

The Parent Aware Ratings and Child Care Licensing, How Do They Work Together?

Child care licensing is primarily focused on health and safety and Parent Aware builds on that essential foundation. Parent Aware does not duplicate licensing requirements, instead it builds on licensing by highlighting and supporting provider use of best practices that are proven to assist children in school readiness, such as use of developmental assessment and curriculum and working with and supporting families.

Licensing Requirements:

- Follow rules designed to provide for the basic health and safety of children in Licensed Family Child Care (LFCC) or Child Care Centers (CCC).
 - Training requirements for licensing:
 - LFCC- 16 hours annual
 - CCC- 2% of hours worked annually = 40 hours for full time staff

Parent Aware Quality Indicators and Available Provider Supports

Getting Started

All LFCC providers and CCC programs must meet the following basic requirements before voluntarily seeking a Parent Aware Rating.

- License in good standing
- Serving children
- Registered in professional development system

Available supports before first rating: When a provider opts-in to participate in Parent Aware they can immediately access supports to assist them as they seek their first rating. These supports include: quality coaching, professional development advising, access to no- or low-cost training, \$1,000 grants to support quality improvements.

One-Star Quality Indicators

- Establish one daily routine for each age group and complete one child observation annually
- Gather information about child and family when they enroll
- Adopt Code of Ethics
- 10 hours of training in school readiness related content areas over the past 5 years (these hours can also be used toward licensing compliance)

Available supports One-Star level: quality coaching, professional development advising, no- or low-cost training, up to \$2,500 grants to support improvements, marketing supports, ability to accept early learning Scholarships.

Two-Star Quality Indicators

- All One-Star indicators
- Develop one lesson plan for each age group (can be daily, weekly, or monthly)
- Complete an Environmental Self-Assessment
- Complete a Professional Development Plan
- Provide families with information about transition to Kindergarten
- 18 hours of training in school readiness related content areas over the past 5 years (these hours can also be used toward licensing compliance)

Available supports Two-Star level: quality coaching, professional development advising, no- or low-cost training, up to \$2,500 grants to support improvements, marketing supports, ability to accept early learning Scholarships.

Three-Star Quality Indicators

- All One- and Two-Star indicators
- Use 1 of 65 Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPS) curricula
- Use 1 of 46 ECIPS developmental assessment tools
- Use approved assessment on at least one child in each age group annually
- Demonstrate additional school readiness best practices chosen by the provider
- Centers only: Meet 3-Star minimum score in observation of adult-child interactions (CLASS tool)
- 50 hours of training in school readiness related content areas over the past 5 years (these hours can also be used toward licensing compliance)

Available supports Three-Star level: quality coaching, professional development advising, no- or low-cost training, up to \$2,500 grants to support improvements, marketing supports, ability to accept early learning Scholarships, 15% higher CCAP reimbursement rate.

Four-Star Quality Indicators

- All One-, Two- and Three-Star indicators
- Use assessment tool on at least one child from each age group twice a year
- Demonstrate additional school readiness best practices chosen by the provider
- Centers only: Meet 3-Star minimum score in observation of adult-child interactions (CLASS tool)
- 50 hours of training in school readiness related content areas in the past 5 years (these hours can also be used toward licensing compliance)

Available supports Four-Star level: quality coaching, professional development advising, no- or low-cost training, marketing supports, ability to accept early learning Scholarships, 20% higher CCAP reimbursement rate.