



Indicators and Scoring

Full Rating for Child Care Centers

Eligible programs:

- Licensed child care centers

Indicators and scoring details:

Prerequisite: Be licensed and have no current negative actions. Negative actions include maltreatment determinations, conditional license, suspensions, temporary immediate suspensions and revocations. Fines will not disqualify your program from participating.

Required Indicators to earn a One-Star Rating

Physical health and well-being

PH1a. Provides all families with contact information for health and screening services, including but not limited to:

- Dental
- Mental health services
- Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE)
- Early Childhood Screening

Teaching and relationships

TR1a. Provides families with contact information for one or more local family education options, including but not limited to Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) programs

TR1b. All lead teachers have completed at least 8 hours of child development training

Assessment of child progress

AC1a. All lead teachers have completed at least 2 hours of training, coaching, consultation or mentoring on authentic observation practices

AC1b. Observes children regularly and records information at least monthly

Teacher training and education

TT1a. All lead teachers have submitted verified training and professional development credentials

Required Indicators to earn a Two-Star Rating

All indicators for One-Star, plus the following:

Physical health and well-being

PH2a. Provides all families with local contact information for family support services, including but not limited to:

- Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP)
- Early Learning Scholarships, if they are available in your area
- Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP)
- Health care coverage (Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare or Advanced Premium Tax Credit)
- Public health services

PH2b. Conducts self-assessment of the environment and develops goals in areas of need, with priority given to items in the foundational quality section
Teaching and relationships
TR2a. Offers orientation meetings for new parents that include a discussion about their preferences, including those related to family traditions and customs
TR2b. Uses lesson plans and a daily schedule
TR2c. All lead teachers have completed a total of at least 8 hours of training on the Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPs)
Assessment of child progress
AC2a. Gives families copies of observation summaries prepared using authentic observation practices
Teacher training and education
TT2a. All lead teachers have professional development plans

Programs meeting all Indicators for One- and Two-Stars are eligible to apply for a higher Star Rating. The following points and requirements must be met to earn Three- and Four-Star Ratings.

Total points possible: 20

Points in all four categories of Indicators are totaled. Star Ratings are awarded using the following scale and requirements:

Three-Star Rating	8 – 14.5 points	<p>All indicators for One- and Two-Star Ratings, plus the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scored at least a 2.0 or higher on the Instructional Support category of the CLASS (TR3e) Uses a curriculum aligned with the Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPs) in all classrooms (TR3a) All lead teachers have completed at least 8 hours of training, coaching, consultation or mentoring on implementing curriculum (TR3a) All lead teachers have completed at least 8 hours of training, coaching, consultation or mentoring on authentic child assessment (AC3a) Uses approved assessment tool(s) with all children in at least one age group (AC3b) Completes at least two domains in approved assessment tool(s) used (AC3c) Uses an approved assessment tool(s) at least once per year (AC3d) Has scored at least one point in every category
Four-Star Rating	15 – 20 points	<p>All indicators for One-, Two-, and Three-Star Ratings, plus the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scored at least a 2.5 or higher on the Instructional Support category of the CLASS (TR3e) Uses approved assessment tool(s) with all children in all age groups (AC3b)

Physical health and well-being	Points possible
<p>PH3a. Has a plan for assisting families with accessing family support services, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child Care Assistance Program (CCAP) • Early Learning Scholarships, if they are available in your area • Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) • Health care coverage (Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare or Advanced Premium Tax Credit) • Public health services 	1 point
<p>PH3b. The program participates in the Minnesota Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)</p> <p>OR</p> <p>All lead teachers have completed at least 3 hours of training on child nutrition, AND program gives families copies of written guidelines about the importance of providing healthy meals and copies of sample menus</p>	1 point
<p>PH3c. All lead teachers have completed at least 3 hours of training on obesity prevention, including developmentally appropriate physical activities for young children</p>	2 point
<p>Total possible</p>	4 points

