

Tell Governor Cuomo to increase support for QUALITYstarsNY!

Tell Governor Cuomo to increase our state investment in New York's early learning quality rating & improvement system (QRIS): QUALITYstarsNY!

At full funding, [QUALITYstarsNY](#) can ensure:

- Quality child care and pre-kindergarten options are accessible for working families.
- Early learning programs foster social, cognitive and language development for every child.
- Transparency in program quality so parents can make an informed choice in child care!

Studies have shown that young children who've received high quality early learning are more prepared for K-12, more likely to hold a job and go on to have higher lifetime earnings, are less likely to have a criminal record, and have reduced healthcare costs. The positive effects of a quality early childhood education are especially effective for low-income and underserved communities.

[QUALITYstarsNY](#) assesses and supports programs so that they can provide stimulating learning environments. Families can use these star ratings to make informed decisions about the best care options for their child. An astonishing 84% of participating programs improved their quality rating points. **The number of 4- and 5-star programs increased by 65%.**

What's more, QUALITYstarsNY is growing! With a 68% increase in participating programs between 2015 and 2016 alone, we now work with over 700 programs to create the best learning experiences during the most pivotal years of a child's development. **That's 45,000 children benefiting from quality child care centers, family child care homes and pre-kindergarten programs!**

However, that only represents 5% of eligible programs in New York State.

Our goal is to serve at least 80% of center-based child care programs, including Head Start programs and pre-kindergarten classrooms in primary schools, and 25% of family child care homes when fully funded. Bringing QUALITYstarsNY to scale will require a stronger commitment from the state budget.

We thank the Governor for his leadership in supporting QUALITYstarsNY, and we are now asking for an increased investment of \$10 million to continue to expand quality early care and education throughout New York.

Please sign our [petition](#)--and share this with others!