

Provider Information Review: Frequently Asked Questions

Why is it necessary to update and review the information? I am not interested in referrals.

It is important that we have your current data. Whether you receive child care referrals from IdahoSTARS or not, the information you share in RISE is used (without names or program specifics) to inform legislation and policies in the state of Idaho, to evaluate the current costs of child care, inform child care assistance (ICCP) and identify child care availability and needs across the state.

Why am I not listed on your website?

The reason might be due to the selections made under the Settings section. Please make sure that you have selected that you are interested in web referrals.

Do I need to select both phone referrals and web referrals?

Phone referrals occur when an individual calls the IdahoSTARS office for a list of child care providers and web referrals occur when an individual runs a search on the IdahoSTARS website.

Why is it important to provide a description of my program that will be provided to families?

This is an opportunity to share important information that makes your program stand out from other programs and an opportunity to share any additional information that hasn't been captured by the questions in the Provider Information section.

Why would I want to advertise my staff's qualifications?

It benefits your program to advertise your staff's education. Families are interested in trained Early Childhood Educators who will provide quality care for their children.

Where can I include what schools I transport to?

You can add the school's names to the comments section under the Services section.

What is Steps to Quality?

Steps to Quality is a voluntary system for child care centers and home-based programs. Programs participating in Steps to Quality work with regional Quality Consultants to assess, improve, and communicate quality practices. Children benefit from high quality early care and education. Steps to Quality provides child care programs with a set of tools to cultivate a high quality setting. Please contact your local Child Care Resource Center by dialing 2-1-1 and speaking with a Child Care Quality Consultant or visit our website <https://idahostars.org/Child-Care-Providers/Steps-to-Quality> for more information.

What do all the abbreviations stand for under the Program section?

AMI – Association Montessori Accreditation <https://amiusa.org/>

NAFCC – National Association for Family Child Care <https://www.nafcc.org/>

NAEYC – National Association for the Education of Young Children <https://www.naeyc.org/accreditation>

NECPA – National Early Childhood Program Accreditation <https://necpa.net/>

DOD – Department of Defense <https://public.militarychildcare.csd.disa.mil/mccu/ui/#/standards-of-operations>

I am interested in using a curriculum. Which curriculum is recommended?

For more information on curriculum, please contact your local Child Care Resource Center by dialing 2-1-1 and speaking with a Child Care Quality Consultant.

I don't know much about developmental screenings. How can I learn more?

Developmental screenings are brief tools that examine one or more areas of a child's development. Developmental screenings can assist child care providers with supporting children's development and learning, identifying developmental concerns for individual children, and referring those children and families to the right services. Please contact your local Child Care Resource Center by dialing 2-1-1 and speaking with a Child Care Quality Consultant or visit our website at <https://idahostars.org/Child-Care-Providers/Developmental-Screenings>.

I do not want my rates published. Is it necessary that I fill in the rate information?

It is very important that your rate information is added. The Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) is required to complete a Local Market Rate Study every three years; the results are used to set ICCP reimbursement rates based on the type of child care (center-based, home-based, or relative care) and where child care is provided (by county). Parents may request rate information when budgeting for child care however entering your rates does not mean your rates will be published.

Why is it necessary to include enrollment numbers and update the available openings?

Enrollment numbers are used to identify age-group availability and child care deserts across the state. This data also helps us connect families to programs that have openings.

Why would I want to have a waitlist?

A waitlist can help you fill your available spots. Example: a parent calls looking for care but you have no available spots. Add that parent's contact information to your waitlist and call him/her back when a spot opens up. Chances are that parent might still be looking for care.

**Reminder: review address and contact information, including email and mailing address.*