This is QUALITY

Step Up to Quality

We declared 2022 the Year of Quality, emphasizing what quality is and what quality looks like in early childhood education — and the first thing we point to is our participating providers.

Programs participating in the Step Up to Quality process are going the extra mile and living out what it means to be quality every day. They take on the important responsibility of laying the foundation for growth, learning and development in the first five years of a person's life while collectively shaping the future of our state for the better.

Step Up to Quality is Nebraska's only state-wide program dedicated to helping child care providers continuously improve the quality of their care. As a part of the State of Nebraska's Departments of Education, and Health and Human Services, the Step Up to Quality team knows how important high-quality child care continues to be for our state's children. Despite ongoing difficult circumstances due to the pandemic, Step Up to Quality has continued to grow in its reach and participation.

We're so proud of the 650+ child care providers enrolled in Step Up to Quality across Nebraska who are committed to continuous quality improvement every day, ensuring an excellent experience for the children in their care.

674
CHILD CARE PROGRAMS
from across Nebraska are participating in Step Up to Quality

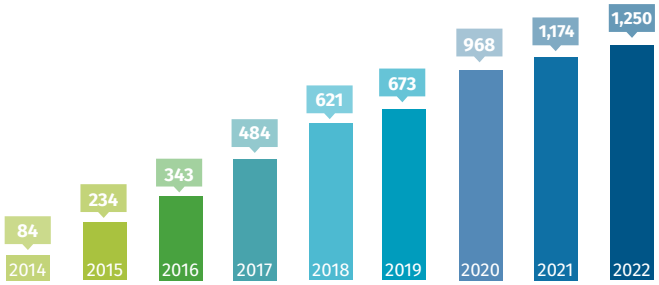
38,066
CHILDREN SERVED
in participating Step Up to Quality programs since 2014

Our Impact

AS OF JUNE 2022

A Commitment to *Quality*

Child care providers who participate in Step Up to Quality are committed to defining and elevating quality for Nebraska's children. They exceed licensing requirements by attending extra training, analyzing their business operations, updating their educational offerings to match industry best practices and continuously improving the quality of the care they provide.



Providers Enrolled Each Year

Step Up to Quality began in 2014 as Nebraska's Quality Rating Improvement System (QRIS). Not all states had a QRIS at the time — now, nearly all do. The commitment Nebraska providers have to high-quality care continues to deepen and grow.

Benefits for Providers

In addition to joining a community of supportive, like-minded professionals in the early childhood education field, Step Up to Quality offers many advantages to participating child care providers.

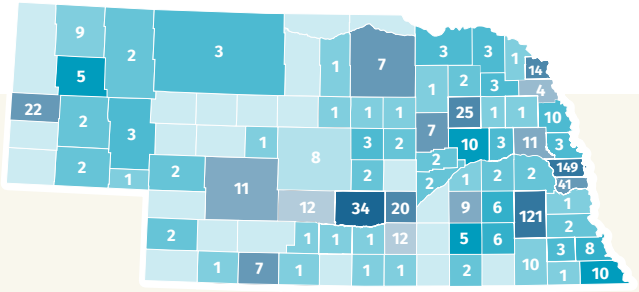
QUALITY INCENTIVE BONUSES
$292,800
awarded program-wide since 2014

FREE TRAINING
2,964
people have completed Step Up to Quality's orientation

FREE COACHING
257
programs have received guidance from a professional coach

Find the Providers

Step Up to Quality providers can be found across the state of Nebraska.

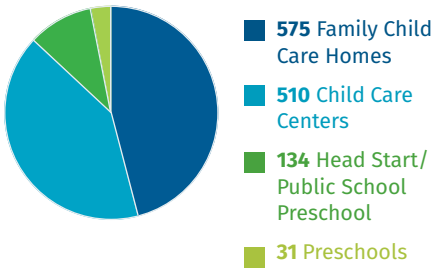


Every Provider Counts

Quality child care can be found all over Nebraska — more than 650+ child care providers throughout the state participate in Step Up to Quality.

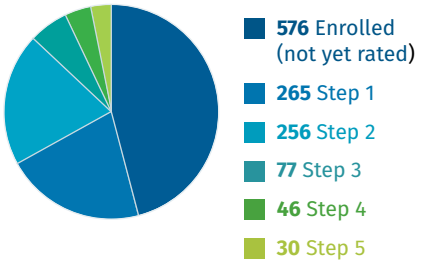
Enrolled Programs

Step Up to Quality serves all types of early childhood education programs throughout Nebraska.



Steps Achieved

Every step is significant, and no matter where providers are in the process, they are congratulated for their commitment to high-quality care.



Learn More: Visit our website to sign up for our newsletter, and follow us on social media for all the latest news!
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