



The Tennessee Report Card and Star-Quality Child Care Program

SAMI/CCPRC Meeting

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Tennessee Child Care Evaluation System

- Began late 2001
- The purpose of the evaluation is to:
 - 1) Give parents and agencies more info about the quality of care
 - 2) Improve the quality of child care





Tennessee Child Care Evaluation System

- The Report Card Program is **mandatory** for all DHS-licensed child care agencies.
- The Star-Quality Program, which is limited to higher quality agencies, is **voluntary**.
- Child care agencies are evaluated annually.
- The evaluation includes an assessment using the appropriate **Environment Rating Scale (ERS)**.





Evaluating Child Care Quality

The measurement of **process quality + structural quality**
= a complete child care evaluation

Structural Quality:

- Information about the structural aspects of a program
- Collected by TDHS licensing staff

Process Quality:

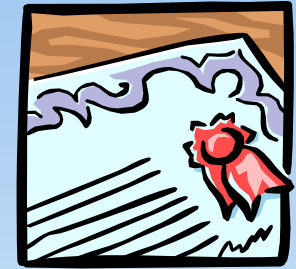
- Assessment of the environment or what the children experience everyday
- Collected by TDHS assessment staff with ERS



Evaluation & Report Card Program



Agencies receive results of their evaluation and assessments with their new licenses and a report card.



This report card has check marks next to the criteria the facility achieved rather than scores or ratings.

The report card is posted along with the agency's license to give parents and others more information about the agency.

criterion




criterion



criterion





Star-Quality Child Care Program



The Star-Quality report card includes **component ratings** as well as an **overall rating**. Agencies can earn up to 3 stars in **each** component and up to 3 stars for an **overall** rating.





Star-Quality Child Care Program

What do Star-Quality Program
participants get?

Bonus payments
for any certificate
children in their
care: 1Star - 5%
Bonus

2 Star - 15% Bonus

3 Star - 20% Bonus



A **second**, more
detailed **report card**,
and **up to 3 stars** to
apply to their licenses

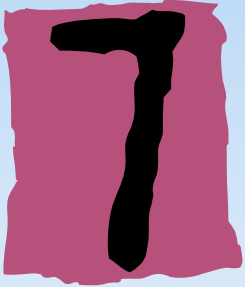




Report Card Component Scores

Centers are evaluated on seven areas:

- 1) Director qualifications
- 2) Professional development
- 3) Compliance history
- 4) Parent/family involvement
- 5) Ratio and group size
- 6) Staff compensation
- 7) Program assessment





Evaluation & Report Card Program

Family and group homes are evaluated on five areas:

5

- 1) Professional development
- 2) Compliance history
- 3) Parent/family involvement
- 4) Business management
- 5) Program assessment



