



October 2016

Keystone STARS QRIS Revisioning Process Update



In February 2016, Pennsylvania launched the Keystone STARS Revisioning process to ensure that more providers will participate and provide higher quality services to more young children. For periodic updates on the process and ways to participate, visit www.pakeys.org.

Keystone STARS Core Principles Adopted by Stakeholders July 2016

Over 2,345 early care and education stakeholders provided feedback on your new STARS Core Principles. OCDEL is thrilled to accept them as written and looks forward to the future revisioning work!

Keystone STARS is a responsive system to improve, support, and recognize the continuous quality improvement efforts of early learning programs in Pennsylvania. Our system is guided by three core principles:

- *A whole child approach to education is essential to meeting the holistic and individual needs of each and every child and family.*
- *Knowledgeable and responsive early care and education professionals are essential to the development of children and the support of families.*
- *Building and sustaining ongoing positive relationships among children, families, early care and education professionals and community stakeholders is essential for the growth and development of every child.*

We believe inclusion, diversity, equity and respect are foundational values embedded in these principles.

"We are committed to ensuring that our children can build a foundation for a bright future, and the Keystone STARS program is a key vehicle to create that reality."

- Secretary Theodore Dallas, DHS

We need you!

Do you want to add your voice and ideas to the Revisioning conversation? We are organizing work groups and opportunities for greater participation in the process and would love to have you participate.

Please complete the online registration and feedback form at

<http://conta.cc/2dKBpur>

and we will connect with you soon! Visit www.pakeys.org for more information.

"The success of the Keystone STARS program directly impacts the success of our early learning continuum and our ability to give our children the best opportunity for success when they enter kindergarten."

- Secretary Pedro Rivera, PDE

Wise words that guide the Think Tank Team

"Deep and simple is far more essential than shallow and complex."

- Fred Rogers

Next Steps:

Creation of a Logic Model of Implementation and Operation of Keystone STARS

Before delving into revising Keystone STARS, the Think Tank convened in September to develop a shared understanding of the outcomes we want to achieve in the short-, medium- and long-term. A well-articulated logic model will specify the activities, linkages, and partnerships expected to support shared desired outcomes.

Identify the Structure to meet desired outcomes

Since the current structure was created 14 years ago, dozens of states have developed and tested new models. Based on other states' experiences, the Hybrid Model may best fit Pennsylvania's needs. At lower levels of ratings, all indicators in all standards must be met. At higher levels of ratings, points are assigned to standards and programs have the flexibility of choosing where to put their emphasis in earning points. The Think Tank will review and evaluate how the Hybrid Model could work best for Pennsylvania.



Keystone STARS Implementation Timeline