Teaching and relationships	Points possible
<p>TR3a. Uses a curriculum that is aligned with the Minnesota Early Childhood Indicators of Progress (ECIPs) in all classrooms</p> <p>AND</p> <p>All lead teachers have completed at least 8 hours of training, coaching, consultation or mentoring on implementing curriculum</p>	Required for all classrooms to earn a Three-Star Rating or higher
<p>TR3b. All lead teachers have a total of 4 hours of training or equivalent coaching, consultation or mentoring in one or a combination of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children’s developmental disabilities • Special health care needs • Behavioral challenges 	1 point
<p>TR3c. All lead teachers have a total of 4 hours of training or equivalent coaching, consultation or mentoring on supporting young children’s learning and development in one or a combination of the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social and emotional • Language and literacy • Mathematical thinking • Physical development 	1 point
<p>TR3d. Demonstrates ability to communicate program information in parent’s primary language (for example, through on-site staff, qualified volunteers, an interpreter service or translated materials)</p>	1 point

OR	
All lead teachers have completed at least 6 hours of training in working with families from different cultures and socio-economic levels	
TR3e. CLASS scores (preschool and preschool/toddler classrooms only) In the Emotional Support category, if score is between 1 and 3.99 If score is between 4 and 5.59 If score is between 5.60 and 7	0 points .5 points 1 point
In the Classroom Organization category, if score is between 1 and 2.59 If score is between 2.60 and 3.59 If score is between 3.60 and 7	0 points .5 points 1 point
In the Instructional Support category, if score is between 1 and 2.49 If score is between 2.50 and 2.99 If score is between 3 and 7	0 points .5 points 1 point
All preschool and toddler classrooms must receive a CLASS score of 2 or higher in the Instructional Support category of the CLASS to achieve 3 stars, and 2.5 or higher to achieve 4 stars.	Up to 3 points possible
Total possible	6 points

Assessment of child progress	Points possible
AC3a. All lead teachers have completed at least 8 hours of training, coaching, consultation or mentoring on authentic child assessment	Required to earn a Three-Star Rating or higher
AC3b. Uses approved child assessment tool(s) with all children in at least <i>one age group</i>	Required to earn a Three-Star Rating or higher
OR	
Uses approved assessment tool(s) with all children in <i>all age groups</i>	Required to earn a Four-Star Rating 4 stars
AC3c. Completes at least <i>two domains</i> in approved assessment tool(s) used by program	Required to earn a Three-Star Rating or higher
OR	
Completes <i>all domains</i> in approved assessment tool(s) used by program	1 point
AC3d. Uses approved assessment tool(s) at least <i>once per year</i>	Required to earn a Three-Star Rating or higher
OR	
Uses approved assessment tool(s) at least <i>twice per year</i>	1 point
AC3e. Provides families with child assessment results	1 point

AND	
If a child has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) or Individual Family Services Plan (IFSP), shares assessment results with team with family’s permission. For a child with a special need who is receiving specialty services (for example, physical or occupational therapy), shares assessment results with service providers with family’s permission.	
AC3f. Uses child assessment information to design goals and guide instruction for individual children	1 point
Total possible	4 points

Teacher training and education	Points possible
<p>TT3a. Education coordinator, director or lead administrator has a bachelor’s degree with at least 24 early childhood-related, verified semester credits</p> <p>Definition of “education coordinator”: An education coordinator is the individual (director, lead administrator, lead teacher or other staff) whose responsibilities include helping the program implement curriculum consistently across all classrooms, and any other practices related to helping children become ready for school. (This is often the staff person who approves the child care program plan as required by Rule 3.)</p>	1 point
TT3b. Director has a director’s credential	1 point
<p>TT3c. Staff training and education are recorded and documented through Develop (Minnesota’s Quality Improvement and Registry Tool) (http://www.developtoolmn.org)</p> <p>Points are awarded based on the steps achieved in the Career Lattice (http://www.mncpd.org/docs/new_career_lattice_v4_6-9-11.pdf). For each lead teacher, points will be awarded as follows: 1 point awarded for step 1, 2 points for step 2, and so on through 10 points awarded for step 10 or higher, then averaged:</p> <p>Average score is 5.00 or less Average score is between 5.01 and 6.00 Average score is between 6.01 and 7.00 Average score is between 7.01 and 9.00 Average score is between 9.01 and higher</p> <p>Definition of “lead teacher:” A lead teacher is the highest qualified teacher who works in a classroom during at least 50% of the program’s operating hours.</p>	<p>0 points 1 point 2 points 3 points 4 points</p>
Total possible	6 points