Tennessee Department of Human Services Child Care System

www.state.tn.us/humanserv/childcare.htm

Child Care Resource and Referral Centers

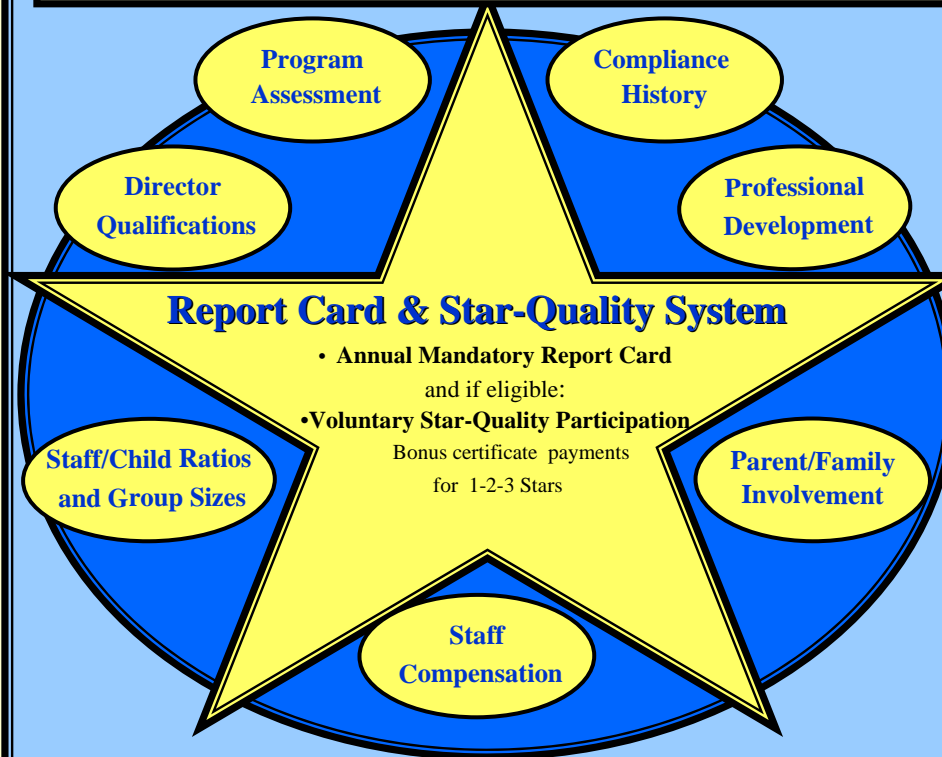
- Provider on-site technical assistance
- Quality improvement information and assistance
- **Birth to Three Collaborative**- initiative for the training and application of the Program for Infant/Toddler Caregiver (PITC) philosophy and other Infant/Toddler curriculum
- **Tennessee Child Care Provider Training (TN-CCPT)**
Free to all licensed providers
Health and safety
Administration
Early childhood education
Child development
Behavior management
- School Age training and technical assistance
 - Parent Referral Services
 - Community Out-Reach
 - Parent Education
 - Special needs consultations
 - Child Care health consultant
- Lending Library/Curriculum Boxes

Child Care Licensing and Assessment

- Licensed and Approved Child Care Agencies receive a minimum of four unannounced and one announced inspections per year
- Report Cards on Quality issued annually for all agencies

TECTA Tennessee Early Childhood Training Alliance

- Free 30 clock hour orientation
- 60% of college course tuition towards a CDA



Child Care Certificate Program

- Assistance to Families First and low-income working parents

Pre-Employment and Pre-Service Director and Caregiver Training

- Free Video/CD ROM

Tennessee Child Care Facilities Corporation (TCCFC)

- Business management training and assistance
- Corporate and community partnership grants
- Public/Private Partnership Program

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)

- Reimbursement for cost of meals for eligible children

Tennessee's Outstanding Providers Supported through Available Resources (TOPSTAR)

- Mentoring and support groups for family providers
- On-site technical assistance and training for family providers

Centralized Help for Parents

- Web-site listings and information
- Toll free help, Child Care Complaint line at 1-800-462-8261




What Does It Cost?

Tennessee spends approximately \$31 million a year on the Child Care Evaluation System and its support programs, broken down as follows:

- \$3 million for the assessment program
- \$1 million for research, data management and quality assurance
- \$9 million for child care provider training and technical assistance
- \$18 million for Star-Quality bonuses





Where are certificate children?

30% 0-star agencies

2% 1-star agencies

21% 2-star agencies

47% 3-star agencies





Multiple uses of data

- ★ Program results and outcomes
How are the children?
- ★ Program operation/management
Productivity, accountability, coverage
- ★ Program evaluation and improvement
What works? What doesn't work? What happened?
- ★ Research
Why?





Data analysis from a management perspective

- Particularly vital in implementation stage of innovative program
- Provides information on coverage and process
- Informs ongoing operation & decision-making
- Sometimes needed “on demand”





To Learn More—

www.state.tn.us/humanserv/childcare.htm

www.tnstarquality.org

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