



# Resources for Early Childhood Educators & Child Care Providers

As Nebraska's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS), we're proud to have helped more than 700 early childhood programs continuously improve the quality of their care, in part by providing research-driven guidance and resources. This is a consolidated list, and remember, [our team is available to help anytime.](#)

## 1 Learning

One way to build a love of learning within children is to model that behavior. We are lifelong learners: we delight in sharing knowledge and discovering new trends in early childhood education.

- **Training** – Providers who participate in Step Up to Quality have access to advanced training through the Nebraska Department of Education.
- **Coaching** – We have a team of early childhood education experts ready to guide you through the Step Up to Quality process and help you accomplish your goals, via group and one-on-one coaching.
- **Videos** – Check out our YouTube channel for educational videos about Step Up to Quality and why high quality early childhood education matters.
- **Newsletter** – Sign up for our monthly newsletter for the latest Step Up to Quality updates, and helpful teaching and development tips.

## 2 Promotion

Participating in Step Up to Quality can be an [important marketing tool](#) for your program. Parents know the importance of high quality care more than ever before, and can find your program easily through the search function on our website and more.

- **Web Page** – When parents search for child care providers on our website, they are directed to individual pages for each and every program enrolled. These pages can also be used by you as an overview of your program for prospective parents.
- **Signage** – Programs who are at a Step 3 and higher are able to receive a free yard sign, cloth garden sign or pennant to signify their participation and achievement. We also send out certificates with each achieved step, and have been known to send gifts of gratitude to providers, including pens, note pads and growth charts.

### 3 Community & Support

We know that being an early childhood educator is incredibly rewarding, it's also a tough, demanding job. It's important to us to frequently show our appreciation of providers in Nebraska, and to nurture this community with strong support.

- **Financial Incentives** – Programs have the opportunity to earn incentive bonuses when moving up a Step for the first time. Those who receive child care subsidies from the Department of Health and Human Services may receive increases to their subsidy rates once they achieve Step 3, 4 or 5.
- **Social Media** – Follow us on your favorite social media channel for timely updates, interesting stories and supportive conversations.

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Pinterest](#)

- **Blog** – We've written dozens of articles about different aspects of early childhood education and the Step Up to Quality process.
- **Podcast** – The Step Up to Quality podcast, Quality Time, is intended to be a self-care space specifically created for early childhood educators in Nebraska.
- **Our Team** – Each of us are here to support providers throughout the Step Up to Quality journey. We want each and every one of you to succeed and feel proud of yourself throughout the process. [Contact us anytime!](#)

