

## Get a clear path to improvement.



5 Star Program

Meets highest levels of quality standards.



4 Star Program

Meets elevated levels of quality standards.



3 Star Program

Meets proficient levels of quality standards.



2 Star Program

Meets health and safety standards.



1 Star Program

Program does not meet health and safety standards.

**Who can earn a YoungStar rating?** All Wisconsin child care providers who serve children from birth through their school years can participate, as long as they're in good standing with state regulations. (Programs that have had their license or certification revoked, denied or suspended are rated 1 Star.) In fact, providers who receive a Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy must participate. When you do, you'll gain access to high-quality training opportunities as well as technical assistance from a YoungStar consultant.



YoungStar's training and professional development services and transparent rating system can help you improve your child care program and give kids a great start.



Wisconsin's Child Care Quality Rating & Improvement System

# Make your program shine.



### Using YoungStar is easy:

Check out [youngstar.wi.gov](https://www.youngstar.wi.gov) to compare providers, find resources or locate a YoungStar office.

YoungStar's Child Care Finder allows you to search for and find child care programs in your area that meet your family's needs.

Visit [childcare.wisconsin.gov](https://www.childcare.wisconsin.gov).



Wisconsin Department of Children and Families

The Department of Children and Families is an equal opportunity employer and service provider. If you have a disability and need to access services, receive information in an alternate format, or need information translated to another language, please call the Division of Early Care and Education at 608-422-6002. Individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, deaf-blind or speech disabled can use the free Wisconsin Relay Service (WRS) – 711 to contact the department.

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# To keep growing, YoungStar.

The education and nurturing you provide make a big difference in the lives of so many kids and their families. High-quality child care—providing a safe, healthy place for children to learn and grow guided by dedicated professionals—can set the stage for life-long success. It isn't easy. But YoungStar is here to help.

YoungStar is designed to help providers improve and succeed. Our quality-based evaluation process helps programs like yours recognize their strengths and identify areas for improvement. While YoungStar training programs, tips and resources give providers the tools to achieve real progress.



## See your excellence recognized.

YoungStar's rating system gives providers a simple, objective measure of their program's quality. Thousands of Wisconsin child care providers are evaluated each year, in every corner of the state. Each one receives a quality rating—from 1 Star (the lowest) to 5 Stars (the highest)—based on the quality standards they meet across four key categories:

The Provider's Education & Training

The Learning Environment & Curriculum

The Program's Professional & Business Practices

The Children's Health & Well-being

## Earn ratings easily.

YoungStar ratings are renewed every other year, so you can earn more stars as the quality of care you provide improves.

Most ratings are awarded after an on-site review with YoungStar staff. But you may opt for an automatically generated rating based on standards you've already met. These include minimum state-mandated health and safety requirements, accreditations or performance standards, like those required of Head Start program participants.

## Reach for the stars.

You don't have to do it on your own. At [youngstar.wi.gov](http://youngstar.wi.gov), providers can find training opportunities, read provider success stories, and access resources to help them achieve their goals. Gaining accreditation is another way to earn a higher star level. **Here are some other tips to help you get the highest possible rating**—and give Wisconsin's children the best possible start:

### Review Your Registry Program Profile

Remember to maintain your Registry Program Profile. Enter your staff's latest education and training information, assign a Lead Teacher to each classroom, and keep this information updated.

### Create a Quality Improvement Plan

Assess your program's strengths and identify areas for improvement. YoungStar staff can help you set goals and timelines, assign responsibilities, and decide how to measure your progress.

### Build Your Skills

YoungStar offers a number of free and low-cost opportunities for professional development. Visit [youngstar.wi.gov](http://youngstar.wi.gov) to find planning tools, consultation support, training programs in your area and information on scholarships for credit-based education through T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood® Wisconsin.

