






A Family Guide To Understanding Quality Rated Stars

- Any program with a star rating is participating in Georgia's Quality Rated and has agreed to meet standards that exceed the licensing requirements and is committed to improving the quality of care to children. Therefore, parents selecting any rated program are choosing a higher quality program for their child.
- The number of stars a program is awarded is based on a combination of points compiled from an independent observation and a portfolio that demonstrates that the program meets standards above and beyond what licensing requires. The different star ratings simply reflect scores above certain benchmarks. Georgia determined the Quality Rated levels with help from experts in early care and education standards and nationally valid environment rating scales.

 Program has demonstrated a commitment to meeting standards that exceed state health and safety requirements, meets *several* quality benchmarks, and scores sufficiently on the independent observation.

 Program has demonstrated a commitment to meeting standards that exceed state health and safety requirements, meets *many* quality benchmarks, and scores well on the independent observation.

 Program has demonstrated a commitment to meeting standards that exceed state health and safety requirements, meets *numerous* quality benchmarks, and scores high on the independent observation.

- The Quality Rated system was designed so that parents selecting any Quality Rated program can feel confident they have chosen a program committed to continuous quality improvement and higher quality standards.