



Star Quality Standards for Child Care and Preschool Programs

<p style="text-align: center;">LEVEL 1</p> <p>Basic Health & Safety*</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ In good standing with regulating authority requirements (e.g., Virginia Department of Social Services Licensing Standards, Virginia Board of Education Regulations, Head Start Performance Standards, Local Ordinance or Licensed Family Day System) □ Health & Safety demonstrated □ Star Quality Profile completed 	<p style="text-align: center;">LEVEL 2</p> <p>Education & Qualifications <i>Classroom-based Programs</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ At least one (1) Administrator/Director meets Level 6 on Virginia's Early Childhood Career Lattice¹ OR has earned 24 child-related credits from an accredited college (or in progress)** □ At least 50% of Lead Teachers meet Level 3 on Virginia's Early Childhood Career Lattice² OR another approved credential, such as an American Montessori Society Credential (or in progress)** □ Online professional development (PD) series³ completed <p><i>Family Child Care Homes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ The Family Child Care Provider responsible for the direct supervision of children and delivery of the curriculum and instruction meets Level 3 on Virginia's Early Childhood Career Lattice² OR another approved credential, such as an American Montessori Society Credential (or in progress)** □ Online PD series completed <p>Curriculum & Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ PD on curriculum & assessment <p>Learning Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ PD on play-based learning environments □ Health & safety checklist completed <p>Teacher-Child Interactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ PD on high quality interactions using the CLASS⁴ system 	<p style="text-align: center;">LEVEL 3</p> <p>Education & Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Maintain requirements at previous levels □ Staff have 8-hours of training on implementing the identified curriculum or teaching framework <p>Curriculum & Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Completion of curriculum & assessment checklist online to demonstrate selection and use of curriculum or other teaching framework aligned with best practices such as Virginia's Milestones of Child Development or Virginia's Foundation Blocks for Early Learning⁵ □ Visit by an external validator to confirm accuracy of curriculum & assessment checklist through on-site observation (must be completed within 1 year of achieving Level 3 status) □ Participate in regional technical assistance (TA) on curriculum & assessment <p>Learning Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Complete Environment Rating Scale (ERS)⁶ self-study using the appropriate tool for the ages served and setting □ Participate in regional TA on high quality learning environments <p>Teacher-Child Interactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Complete CLASS⁴ self-study using the appropriate tool for ages served or participate in the Effective Classroom Interactions online course, if offered □ Participate in regional TA on high quality interactions 	<p style="text-align: center;">LEVEL 4</p> <p>Education & Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Maintain requirements at previous levels <p>Curriculum & Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Maintain requirements at previous levels <p>Learning Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Achieve an average ERS score of 4 or higher across four subscales (Language-Reasoning/Listening and Talking, Activities, Interaction, and Program Structure) □ Participate in regional TA on high quality learning environments <p>Teacher-Child Interactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Achieve an average CLASS score of 5 or higher in Emotional Support & Classroom Organization (Pre-K CLASS), Emotional and Behavioral Support (Toddler CLASS), and Relational Climate & Teacher Sensitivity (Infant CLASS) □ Achieve an average CLASS score of 3.25 or higher in Instructional Support (Pre-K CLASS), Engaged Support for Learning Score (Toddler CLASS), and Facilitated Exploration & Early Language Support (Infant CLASS) □ Participate in regional TA on high quality interactions 	<p style="text-align: center;">LEVEL 5</p> <p>Education & Qualifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Maintain requirements at previous levels <p>Curriculum & Assessment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Maintain requirements at previous levels <p>Learning Environment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Achieve an average ERS score of 5 or higher across four subscales (Language-Reasoning/Listening and Talking, Activities, Interaction, and Program Structure) □ Participate in regional TA on high quality learning environments <p>Teacher-Child Interactions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Achieve an average CLASS score of 6 or higher in Emotional Support & Classroom Organization (Pre-K CLASS), Emotional and Behavioral Support (Toddler CLASS), and Relational Climate & Teacher Sensitivity (Infant CLASS) □ Achieve an average CLASS score of 4.25 or higher in Instructional Support (Pre-K CLASS), Engaged Support for Learning Score (Toddler CLASS), and Facilitated Exploration & Early Language Support (Infant CLASS) □ Participate in regional TA on high quality interactions
<p>*Basic Health & Safety requirements must be maintained to achieve any of the higher quality Levels</p> <p>**Programs may request a waiver to this requirement, provided that they meet all Level 3 requirements and are seeking a Level 4 or 5 observation</p> <p>¹ Associate degree in a relevant field with a minimum of 15 child-related credits</p> <p>² National Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) OR 12 total child-related credits OR Virginia approved/accepted training exceeding 120 clock hours or equivalent</p> <p>³ Includes training on topics like Inclusion, Kindergarten transition, Strengthening Families, Cultural Competence, Professional Development Plans, and Employee Orientation</p> <p>⁴ Go to http://teachstone.com for more information on the CLASS</p> <p>⁵ Alignment with the Foundation Blocks for Early Learning is required for all Virginia Preschool Initiative classrooms</p> <p>⁶ Go to http://ersi.info for more information on the ERS</p>				