and education programs. Programs can earn a 1-, 2-, or 3-Star Rating by meeting the quality benchmarks for the State of Ohio.

Step Up To Quality means:

- Fewer children per classroom
- Better trained teachers
- A more comprehensive early education experience for your child
- A focus on continuous improvement



One-Star Centers

- Have these teacher/child ratios
 - **Infants** 0-12 months – 1:5 or 2:10; 12-18 months – 1:6
 - **Toddlers** 18-36 months – 1:7; 30-36 months – 1:8
 - **Preschoolers** 36-48 months – 1:12; 48-60 months – 1:14
 - **School-Agers** 5-15 years – 1:18
- Teachers and the administrator receive **20** hours of specialized training every two years. This shows a commitment to expanding their knowledge and skills in order to support your child’s development and learning.
- Teachers are familiar with the Infant and Toddler Guidelines and Ohio’s Early Learning Content Standards. This supports your child’s development and learning.
- The program provides at least one employee benefit to staff members. This means employees are valued, which in turn reduces staff turnover and provides continuity of care for your child.

ONE-STAR



Two-Star Centers

- Have these teacher/child ratios
 - **Infants** 0-12 months – 1:5; 12-18 months – 1:6
 - **Toddlers** 18-36 months – 1:7
 - **Preschoolers** 36-48 months – 1:10; 48-60 months – 1:12
 - **School-Agers** 5-15 years – 1:16
- **Half** of the lead teachers have an AA Degree in Early Childhood Education or Career Pathways Level 3.
- Teachers and the administrator receive **20** hours of specialized training every two years. This shows a commitment to expanding their knowledge and skills. In order to support your child’s development and learning, teachers utilize these skills in their curriculum planning.
- The program provides at least two employee benefits to staff members. This means employees are valued and treated as professionals, which in turn reduces staff turnover and provides continuity of care for your child.

TWO-STAR



Three-Star Centers

- Have these teacher/child ratios
 - **Infants** 0-12 months – 1:4 or 2:8 or 3:10; 12-18 months – 1:5
 - **Toddlers** 18-36 months – 1:6
 - **Preschoolers** 36-48 months – 1:10; 48-60 months – 1:10
 - **School-Agers** 5-15 years – 1:15
- Staff/child ratios in all classrooms meet national high-quality early care and education standards.
- **All** lead teachers have an AA degree in early childhood education or Career Pathways Level 3.
- Teachers and the administrator receive **20** hours of specialized training every two years, above licensing requirements. Specialized training on Infant and Toddler Guidelines and Ohio’s Early Learning Content Standards gives teachers the ability to assess children’s progress and prepare them for kindergarten.
- The program provides at least three employee benefits to staff members. This means employees are valued and treated as professionals, which in turn reduces staff turnover and provides continuity of care for your child.

THREE-STAR

