

## Overview of Step Up To Quality Visits

On April 15, 2022, changes to Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) standards were implemented, as noted in Child Care Manual Procedure Letter 153, to assist programs in achieving and maintaining their SUTQ rating. The Ohio Department of Job and Family Services (ODJFS) and the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) provided an overview of the changes through a series of webinars. As a result to the changes, SUTQ visits are changing effective July 1, 2022 as outlined below.

### Types of Visit

#### Full On-site Inspection

- Initials, change of rating and specialized rating include a Desk Review.
- All SUTQ standards are assessed on-site following ODJFS and ODE procedures.

#### Focused Review

- Assessment will occur electronically or onsite. This may occur as part of a licensing inspection or a separate visit.
- A subset of Domains will be assessed.

### SUTQ Visit Schedule

- SUTQ visits will continue to be unannounced.
- One and two-star programs will receive a full on-site inspection visit every other year. In the off year, a focused review will be conducted. ODJFS, ODE or the county agency will determine which type of inspection visit will be conducted first.
- Three to five-star programs will receive a full on-site inspection visit every three years. In the other two years, a focused review will be conducted.
- Programs will be prioritized by their last on-site visit, with the oldest dates getting a visit first beginning July 2022.

### Inspection Process

- Procedure for conducting inspections/interviews remain the same. Ohio Classroom Observation Tool indicators pertaining to curriculum implementation or alignment with K-12 standards are not required for school age groups.
- SUTQ on-site inspections may take longer with the review of documents on-site.
- Both full inspections and focused reviews can be completed in combination with a licensing inspection.