

Washington STARS State Training and Registry System

Caring for and educating children is both rewarding and challenging! Quality preparation and continued education enable professionals to do their best work and ensure the availability of high-quality child care.

Washington STARS was created to support this important work. Through STARS, child care professionals have access to training opportunities and scholarship support.

What you need to know:

- ★ **Who?** STARS has been a child care licensing requirement since 1999. All family child care providers, as well as directors, program supervisors, site coordinators, and lead staff in centers and school-age programs, must meet STARS requirements. Aides, assistants, substitutes and volunteers are encouraged (but not required) to participate. *(DEL licensors determine the most appropriate job title for the purposes of licensing and licensing requirements.)*
- ★ **What?** Participants must meet the 20-hour basic requirement once, and must take 10 hours of continuing education each year. The basic requirement can be met through coursework or exemption.
- ★ **When?** The 20-hour requirement must be met within six months of being licensed or hired. Ten hours of continuing education are required each calendar year after that.
- ★ **Where?** Approved training sources and available training are online at www.stars.del.wa.gov. Trainers are approved by STARS, but work independently.
- ★ **Why?** Relevant education and training promote higher quality child care!

For more information on STARS requirements, visit www.del.wa.gov/stars

To request a scholarship to help pay for STARS training and continuing education, visit the Washington Association for the Education of Young Children Web site at www.waeyc.org.