



**Quality Add-on Rates and Grants & Awards Structure Overview**

Keystone STARS resources are intended to support child care programs serving Pennsylvania's most vulnerable children as they develop and meet their quality goals. The RISING STARS SUPPORT GRANT, the MERIT AWARD, and EDUCATION AND RETENTION AWARD charts below indicate the maximum resources available, with approved expenses, to qualifying programs at varying Keystone STAR levels and are based on Full Time Equivalency (FTE). Family Child Care Home facilities eligibility could also be established by being enrolled in TIER 1 Child/Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) – administered through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

**Eligibility for grants and awards requires serving children participating in the Child Care Works program.**

**RISING STARS SUPPORT GRANTS**

**RISING STARS Support Grants will be awarded to selected providers in targeted areas. Providers selected may be eligible for enhanced Professional Development, materials, financial awards, or any other good or service identified by the sponsoring Early Learning Resource Center (ELRC). RISING STARS Support Grants are only valid within the ELRC awarded and are non-transferable.**

**Family Child Care Home Merit Award**

Program Eligibility Percentage	STAR 2 (Three time award)	STAR 3	STAR 4
10%	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,500	\$ 2,000

**Center/Group Merit Award STAR 2 Only  
(Three time award)**

Program Eligibility Percentage	Group Homes	Center up To 6 FTE	Center 7-12 FTE	Center 13-45 FTE	Center 46-99 FTE	Center 100-180 FTE	Center 181+ FTE
10%	\$ 1,575	\$ 975	\$ 1,537	\$ 3,071	\$ 6,142	\$ 9,214	\$ 15,275

**Education and Retention Awards FY 17-18 for highly qualified staff (prorated for hours worked less than 35 hrs per week)**

**Education and Retention Awards**

Program Eligibility Percentage	STAR Level	Director or Owner/Operator Career Lattice Level 5 or above	Career Lattice Level 6	Career Lattice Level 5 or 4	Career Lattice Level 3
10%	STAR 2	\$ 3,090	\$ 2,320	\$ 1,545	\$ 600
10%	STAR 3	\$ 3,605	\$ 2,705	\$ 1,805	\$ 700
10%	STAR 4	\$ 4,120	\$ 3,090	\$ 2,060	\$ 800

**Daily Rate for children receiving Child Care Works subsidy effective 08/01/17\*\***

Age of Child	STAR 2		STAR 3		STAR 4	
	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time
Infant	\$ 1.55	\$ .95	\$ 6.80	\$ 3.25	\$ 10.30	\$ 4.10
Young/old toddlers	\$ 1.45	\$ .85	\$ 6.60	\$ 3.10	\$ 10.10	\$ 3.90
Preschool	\$ .95	\$ .45	\$ 5.90	\$ 2.50	\$ 9.20	\$ 3.20
School Age	\$ .95	\$ .45	\$ 5.90	\$ 2.50	\$ 9.20	\$ 3.20

\*\*EFFECTIVE DATE: August 1, 2017. The daily Quality Add-On Rate increased on average \$1.20 for the STAR 3 full time rate and \$1.80 for the STAR 4 full time rate. STAR 1 daily, Quality Add-On Rates are removed from the award structure. For more specifics about STARS standards, grants and eligibility requirements, visit [www.pakeys.org](http://www.pakeys.org) > Keystone STARS. Awards are subject to change based on the final appropriated state and federal funding levels. Amounts identified are maximum eligibility amounts and applying providers may be awarded less. All awards subject to availability of funds and are not guaranteed. Providers must be in active status and of good standing to qualify. Provider may not have any liabilities owed to the commonwealth or the federal government, including but not limited to tax liens and/or have Contractor Responsibility Program infractions.