



### Using the Crosswalk

This document was created to guide programs through the changes to Maine's Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) as we transition from *Quality for ME* to *Rising Stars for ME*. The grids below break down all of the *Rising Stars for ME* requirements as they compare to *Quality for ME*:

- New requirements are HIGHLIGHTED in the grid.
- Some requirements have been eliminated.
- Some requirements have changed or been moved.
- Some requirements are the same.

The requirements for *Rising Stars for ME* are numbered to correspond with the Family Child Care Standards document.

Licensed programs enter *Rising Stars for ME* at a Star 2. There are no additional requirements for this rating. The grids below begin at Star 3.





### Standard 1: Learning Environment/Developmentally Appropriate Practice

Previous Step 1 moves to Star 2. No additional requirements.

Previous Step 2 moves to Star 3.

Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	NEW: The program's activities and experiences are guided by a general understanding of the developmental domains:	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising</i> <i>Stars for ME</i> .
	<ul> <li>Social/Emotional;</li> <li>Cognitive;</li> <li>Physical (gross and fine motor, self-help skills);</li> <li>Language/Communication Skills;</li> <li>Approaches to Learning. (1.3.1)</li> </ul>	
The program follows a daily schedule and the learning environment supports the interests of the children.	The program posts and follows a daily schedule that supports child-centered play and exploration, both indoors and outdoors, and is responsive to the interests and developmental needs of the children and youth. (1.3.3)	This requirement is essentially equivalent.





Standard 1: Learning Environment/Dev STEP 2/STAR 3	velopmentally Appropriate Practice	
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
The program has a written method of curriculum planning that includes planning from children's interests and skills.	The method of planning activities and experiences is based on children's interests, skills, and abilities. (1.3.2)	This requirement is essentially equivalent.
	NEW: Materials and equipment are developmentally appropriate,	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .
	accessible, and reflect all children's interests, skills, abilities, and represent the children, youth, and families served. (1.3.4)	This requirement aligns with the Child Care Licensing rule, with an additional emphasis on children's interests.
	NEW: The program has a clearly stated policy addressing suspension and	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .
	expulsion and supports available for children with social and emotional and/or behavioral health needs. (1.3.5)	This requirement aligns with Child Care Licensing, with the addition of including available supports.
STEP 4: Provider caring for children ages 3-5 has completed the training on	For programs serving six weeks to kindergarten: The Program Owner has	This requirement has been moved from Step 4 to Star 3.
implementing curriculum based on Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines.	completed the training(s) relevant to all ages enrolled in the program: Infant and Toddler Maine's Early Learning and Development Requirements (Infant Toddler MELDS) for ages birth to three	The language clarifies that the <i>Program Owner</i> must complete the training(s).





<i>Quality for ME</i> Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	years; <i>Maine's Early Learning and</i> <i>Development Requirements (MELDS)</i> for ages three years to kindergarten. (1.3.6)	Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines training has been replaced with Maine's Early Learning and Development Standards (MELDS) training.
		Infant and Toddler Maine Early Learning and Development Standards (IT MELDS) has been added as a requirement for programs serving children six weeks to 36 months.
		<i>Rising Stars for ME</i> checks this requirement via administrative data in the Registry. The Program Owner mus complete the training relevant to each age group in the program.
STEP 3: The Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines and/or Supporting	For programs serving children six weeks to kindergarten: The MELDS	This requirement has moved from Step 3 to Star 3.
Maine's Infants and Toddlers: Guidelines for Learning and Development are on	and IT MELDS documents are referred to during activity planning. (1.3.7)	The documents have been updated to the IT MELDS and MELDS.





Standard 1: Learning Environment STEP 2/STAR 3	/Developmentally Appropriate Practice	
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	NEW: For programs serving infants and toddlers: The activities are	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME.</i>
	individualized to each child's routines and rhythms. (1.3.8)	This requirement is aligned with Child Care Licensing, with the addition of individualizing to a child's "rhythms" or cues as well as routine.

