

May 31, 2023

Dear Early Childhood Education Program Directors and Family Child Care Providers:

Last week, the Grow NJ Kids (GNJK) rating partner, the [Center for Research and Evaluation on Education and Human Services \(CREEHS\)](#), announced the launch of a **new Streamlined Re-rating process for programs and providers that currently have a GNJK Official Star Rating**. Moving forward, Streamlined Re-rating will be available to programs **three years after completion of a full, non-streamlined rating**.

Please see below for important information as it may relate to your program and the Streamlined Re-rating process. For specific information about your program's eligibility, rating components, or process, please consult with your Technical Assistance Specialist.

Streamlined Re-rating eligibility

We expect most programs and providers that already have an Official Star Rating will be eligible for the Streamlined Re-rating process, with a few exceptions outlined in the table below.

Programs or providers that may be ineligible for Streamlined Re-rating	
Programs and providers that have not maintained policies, procedures, training and time-sensitive documentation	Programs and providers for which documents from the last rating submission are unavailable
Programs that were NAEYC-accredited during their last rating process but are no longer NAEYC-accredited	Programs and providers with ratings that expire between March 1, 2020 and September 8, 2023 that do not submit for Streamlined Re-rating by March 8, 2024
Programs and providers that have had a change in name, ownership, license # and/or location	Head Start programs (rating for Head Start programs will be available soon)

In some cases, programs or providers that fall into these categories may still be eligible for Streamlined Re-rating, and any that are not eligible may still achieve a GNJK Star Rating by submitting for rating via the full, non-streamlined rating process, with the exception of Head Start programs (at this time).

Streamlined Re-rating components

A Streamlined Re-rating consists of three components:

- Completion of required hours of formal curriculum training
- Submission of select time-sensitive documentation and training records, and/or NAEYC accreditation documentation
- Meeting Environment Rating Scale score thresholds via a rating observation (not applicable for NAEYC-accredited programs seeking a Star 3 Rating)

Additionally, programs seeking a higher Star Rating than previously received can submit additional GNJK standards documentation to accumulate points towards meeting the required point total.

Streamlined Re-rating process

Programs and providers that wish to submit for the Streamlined Re-rating process should work with their Technical Assistance Specialist to upload the necessary documentation to the NJCCIS File Cabinet, and file for rating. Then, the program or provider will be assigned to a Quality Rating Coordinator who will request

select time-sensitive documentation, and review all training records and submitted documents. Once the training and documentation review is complete, the program or provider will be assigned to an Independent Rater(s) who will conduct the rating observation(s). Once the observation(s) is conducted and scored, the Star Rating is finalized and a Streamlined Re-rating Summary Report is shared with the program or provider. Further details regarding the Streamlined Re-rating process can be found on our website, www.montclair.edu/gnjkrating.

Programs with an expired Star Rating

Programs with a GNJK Official Star Rating that expired or will expire between March 1, 2020 and September 8, 2023 may submit for Streamlined Re-rating by **March 8, 2024**. Programs that are not ready for rating by March 8, 2024 should submit for the full, non-streamlined rating process by **September 9, 2024**. Programs with an Official Star Rating that expires after September 8, 2023 must submit for re-rating two months prior to their rating expiration date to ensure their Star Rating does not lapse.

We are excited to give programs and providers the opportunity to receive a new GNJK Official Star Rating without having to restart the entire rating process, and we look forward to reviewing Streamlined Re-rating submissions! If you have any questions, please contact your Technical Assistance Specialist, or feel free to reach out to us at GNJKrating@montclair.edu.

Best,

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