

Make your
program
shine.



Wisconsin's Child Care Quality Rating & Improvement System

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 lifelong success. It isn't easy. But YoungStar is here to help.

YoungStar is designed to help providers improve and succeed. Our 40-point evaluation 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. We evaluate thousands of Wisconsin child care providers, 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 points they earn 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 up-to-date ratings easily.

YoungStar ratings are renewed every two years, so you can earn more stars as the quality of care you provide improves. Providers can even request annual evaluations to ensure recent improvements don't go unrecognized.

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](https://www.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

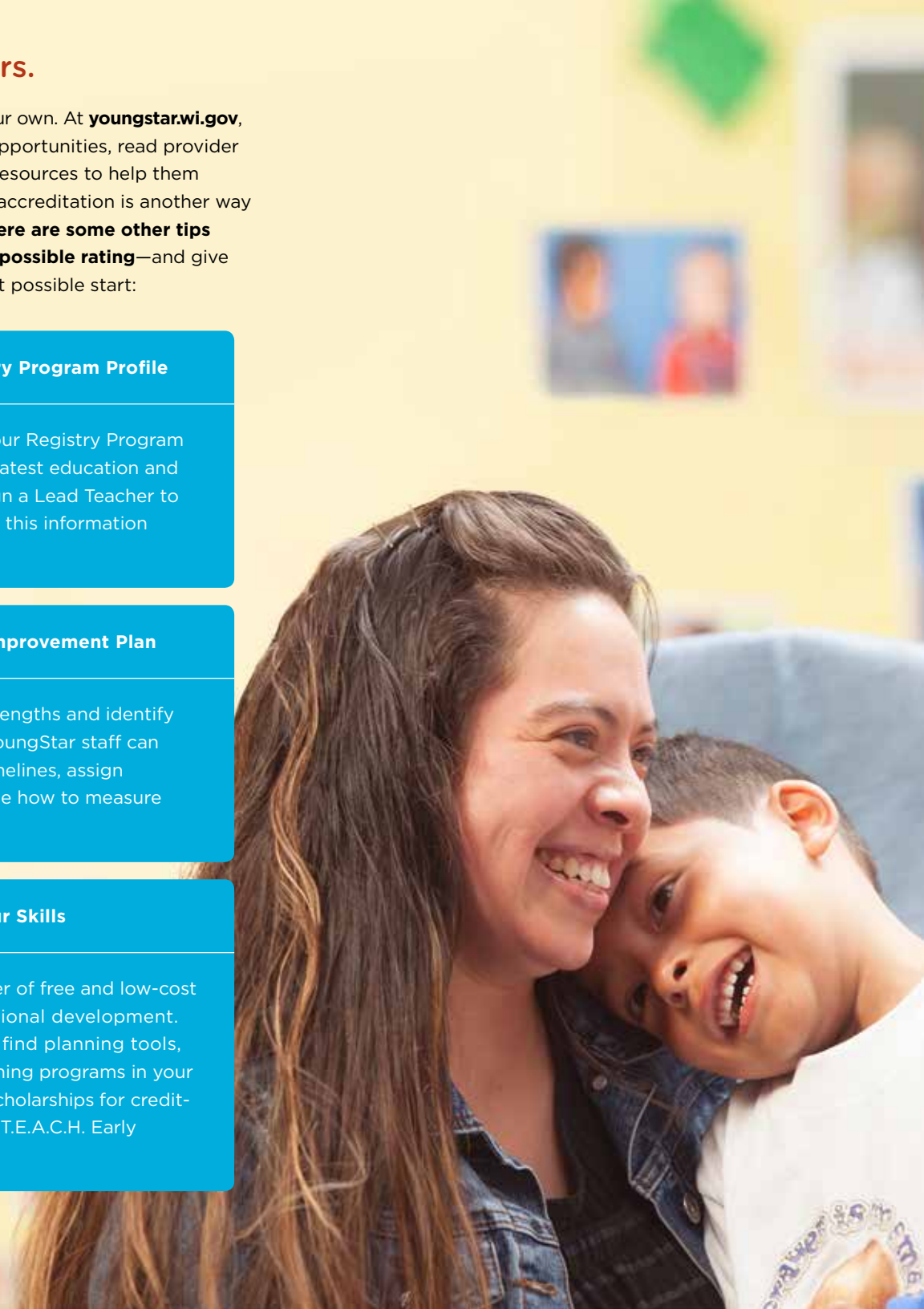
Remember to maintain your Registry Program Profile. Enter your staff's latest education and training information, assign a Lead Teacher to each classroom, and keep this information updated.

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](https://www.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.



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 training opportunities, technical assistance, even micro-grants to fund books and learning materials.

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.**





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Using YoungStar is easy:

Call 1-888-713-KIDS (5437) to speak with a child care resource and referral specialist, and find a local YoungStar office.

Check out youngstar.wi.gov to learn about our programs, find resources and start the application process.

Visit supportingfamilies.together.org for tips on starting and improving your program, building business and more.



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

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