



What's New with Grow NJ Kids? Q&A

Rating Questions

Q – Are the ratings of a school posted? Where are they posted?

A – Yes. You can find the ratings of Grow NJ Kids participating centers by going to the Grow NJ Kids website - <http://www.GrowNJKids.com/ParentsFamilies/ProviderSearch>

Q – If a program submits for ratings and receives "extension" do they receive the \$1000 for submitting for ratings or is it tied to the ratings result?

A – Yes. No matter the outcome of the Rating, the program is eligible for the \$1000 rating stipend.

Q – If we add a new class next year, will that class be included in the rating process if we are rated in the 2017-2018 school year?

A – Yes, it is a site level rating. If the classroom falls within our age categories then yes it will be included in the rating process.

Q – How will we know if we are one of the first 100 rated centers?

A – We will notify you of the rating status once you have completed the process.

Standards and Curriculum

Q – When a standard requires all teaching staff to receive training on a specific topic such as the benefits of home visits, can a Master Teacher or Supervisor of Early Childhood turnkey the information to staff or do they need to complete the online training?

A – Home Visiting Training can be provided someone outside of the GNJK training services, however, it is required that all objectives to be covered in the training.

Q – Can you go into a bit more detail as to what a TAC will assist with? I am near being transferred and would like some information.

A – The Grow NJ Kids Technical Assistance Centers provided intensive TA for programs. They are responsible for assisting programs in completing and submitting their self-assessment and quality improvement plan as well as, implementation of the quality improvement plan. They assist with incentives and other services that the program/provider may need to move through the system.

Funding, Merit Awards, Incentives and Scholarship Information

Q – Can you tell me more about merit awards?

A – Merit awards are for Grow NJ Kids Scholarship recipients who have achieved a credential (CDA, AA, BA, P-3). To receive the Merit Award, the scholarship recipient must provide a scanned copy of their credential or degree and a completed W-9 form. These documents can be emailed to kim.owens@dhs.state.nj.us.

Q – I have several staff members who are interested in the P3 but cannot afford it. Do you have an idea of what the average scholarship for P3 is? The program is costly, about \$15,000. So they don't want to enroll unless they get a substantial scholarship.

A – Scholarships are based on a first come, first served basis. The cost of program will vary based on the college or university. I would encourage interested candidates to apply as we cannot commit to a scholarship until an application has been received.

Q – Is there a scholarship for a teacher who has a bachelor's and would like to further education in a specified field. Such as in speech or occupational therapy?

A – This would depend on what the Bachelor's degree was in and what type of coursework the scholarship applicant is interested in. The Grow NJ Kids scholarship does not cover Master's Level coursework. I would encourage this applicant to apply for the Grow NJ Kids Scholarship.

Q – Do you have any idea how long the scholarship money will be available? Also, at the end of this year is it true that the incentive money will no longer be available?

A – The Grow NJ Kids Scholarship continues to be available. It is based on a first come, first served basis. The Grow NJ Kids team will continue to update our programs on the availability of incentives .

Q – How do we submit the requests for enhancement grants? If they are submitted via email, to who should we submit and how do we know if the forms and documentation were received?

A – The Grow NJ Kids classroom enhancements are available for programs/providers that have completed the self-assessment and quality improvement plan. Requests for classroom enhancements are made through your Grow NJ Kids support - NJ DOE liaison, the Head Start Collaboration Director, Quality Improvement Specialist (QIS), or Technical Assistance Specialist (TAS).

Training and PINJ Questions

Q – Is there any teacher/substitute network or information we can use to help when we have teachers go out for the trainings?

A – We are not aware of a substitute network.

Q – I received an email from Montclair, for the “SPRING 2017 INTENSIVE SERIES IN INFANT AND EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH” training. However it is \$50 per course. Would this training fee be waived or paid by Grow NJ Kids?

A – No, this training is not sponsored by Grow NJ Kids. Please visit the Grow NJ Kids training calendar at www.GrowNJKids.com/TrainingCalendar for a list of free trainings.

Q – As for the Professional Development for Special Needs hours- do college classes that we took towards our Bachelor's Degree count?

A – Detail regarding the content covered in the coursework is needed in order to make this determination.

Q – What department at Rutgers is conducting the trainings?

A – We contract with Rutgers University, School of Social, Institute for Families. They provide the logistical supports for training. Trainings are provided by contracted trainers based on topical areas.

Q – Are we still submitting forms and documentation to the same address for completing staff profiles for PINJ?

A – Yes, until further notice.

QIS/TAS/General Questions

Q – For blended centers with blended classrooms (district and Head Start) which entity will take the lead in the GNJK process?

Q – If the school district does not provide the QIS for former Abbott preschool centers who will support the program through the process?

Q – If our application was submitted in the beginning of 2016 where should we be in the process?

A – For all above questions - Please see the “Who Will Support Me” document on the Grow NJ Kids website - <http://www.GrowNJKids.com/ProvidersEducators>.

To view a recording of the webinar, visit –
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/recording/5563752419035221507>