



# 2023-2024 School year resources and reminders for Step Up To Quality and Licensing

**Ohio Professional Registry (OPR)** - All programs *must* have an Organization Dashboard in the Ohio Professional Registry (OPR) set up for all Step Up to Quality and Licensing inspections to pull staff information. Program administrators request access through Ohio Child Care Resource and Referral Association (OCCRRA). Further information can be found in the [Important Organization Dashboard Notification](#) on the Early Learning and School Readiness Step Up To Quality and Licensing webpages. The new mobile responsive OPR was launched on Friday, September 1, 2023.

- All individuals used in ratio or left alone with a child must have a current [OPR profile](#)
- Education must be uploaded and verified through the OPR for all individuals
- Programs must have at least one individual who manages the [Administrator dashboard](#)
- The administrator/director who is onsite at least 50% of the programs operating time to meet licensing and SUTQ requirements must have the administrator role identified. If the lead teacher is the identified on-site administrator, they must [add a role](#) to have both roles indicated in their profile. The Organization dashboard must always be kept current
- Please note the employment wage question in the OPR is now a required field. This data is collected in aggregate form for state data reporting purposes

**OCLQS** - Rule requires up to date program information to be current in the [Ohio Child Licensing and Quality System \(OCLQS\)](#). Amendments must be submitted 30 days prior to children attending.

- [OEDS role requirements for OCLQS access](#)
  - Note: Only individuals with the OCLQS owner role can submit closures, application, change of locations and see the ODJFS Publicly funded childcare contract button
- [How to log into OCLQS](#)

**Step Up To Quality (SUTQ)** – Programs receiving a full onsite inspection for the 2023-2024 school year will receive notification from the program specialist. All other rated programs will receive a focused review during the school year.

- **SUTQ Comprehensive ELA requirement**
  - must assess all preschool age children using 28 progressions, not including the fine arts section, a minimum of two times during the year following a program determined schedule

**OR**

- programs may opt-in to the [ELA Pilot](#), which consists of 34 SKBs, a minimum of two times during the year to meet the comprehensive assessment requirement for SUTQ
- ELA websites: [Administrator ELA page](#), [Teacher ELA page](#). Please send all questions regarding ELA training to [ELAHelp@education.ohio.gov](mailto:ELAHelp@education.ohio.gov)
- The new biennium began July 1, 2023 and will end June 30, 2025
- All staff are required to have a minimum of 20 hours of PD at the end of the biennium
- [OTES Implementation Guide](#) and [OTES Crosswalk](#) are now available on the SUTQ Webpage



- [Standards-Curriculum-Assessment Alignment page](#) is available and will be continuously updated as curricula are verified. If a curriculum is not fully aligned, a form will be available for programs to document supplemental curricula. Curriculum alignment forms are available for programs to print and review for how the curriculum aligns to the new standards. Self-created curricula or versions of a curricula not posted must follow the [Curriculum Alignment Submission Process](#) outlined on the webpage to be approved
- Beginning July 1, 2024, all highly rated programs will need to implement a curriculum and assessment that is aligned to the new Early Learning and Development standards
- ELA ratings must be uploaded in the KReady system this school year for all PSE and ECE funded children. Scores will NOT be reported in EMIS (or EAS)
- Program standards, rules, forms, and other resources can be found on the [Bold Beginning website](#)

**Preschool and School Age Licensing** - At least one unannounced annual licensing inspection will be completed each school year.

- [Licensing Orientation training](#) - all staff must complete the licensing orientation within 30 days of hire and maintain documentation of completion
- [Account Management](#)
- [Licensing specialist contact information](#)
- Sample forms and Resources are available on the [Preschool Licensing](#) and [School Age Licensing](#) webpages
- ODJFS and ODH have updated the Management of Communicable Disease training. The training, that meets ODE rule 3301-37 is available in the [Ohio Professional Registry \(OPR\)](#) by searching ST10136263 or typing "ODJFS Management of Communicable Disease – Free Training Recorded by ODJFS"

**Ohio PROMISE** – a new statewide initiative that will Promote Resources, Opportunities, and Meaningful Inclusion through Support and Education. This initiative is focused on increasing access for children with special needs through new professional development to prepare and support professionals, services and supports for programs and families for necessary equipment and implementing a program designation to create awareness for families.

- [Inclusion Credential](#) now available for all professionals
- [Early Childhood Inclusion Center of Excellence](#)

### **New Administrators Checklist**

- Log in to OCLQS, review and update information
- Set up or request access to the OPR Organization Dashboard and verify current employees
- Complete licensing and SUTQ trainings within 30 days of first day of employment
- [Reach out to your Specialist](#)

### **The Department of Children and Youth**

- The [Department of Children and Youth \(DCY\) website](#) is now live! Please check back often for updates
- Staff emails have changed. Emails sent using Department of Education addresses will be forwarded to the appropriate staff member. You may also email specialists at [firstname.lastname@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov](mailto:firstname.lastname@childrenandyouth.ohio.gov)