

NJ Center for Quality Ratings at WPU

Steps towards Rating Readiness

3, 4, or 5 Star Rating: Programs that have completed all requirements for a 1 and 2 star rating and wish to be rated for a 3, 4 or 5 star rating will work with their Quality Improvement Specialist (QIS) to prepare for the rating visit from the NJ Center for Quality Ratings (NJCQR). The following steps describe the process to request and prepare for the rating visit. Programs must:

1. Submit all documentation for a 1 and 2 star rating to their QIS/TAS.
2. Decide which star rating you would like to apply for and review the point/classroom assessment score requirements for that star rating.
3. Notify the Grow NJ Kids office that your program is ready to be rated and what star rating you are applying for.
4. Complete the Readiness Checklist (RC) with your QIS and submit to the NJCQR along with required documentation. The RC serves as a check-list of which documentation to be electronically submitted or mailed to NJCQR, as well as what documentation the NJCQR staff members will review on site.
5. NJCQR will review the completed RC to determine if the program has submitted appropriate documentation for review and will contact the program to schedule a two-week window of time during which the onsite rating visits will occur. Based on the number of classrooms in the building and the star rating level sought, onsite rating visits will be scheduled for one or more days.
6. During the rating visits, NJCQR will randomly select 50% of classrooms by age/group level, to be assessed. Raters will administer structured classroom observation assessments on the NJCQR random selection of 50% of the classrooms. The structured classroom observations assessments include the Environment Rating Scales (ERS: ITERS-R; ECERS-3) and Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS). Onsite documentation that was requested for review on the RC will also be examined at this time by the NJCQR staff.
7. Once all required assessments have been completed and onsite documentation has been reviewed, the rating visits will conclude.
8. NJCQR will submit a summary report to Grow NJ Kids within one month of the final day of the visit. To protect the anonymity of teachers and staff, at no time will individual classroom/teacher scores be revealed to teachers, the program, Grow NJ Kids or any other entity. GNJK will review the summary report and will notify the program of their quality star rating within six weeks.