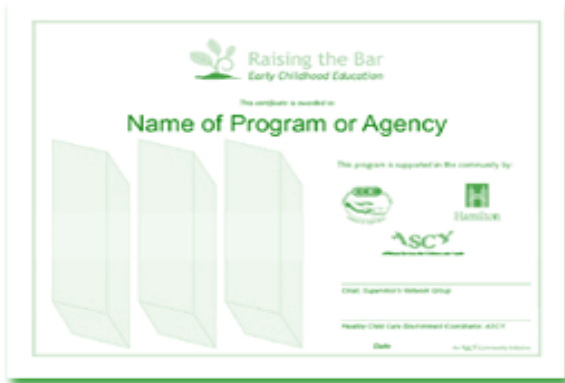


How will I know whether my child's centre is Raising the Bar?

Participating programs receive a certificate each year and are encouraged to post it in a visible location.

The Program coordinator will be pleased to tell you more about Raising the Bar



Sample certificate

Is Raising the Bar a guarantee of quality?

Participating in Raising the Bar indicates a commitment to supporting healthy, high quality environments for the children in our community, but is not a guarantee or endorsement.

The Ministry of Children and Youth Services is responsible for the regulation of child care in Ontario.

The peer review process is an annual review of documentation submitted by the child care program. Peer reviewer do not conduct site visits to assess the quality of service.

How can I find out more?

Raising the Bar is a community project coordinated in Peterborough by Investing In Quality—Early Learning and Child Care Peterborough.

www.raisingthebarptbo.ca

“Raising the Bar” in the County of Peterborough has been made possible by the support and financial contributions of the following community partners



Investing In Quality
Early Learning and Child Care Peterborough

For more information contact the Raising the Bar office at:

746 Park St. South
Peterborough ON K9H3T4
P) 705.741.8885
F) 1.866.439.8129
rtbpeterborough@sympatico.ca

www.raisingthebarptbo.ca

An ASCY Community Initiative Raising the Bar was developed in Hamilton and is a community project coordinated by Affiliated Services for Children and Youth (ASCY). Find out more by visiting us at www.ascy.ca



Raising the Bar
Early Childhood Education
An ASCY Community Initiative

Family Guide



Assuring High Quality Early Learning and Child Care



What is Raising the Bar?

Raising the Bar is a program designed to help families ensure their children are receiving high quality early learning and child care services. The presence of a Raising the Bar certificate is a sign that the program is committed to maintaining provincial regulatory standards as well as local community standards.

Raising the Bar participants voluntarily submit to an annual review to ensure they meet community standards. After one year of participation in Raising the Bar, programs are expected to achieve bronze level and may progress further in subsequent years.



Bronze Level programs follow fundamental quality indicators and are also in full compliance with Ontario's Day Nurseries Act.

Silver level programs have additional strategies to enhance quality. Some strategies include increased professional education for Early Childhood Educators, parent and staff surveys, and opportunities for parents to become more involved.

Gold level programs demonstrate a long-term commitment to high quality in early childhood education. Short and Long term goal setting, increased professional involvement and community partnerships are some standards found at the gold level.

Quality Assurance

- Quality is monitored through observations by supervisors, the education teams and by the Raising the Bar project coordinator.
- Parent and/or Caregiver feedback is collected each year.
- Action plans are developed to address areas of need and to plan for improvement.
- In addition to annual provincial licensing reviews and local public health inspections, Raising the Bar program undergo site visits by Early Childhood Education.

Best Practices

- The program offers information for parents and promotes opportunities for community involvement.
- There are detailed policies, procedures and management practices to guide day-to-day operations.
- Specific strategies are in place to support optimal child health and development. Resources and information about child development are provided for parents.

Professional Development

The team of Early Years Professionals in Raising the Bar programs maintain credential and commit to additional training each year.

- First aid and CPR are kept current.
- Cooks have Food Handler's Certificate Training.
- All directors and staff attend workshops and conferences to enhance their understanding of early childhood education and care.
- Raising the Bar programs support teacher training through mentorship and by providing practical training opportunities for cooperative education students.