



FIND THE
EARLY LEARNING SERVICES
RIGHT FOR YOUR FAMILY.



VISIT YOUR
EARLY LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER
FOR MORE INFORMATION
1-877-4-PA-KIDS
WWW.RAISEYOURSTAR.ORG



Early Learning Services and Programs





WHAT IS THE OFFICE OF CHILD DEVELOPMENT AND EARLY LEARNING?

The Office of Child Development and Early Learning (OCDEL) is focused on creating opportunities for the commonwealth's youngest children to develop and learn to their fullest potential.

OCDEL works with many partners to create opportunities for the commonwealth's children. Parents, schools, child care, early intervention, Head Start, libraries, community organizations and other stakeholders have joined with the Office of Child Development and Early Learning to provide high quality early childhood programs and effective prevention strategies to mitigate challenges faced by families that affect school readiness and academic success.

WHAT PROGRAMS AND SERVICES DOES OCDEL OFFER?

Child Care Certification

is responsible for the regulation of all child care centers, group day care homes and family child care homes in Pennsylvania. Child Care Certification oversees:

- Requirements and process for opening a child care facility.
- Regulations for operating a child care facility.
- Regulation compliance and complaints for child care facilities.

*Make sure your child is in a certified child care facility.
Ask to see the child care's Certificate of Compliance.*

Child Care Subsidy

makes it possible for low-income families to find reliable, quality child care near their home or work and provides financial assistance to help them afford it.

Early Learning Resource Centers (ELRC)

help families afford and find child care for their children. They offer services to link families to child care subsidy, Pre K Counts, Head Start and Early Intervention services. ELRCs also help child care providers obtain quality through Keystone STARS. There are 19 regions with many offices across Pennsylvania.

Early Head Start and Head Start

programs provide comprehensive services for low-income children from birth to entry into kindergarten.

Early Intervention Services

provides support and services to families with children birth to age five, who have developmental delays and disabilities.

- Supports services and resources for children that enhance daily opportunities for learning provided in settings where a child would be if he/she did not have a developmental delay and disability.
- Provides families' independence and competencies.
- Respects families' strengths, values and diversity.

Families who have questions about their child's development or locating resources should contact the CONNECT Helpline at 1-800-692-7288.

Home Visiting and Family Centers

services can be a great answer for families who are looking for help with their child. Visits are based on the needs of the parent and child and are different for every family.

Professionally trained home visitors can provide information and help families with:

Prenatal care
Caring for a new baby
Breastfeeding

Child Development
Health and nutrition
Family supports
Sleeping

Keystone STARS

provides families with a tool to gauge the quality of early learning programs. The STARS program supports early learning programs in the commitment to continuous quality improvement and rates them with a 1 to 4 STAR rating. All certified child care providers are required to participate in Keystone STARS.

Pre-K Counts

increases access to quality pre-kindergarten to children and families throughout the commonwealth with a priority in at-risk communities.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Contact your Early Learning Resource Center about the programs and services listed in this brochure.