<i>Quality for ME</i> Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	NEW: The program has an articulated approach to learning and development. This can be met in one of the following ways:	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME.</i>
	<ul> <li>a. Using an evidence-based curriculum, such as OWL, Creative Curriculum, HighScope, PreK for ME, etc.</li> <li>b. Following a specific program philosophy, such as Montessori,</li> </ul>	





Standard 1: Learning Environment STEP 3/STAR 4	/Developmentally Appropriate Practice	
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	Waldorf, Reggio Emilia, Lifeways, etc. c. Using the Head Start Child Development and Learning Framework to guide curriculum. d. Using a program-generated method of curriculum development. (1.4.1)	
	NEW: The activity planning shows evidence of supporting children's positive social and emotional development, using strategies with all children and youth that include providing choices, using redirection, reflection, and program solving, and clear rules and expectations. (1.4.2)	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising</i> <i>Stars for ME.</i>





Standard 1: Learning Environment/Dev STEP 4/STAR 5	velopmentally Appropriate Practice	
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Program must be accredited by the National Association for Family Child Care.	The program holds current accreditation from the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) or the American Montessori Society (AMS). (1.5.1)	This requirement is essentially the same, with updated language to include accreditation by the American Montessori Society (AMS).
Provider caring for children ages 3-5 has completed the training on implementing curriculum based on Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines.		This requirement has been moved to Star 3.
Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines are consistently used to guide the development of an age appropriate curriculum for children ages 3-5.		This requirement has been moved to Star 3.





#### Standard 2: Program Evaluation

Previous Step 1 moves to Star 2. No additional requirements.

Previous Step 2 moves to Star 3.

Standard 2: Program Evaluation STEP 2/STAR 3		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
The program provides an opportunity to identify strengths and weaknesses and is inclusive of staff, administrators, and families.	The program completes an annual Family Survey to gather input on the program's strengths and opportunities. (2.3.1)	<i>Rising Stars for ME</i> requires the administration of Family Surveys.
Family Child Care providers with staff will allow for discussion and feedback around assessment.		
	NEW: The program completes the <u>Rising Stars for ME Inclusive Practices</u> <u>Checklist</u> on an annual basis for the following categories: Prerequisites and TWO other categories of choice. (2.3.2)	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .
	NEW: The program writes a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Plan based upon the results from the Family Survey and the <u>Rising Stars for ME Inclusive</u> <u>Practices Checklist.</u> (2.3.3)	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .





Standard 2: Program Evaluation STEP 2/STAR 3		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Programs (with hired staff members) hold staff meetings on a monthly basis.	Programs with staff hold staff meetings at least quarterly that include discussions regarding the CQI plan. (2.3.4)	This requirement is moved from Standard 3: Staffing and Professional Development, Step 2. Staffing meetings must incorporate discussion on the CQI plan on a <i>quarterly</i> basis.

Standard 2: Program Evaluation STEP 3/STAR 4		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
The program is evaluated yearly using a self-assessment tool and has a written improvement plan based upon findings of a comprehensive self-assessment designed to analyze all aspects of the program.	The program conducts an annual self- assessment based on NAFCC or AMS accreditation Standards. (2.4.1) AND The program includes results from the chosen self-assessment and all categories of the <u>Rising Stars for ME</u> <u>Inclusive Practices Checklist</u> in its CQI Plan. (2.4.3)	This requirement has been divided into two requirements addressing the use of a self-assessment and the writing of a CQI plan. The results of the <u>Rising Stars for ME</u> <u>Inclusive Practices Checklist</u> must now be included in the CQI plan.
	NEW: The program completes all categories of the <i>Rising Stars for ME</i>	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .





Standard 2: Program Evaluation STEP 3/STAR 4			
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)	
	<u>Inclusive Practices Checklist</u> on an an annual basis. (2.4.2)		

Standard 2: Program Evaluation
STEP 4/STAR 5

Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Program must be accredited by the National Association for Family Child Care.	The program holds current accreditation from the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) or the American Montessori Society (AMS). (2.5.1)	This requirement is essentially the same, with updated language to include accreditation by the American Montessori Society (AMS).





