

Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)

Ready to join SUTQ? Join your colleagues in becoming rated! As of October, 74% of centers and 82% of family child care programs with agreements were rated.

To help spread the word to families in the Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) program about the many advantages of SUTQ-rated child care, the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services will launch a social media campaign in January. Sponsored ads and posts on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn will explain SUTQ and encourage families to ask whether their child care providers are rated or intend to become rated.

As a reminder, Ohio law requires all providers that receive state funding to participate in SUTQ by July 1, 2020. To avoid a gap in your program's ability to serve children in PFCC, you should submit your SUTQ registration no later than March 1, 2020. If you need help with this process, please contact your local child care resource and referral agency. To find contact information for your area's agency, visit occrra.org/member-agencies.

To make it easier to access resources that can help programs become rated, Ohio will offer a text message update option through OCLQS. If you sign up for this feature, you will instantly be notified about upcoming trainings, new resources and policy updates.

Ohio offers many free resources to help providers become rated. For more information, see page 2 of this newsletter and visit boldbeginning.org. Also be sure to follow @OhioJFS on social media and look for the hashtags #BoldBeginning, #StepUpToQuality and #SUTQ.

Professional Development Resources

The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services is committed to helping Ohio's Publicly Funded Child Care providers achieve their professional development goals and reach their potential.

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood[®] OHIO

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood[®] OHIO offers scholarships for early childhood professionals who want to earn a Child Development Associate (CDA) credential or associate's degree in early childhood education or child development. Assistance is available to help cover the cost of tuition, books and related expenses.

POWER Ohio

POWER Ohio offers cash incentives for early childhood professionals who successfully complete higher education courses and degrees and for staying employed with their current early childhood programs. You can earn \$300 or more for each class you pass on your way to earning a CDA credential or an associate's degree and when you graduate.

For more information about the programs above, please visit: occrra.org/our-resources-page.

FREE Resources to Help Your Program Become Star-Rated!

Achieving star ratings is good for the children you care for—and good for your business, too! It's also easier than you think. Check out these FREE resources:

- Free curriculums that allow you to meet 1- and 2-star standards and help you achieve a 3-, 4- and 5-star rating.
- Free trainings in a variety of topics, including health and safety standards and child care best practices. Many provide Ohio Approved Hours. Visit registry.occrra.org/cart/training_list to learn more.
- Scholarships for child care providers interested in earning associate's degrees or a child development associate credential. Visit occrra.org/our-resources-page.

- Free technical assistance from state staff, county staff and your local child care resource and referral agency:
 - jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/providers.stm
 - occrra.org/member-agencies

Need online or in-person training for the Creative Curriculum or Teaching Strategies Gold curriculum?

Visit the Ohio Professional Registry at registry.occrra.org/cart/training_list. Programs with curriculums issued through ODJFS also can take advantage of in-person trainings offered by Teaching Strategies: teachingstrategies.com/solutions/develop



Ready to start the process to become rated?

Visit boldbeginning.org for Step Up to Quality resources or contact your child care licensing specialist today!