

How to find a Keystone STARS program

Thousands of early learning programs across Pennsylvania are participating in Keystone STARS, such as:

- Child care centers
- Child care group homes
- Family child care homes
- Head Start programs

To find a Keystone STARS program near you:

- Visit www.papromiseforchildren.com and click on the Keystone STARS logo;
- Call 1-877-4-PA-KIDS (1-877-472-5437); or
- Contact your local Child Care Information Services (CCIS) agency.

Keystone STARS is made possible by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare

At a Keystone STARS program, you should find:

- ☆ Department of Public Welfare Certificate of Compliance for child care centers or Certificate of Registration for family child care homes.
- ☆ A comfortable place where your child can explore and learn
- ☆ Laughing, reading, and talking which builds language skills
- ☆ Teachers who continue to learn new ways to help your child thrive
- ☆ A safe, healthy, and exciting place
- ☆ Music, art, science and play activities that increase school readiness
- ☆ Your child feeling good about himself or herself
- ☆ Families involved in the program and their child's development
- ☆ Teachers that listen to children and parents
- ☆ Children having fun together and being respectful of each other

How do you know if your early learning program is best for your child?



Reach for the STARS!



Pennsylvania's Promise for Children
Because every child is Pennsylvania's future.
www.papromiseforchildren.com

Where your child spends his day can affect his learning for life!

Quality early learning is so important to your child's development and lifelong learning.

About 90% of our brains develop before we reach kindergarten. What children experience before age five can affect the way their brains develop!

An early learning program (such as child care and Head Start) is more than just a place for your child to stay while you are at work; it is a place where your child begins learning the skills he will need to succeed in school and in life.

Children who attend quality early learning programs

- ☆ come to kindergarten ready to learn;
- ☆ do better in school; and
- ☆ are more likely to graduate high school, attend college, and get good jobs.

Help your child reach his/her promise through quality early education!

Choose quality early learning for your child through Keystone STARS!

Quality early learning programs (such as child care and Head Start) can make a big difference in your child's learning for life. Keystone STARS can help you make the best early learning choices for your family.

Keystone STARS promotes quality

Programs that participate in Keystone STARS care about providing quality early learning to your child. As programs move up the STARS ladder, they are providing even higher quality experiences, so your child benefits even more from the program.

Counting the STARS

Early learning programs can earn from a STAR 1 to a STAR 4 level. At each level, programs have to meet certain quality standards. The higher the STAR level, the higher the quality standards.

STAR levels are based on quality standards in four key areas:

- **Staff education:** early childhood teachers have the training and knowledge for working with young children
- **Learning environment:** the program has a variety of materials and activities for each age level that makes it possible for children to learn something new every day!
- **Leadership and management:** a quality program has to have sound business practices to ensure your child's safety and early learning
- **Family and community partnerships:** Parents and community members are encouraged to become a part of the child's learning progress

When looking for an early learning program for your child, ask if they participate in Keystone STARS.

For more information, visit www.papromiseforchildren.com or call 1-877-4-PA-KIDS (1-877-472-5437).



Reaching higher for quality early learning