#### Standard 3: Staffing and Professional Development

Previous Step 1 moves to Star 2. No additional requirements.

Previous Step 2 moves to Star 3.

Standard 3: Staffing and Professional Development STEP 2/STAR 3		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Owner/Director is at Level 3 or above on the MRTQ Direct Care Career Lattice.	The Program Owner is at a Level 3 or above on the MRTQ Direct Care Career Lattice. (3.3.1)	This requirement is essentially the same.

# Standard 3: Staffing and Professional Development STEP 3/STAR 4

Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Owner/Director is at Level 4 or above	The Program Owner is at a Level 4 or	The requirement for the Program
on the MRTQ Direct Care Career Lattice	above on the MRTQ Direct Care Career	Owner/Director to be at Level 4 on
and holds a valid CDA or degree in ECE	Lattice. (3.4.1)	the MRTQ Career Lattice remains the
or a related degree, has a professional	AND	same.
development plan prepared annually,	The Program Owner and any staff	The requirement for the Program
10 hours of professional growth	create an annual Professional	Owner/Direct to have a CDA or early
activities per year above the regulatory	Development Plan addressing their	childhood-related degree has been
minimum.	training and education goals. (3.4.2)	eliminated.
		This requirement has been divided to address Level on the Career Lattice





Standard 3: Staffing and Professio STEP 3/STAR 4	nal Development	
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
		and the creation of a Professional Development Plan separately.
		The requirement for the additional ten hours of professional growth activities has been eliminated.

Standard 3: Staffing and Professional Development STEP 4/STAR 5		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Program must be accredited by the National Association for Family Child Care.	The program holds current accreditation from the National Association for Family Child Care NAFCC) or the American Montessori Society (AMS). (3.5.1)	This requirement is essentially the same, with updated language to include accreditation by the American Montessori Society (AMS).
Owner/Director is at a level 4 or above on the MRTQ Direct Care Career Lattice and holds a valid CDA or college degree in ECE or a related degree.		This requirement has been eliminated.





#### Standard 4: Administration and Business Practices

Changed from Administrative Policies and Procedures

Previous Step 1 moves to Star 2. No additional requirements.

Previous Step 2 moves to Star 3.

Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Programs (include FCC providers who employ staff not related to them) have an employee handbook detailing policies for at least hiring and firing, advancement, grievance, sexual harassment, and child abuse reporting.		This requirement has been eliminated from <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> as it is duplicative of a licensing requirement.
The assistant, unless a family member, has a written job description defining responsibilities. The provider offers an annual review of the assistant's job performance.	All staff have a written job description defining job responsibilities (if applicable). (4.3.1) AND	This requirement has been divided into two requirements for <i>Rising Stars</i> <i>for ME</i> , one addressing written job descriptions and one addressing annual reviews for all staff.
	All staff are evaluated at least annually by a supervisor to refine their skills through feedback and guidance (if applicable). (4.3.4)	
	NEW: The Program Owner has completed the six-hour on-demand	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .





Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	training <i>Supporting Inclusion: Laws and</i> <i>Practices</i> . (4.3.2)	
	NEW: Programs with staff provide monthly opportunities for individual supervision. (4.3.3)	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .
The provider gives written policies to parents: areas covered in written policies include – substitute care arrangement, persons authorized to pick up child, illness, administering medication, emergencies, guidance and discipline, parent conferences and visits, and, if relevant, transportation and/or field trips.		This requirement has been eliminated from <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> as it is duplicative of a licensing requirement.

Standard 4: Administration and Busines STEP 3/STAR 4	s Practices	
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Programs (with hired staff members) hold staff meetings on a monthly basis.		This requirement has been moved to Standard 2: Program Evaluation, Star 3.





Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	NEW: The program uses an appropriate tool to measure the overall quality of their business and professional practices annually. (4.4.1)	This requirement is NEW for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .
The provider gathers information about children's interests and needs through observation and conversations with	The Program Owner (person/persons listed on the license) is/are on-site at least 80% of the time (may be averaged	This requirement is essentially the same regarding consistency of care; the language has been simplified.
parents. This information is used to set goals that support the children's development. Consistency of care – children are not left with a substitute more than 20% of the time (such as 1 hour per every 5 hours, or 1 day per 5 day week, may be averaged over time).	over time). (4.4.2)	The gathering of information from parents section has been eliminated.





Standard 4: Administration and Business Practices STEP 4/STAR 5		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Program must be accredited by the National Association for Family Child Care.	The program holds current accreditation from the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) or the American Montessori Society (AMS). (4.5.1)	This requirement is essentially the same, with updated language to include accreditation by the American Montessori Society (AMS).
The assistant, unless a family member, is paid at least the minimum wage. If the assistant works more than 15 hours a week, the provider pays the employer's share of social security and workers' compensation.		This requirement has been eliminated.





#### Standard 5: Family Engagement and Partnership

Combines Parent/Family Involvement and Family Resources.

Previous Step 1 moves to Star 2. No additional requirements.

Previous Step 2 moves to Star 3.

Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
The program has a written philosophy about the relationship between the parents and the program, which is shared with parents when their children are enrolled.	The program provides families with regular communication and updates on the program in ways that support varied literacy levels, abilities, family culture and home language. (5.3.1)	This requirement has been updated to be inclusive of various communication methods and to recognize the diversity among families.
The program makes families aware of local and state resources available to them. These resources may include: Resource Development Centers, Child Development Services, Maine Parent Federation, WIC, MaineCare, local community events, etc. Way to inform parents of these resources may include: parent resource library, bulletin boards, enrollment packets, etc.	The program provides information for families on local and state resources related to individual child and family needs. (5.3.2)	This requirement is essentially the same; the language has been simplified.





Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Parents are offered at least 1 parent conference a year to discuss the child's progress, behavior, social, and physical needs.	The program offers families at least one conference per year to discuss their child's cognitive, social emotional, and physical development and needs. (5.4.1)	This requirement is essentially the same.
Parent surveys are done annually. The survey tool must be approved by DHHS or the program may use the one provided by DHHS.		The requirement for Family Surveys has been moved to Standard 2: Program Evaluation. The tool used is not required to be "approved" by DHHS.
Parents of infants and toddlers are provided written daily communication about their child's day.		This requirement has been eliminated.
Program maintains current and accurate information about community resources by connecting with their Resource Development Center.		This requirement has been eliminated.
	NEW: The program has a policy addressing its participation in Individualized Family Support Plans (IFSP) and/or Individualized Education Plans (IEP). (5.4.2)	This is a NEW requirement for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .





Standard 5: Family Engagement and Partnership STEP 4/STAR 5			
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)	
Program must be accredited by the National Association for Family Child Care.	The program holds current accreditation from the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) or the American Montessori Society (AMS). (5.5.1)	This requirement is essentially the same, with updated language to include accreditation by the American Montessori Society (AMS).	





#### Standard 6: Child and Youth Assessment

Changed from Authentic Assessment.

Previous Step 1 moves to Star 2. No additional requirements.

Previous Step 2 moves to Star 3.

Standard 6: Child and Youth Assessment STEP 2/STAR 3			
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)	
Evidence is collected 2 times per year on children's development in the following areas:	At least once per year, the program collects and summarizes evidence of children's development in the following	Collection and summary of observation and assessment information changed from TWICE per	
<ul> <li>Social/Emotional</li> <li>Cognitive</li> <li>Physical (gross and fine motor) development</li> <li>Communication</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>areas:</li> <li>Social/Emotional;</li> <li>Cognitive;</li> <li>Physical (gross and fine motor; self-help skills);</li> </ul>	year to ONCE per year.	
Examples of evidence include children's work, observations, interviews with families, audio tape, video tape, photographs. This evidence is	<ul> <li>Language/Communication Skills;</li> <li>Approaches to Learning;</li> <li>and incorporates this evidence into curriculum planning. (6.3.1)</li> </ul>		
incorporated in curriculum planning. For programs serving infants and toddlers, the observations are linked to <i>Supporting Maine's Infants and Toddlers:</i>			





Standard 6: Child and Youth Assessment STEP 2/STAR 3		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Guidelines for Learning and Development (ITLG) and for programs serving children 3-5 years, the observations are linked to Maine's Early Childhood Learning Guidelines (ECLG) which are used as a guide for planning.		

