

## Step Up To Quality

### What's your plan?

All Ohio child care programs serving families receiving Publicly Funded Child Care must participate in Step Up To Quality by July 1, 2020. More than 3,000 programs in Ohio are already star-rated!

The Ohio Child Care Resource & Referral Association (OCCRRA) and your local child care resource and referral agency can help! The statewide network of technical assistance specialists can provide information about:

- Step Up To Quality
- Developmentally appropriate practices
- Optimal learning environments
- Program and child assessments, screenings and curriculums

OCCRRA works with the specialists to offer Ohio Approved Training to improve the quality and professionalism of early childhood education and out-of-school-time programs in Ohio.

In partnership with OCCRRA and the local child care resource and referral agencies, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) is hosting a series of regional "A Road Map to Quality" fairs across the state. Attend the fair near you to learn how to prepare for, register for and maintain a star rating:

- Sept. 7 – Child Care Center Fair in Cincinnati
- Sept. 21 – Family Child Care Fair in Toledo
- Oct. 19 – Child Care Center Fair in Zaleski, near Athens
- Nov. 2 – Family Child Care Fair in Cincinnati

To register, visit [registry.org/cart/training\\_list](https://registry.org/cart/training_list).

### Need online or in-person curriculum training for TS Gold?

Visit the Ohio Professional Registry at [registry.occrra.org/cart/training\\_list](https://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](https://teachingstrategies.com/solutions/develop)

## 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<sup>®</sup> OHIO

T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood<sup>®</sup> 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](https://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](https://registry.occrra.org/cart/training_list) to learn more.
- Scholarships for child care providers interested in earning associate's degrees or a CDA credential. Visit [occrra.org/our-resources-page](https://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](https://jfs.ohio.gov/cdc/providers.stm)
  - [occrra.org/member-agencies](https://occrra.org/member-agencies)



**Ready to start the process to become rated?**

Visit [boldbeginning.org](https://boldbeginning.org) for Step Up to Quality Resources or contact your child care licensing specialist today!