



Increasing Quality for Ohio's Publicly Funded Child Care

Ohio's 5-Star Quality Rating & Improvement System

Step Up to Quality (SUTQ) recognizes early care and child care programs that exceed minimum health and safety standards and promotes children's learning and development. Step Up To Quality helps parents choose services that provide both an educational and developmental experience for their son or daughter, while at the same time giving providers enhanced funding for offering high-quality care.

ALL THIS FOR ONE GOAL:

Improving outcomes for Ohio's youngest learners.



An independent study was conducted to begin measuring impact.
Key takeaways are:

Higher Quality & Better Outcomes

There is a strong correlation between children scoring higher on Ohio's Kindergarten Readiness Assessment and attendance at a 3-5 Star Rated program.

Higher Ratings Mean Better Quality

Programs that are Star Rated showed higher quality classroom practices compared to programs that are not Star Rated.

Higher Attendance Matters

Students who attended publicly funded child care programs over a longer period of time scored higher on average on the Kindergarten Readiness Assessment.

THE BOTTOM LINE:

The initial review of Step Up to Quality indicates it is moving students in the right direction. It's providing low-income families with something more than just a work support—it's transforming outcomes for young children that will last throughout the K-12 system and beyond.



Ohio is Committed to Delivering on the Promise of Quality...

In 2005, Ohio established the Step Up to Quality Program (SUTQ) with the goal of increasing access to high-quality programs as part of Ohio's Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge Grant.

In SUTQ, early care and education programs earn 1- to 5-Star ratings based on meeting nationally researched quality program standards administered by ODJFS.

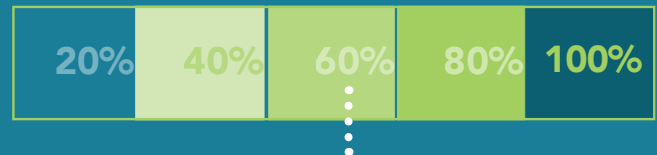
As part of the Grant, the state set statutory goals that mandated 100% of licensed child care providers be high-quality rated (3 to 5 stars) by 2025.

As of February 2019,
34% of all children in
publicly funded child care are
in a **3-5 star** rated program.

To ensure adequate progress towards these benchmarks, all programs are required to be rated by 2020.

...And we need to lean
into the great progress
we've made thus far.

As of Feb. 2019, we are well on our way
to reaching the 2020 goal of all publicly
funded child care providers participating
in Step Up to Quality.



As of February 2019,
57% OF KIDS
were in at least a
1-star rated program.

Ohio has made significant progress in
getting child care providers into the quality
system, especially over the past year,
where rates of entrance into the system
have increased significantly.



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172 E. State Street, Suite 400 • Columbus, Ohio 43215
Groundwork Ohio is a fiscally-sponsored project of Community Initiatives



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