Standard 6: Child and Youth Assessment STEP 3/STAR 4			
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)	
<ul> <li>Evidence is collected 3 times per year on children's development in the following areas:</li> <li>Social/Emotional</li> <li>Cognitive</li> <li>Physical (gross and fine motor)</li> </ul>	At least twice per year, the program collects and summarizes evidence of children's development in the following areas: • Social/Emotional; • Cognitive;	Collection and summary of observation and assessment information changed from THREE TIMES per year to TWICE per year.	
<ul> <li>Physical (gross and line motor) development</li> <li>Communication</li> <li>Examples of evidence include children's work, observations, interviews with families, audio tape, video tape,</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Physical (gross and fine motor; self- help skills);</li> <li>Language (Communication Skills)</li> </ul>		





Standard 6: Child and Youth Assessment STEP 3/STAR 4		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
photographs. This evidence is incorporated in curriculum planning.	and incorporates this evidence into curriculum planning. (6.4.1)	
For programs serving infants and toddlers, the observations are linked to <i>Supporting Maine's Infants and Toddlers:</i> <i>Guidelines for Learning and Development</i> ( <i>ITLG</i> ) and for programs serving children 3-5 years, the observations are linked to <i>Maine's Early Childhood Learning</i> <i>Guidelines (ECLG)</i> which are used as a guide for planning.		

Standard 6: Child and Youth Assessment STEP 4/STAR 5		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Program must be accredited by the National Association for Family Child Care.	The program holds current accreditation from the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) or the American Montessori Society (AMS). (6.5.1)	This requirement is essentially the same, with updated language to include accreditation by the American Montessori Society (AMS).





Standard 6: Child and Youth Assessmer STEP 4/STAR 5	nt	
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
Evidence is collected 4 times per year on children's development in the following areas:		This requirement has been eliminated.
<ul> <li>Social/Emotional</li> <li>Cognitive</li> <li>Physical (gross and fine motor) development</li> <li>Communication</li> </ul>		
Examples of evidence include children's work, observations, interviews with families, audio tape, video tape, photographs. This evidence is incorporated in curriculum planning.		
For programs serving infants and toddlers, the observations are linked to <i>Supporting Maine's Infants and Toddlers:</i> <i>Guidelines for Learning and Development</i> ( <i>ITLG</i> ) and for programs serving children 3-5 years, the observations are linked to <i>Maine's Early Childhood Learning</i> <i>Guidelines (ECLG)</i> which are used as a guide for planning.		





### Standard 7: Health, Safety, Physical Activity, and Nutrition

This is a NEW Standard.

Standard: Health, Safety, Physical Activity, and Nutrition STEP 2/STAR 3		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	The program completes an annual nutrition/physical activity baseline self- assessment then develops and implements an action plan to achieve one strategy for improvement. (7.3.1)	This is a NEW requirement for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .

Standard 7: Health, Safety, Physical Activity, and Nutrition STEP 3/STAR 4		
Quality for ME Requirement	Rising Stars for ME Requirement	Change(s)
	The program completes an annual nutrition/physical activity baseline self- assessment then develops and implements an action plan to achieve two strategies for improvement. (7.4.1)	This is a NEW requirement for <i>Rising Stars for ME</i> .





Standard 7: Health, Safety, Physical Activity, and Nutrition STEP 4/STAR 5		
Quality for ME Requirement	<b>Rising Stars for ME Requirement</b>	Change(s)
	The program holds current accreditation from the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC) or the American Montessori Society (AMS). (7.5.1)	This requirement is essentially the same, with updated language to include accreditation by the American Montessori Society (AMS).