

# Texas Rising Star Four Year Review 2023

*State Workgroup Meeting – October 11, 2023*



**Texas**   
**Rising Star**

# Agenda

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Review and Consider  
Summary of Input

- Screening Form
- Screening Processes



# Issues for Consideration

- Screening Processes



**What should we consider to support high-quality?**



# Screening Form – Consideration Review

Consideration	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increase Required Screening Frequencies from Quarterly to Monthly</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Working with CLI to fully automate this review to be a notification vs a formal review</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Remove or revise Probation B impact of total high/medium-high deficiencies</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Revise Probation B to mimic points threshold for consistency</li><li>• Probation B = 50 or more points total (not to exceed 75)</li></ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clarify Rule language §809.132(e) and (f) to ease regaining of status</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Revise rule to clarify that a program can return to their previous star level or request certification (from suspension) if they have not received any of the specific deficiencies that caused the drop</li><li>• Example: Program dropped from Three-Star to Two-Star due to 745.621; can return to Three-Star after 6-months if no other Star-Level Drop deficiencies incurred, but can get a Probation A or any other high/medium-high deficiency and placed on any additional impact, as applicable</li></ul>

Additional Considerations: Add or Revise deficiencies on the Screening forms



# Screening Form Proposal 1 – Review of Focus Group Feedback

Consideration	Agree	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increase Required Screening Frequencies from Quarterly to Monthly</li></ul>	50%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Some Boards already do this</li><li>Would be workload for Central Assessor Entity</li><li>Allows for impact to be in place sooner</li><li>Feels too watchful</li><li>Require mentors to unofficially check monthly</li></ul>

## Current process:

- Assessor to screen every quarter for compliance
- Automated process within Engage
- Impact is imposed upon discovery, even if citation was from 2-3 months ago
- Impacts Notice Form is completed and shared with program and mentor



# Proposal 1 – Workgroup Discussion Notes

For Consideration	Questions or Concerns	Benefits or Suggestions	Workgroup Decision
<p><b>Increase Required Screening Frequencies from Quarterly to Monthly</b></p>	<p><b>Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many Boards are already doing monthly screenings? <i>2 out of the 12 Boards noted mentors screen monthly</i></li> <li>Are the next steps the same (impacts) regardless of screening frequency? <i>Yes</i></li> <li>Will CAE have sufficient assessors? <i>Automated process within CLI Engage.</i></li> <li>What is the purpose of screening monthly when programs are monitored annually? <i>Review what is happening now, rather than retroactively; Would help mentors know what is going on with the programs.</i></li> <li>How does the timeline for appeals for licensing decisions factor into the monthly screenings? <i>The current process does not impose an impact until the deficiency is posted on the website. The deficiency is not posted on the website until CCR has finished the appeal process if it is being appealed.</i></li> <li>Can only the more serious violations be updated every month? <i>Currently CLI Engage identifies the specified deficiencies and the high and medium high deficiencies in the most recent 12 months.</i></li> <li>How do we get buy in from programs? <i>Mentors are work with the programs to give support as needed.</i></li> <li>Is there a way to work through the deficiencies that are corrected with licensing with the mentor or assessor?</li> </ul> <p><b>Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The screening form focuses on what is wrong, not what is being done well.</li> <li>Serious deficiencies noted by local media may not have yet been captured due to quarterly screening timeline.</li> <li>Difficult to wait 2 months to know what the impact will be. From a director’s point of view, a monthly screening would be helpful.</li> <li>When a program is cited by licensing but corrects the issue immediately, the program still potentially loses a star level, thus lose funding and makes it harder to maintain quality with lower reimbursement.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Benefits</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Since the system is automated, it makes more sense to do screenings monthly since it is not a big workload.</li> <li>From a director’s point of view, a monthly screening would be helpful.</li> </ul> <p><b>Suggestions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On the Search Texas Child Care website, there is an option to subscribe to a program’s compliance history. Subscribers are notified when CCR goes out to a program and if a deficiency is posted. This feature is meant for parents to monitor the program, could be used by Boards and/or assessors. How could this tie into an increased monitoring frequency?</li> <li>Take into consideration how the program responded to the deficiency, what training was offered, what is the history (is this a recurring deficiency)</li> <li>Utilize a potential enhanced automation feature and remove the time frame. The automated report would post the deficiency to the Engage event log at the time it was posted on the CCR website, and the assessor could be notified in real time as the information is posted. In this case, response time would need to be defined.</li> </ul>	<p>The frequency of screening needs to be discussed further.</p> <p>Will add to the bi-weekly call agenda to engage collaboratively.</p>



# Screening Form Proposal 2

Consideration	Agree	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove or revise Probation B impact of total high/medium-high deficiencies</li> </ul>	58%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Several proposed thresholds (25, 50, 60) or revisions to totals (6-10, 7-10)</li> <li>Removal or revision may reduce quality and allow programs too much leeway with licensing compliance</li> <li>Revising can support consistency</li> </ul>

## Current Process:

- Certified programs who obtain between 10-14 High and/or Medium-High CCR deficiencies are placed on a 6-month Probation B
- This includes ANY High and/or Medium-High weighted deficiencies not just those specified on the screening forms

When considering the Entry Level points system, this equates to:

Total deficiencies	10	11	12	13	14	15
Medium-High (3 pts)	30	33	36	39	42	45
High (5 pts)	50	55	60	65	70	75

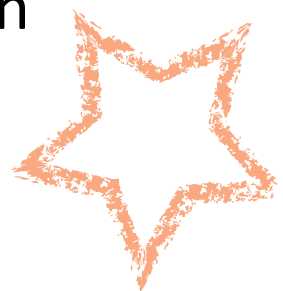


# Screening Form Proposal 3

Consideration	Agree	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Clarify Rule language §809.132(e) and (f) to ease regaining of status</li></ul>	83%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Feels less impactful and makes rules easier to understand</li><li>Revising might lower the expectation standard</li></ul>

## Current Process

- Programs who drop a star-level or placed on suspension due to screening form impacts can be removed from that impact if within the 6-month impact they have not been cited for:
  - Any specified star-level drop deficiency,
  - Any specified Probation A deficiency, or
  - Any High or Medium-High deficiency
- Thus, if a program received ANY High or Medium-High deficiency within their 6-month impact they could not be reinstated.





# Screening Form – Additional Considerations Proposal

- Add deficiency to the Screening forms
  - Centers
    - [Child Caregiver Ratios 746.1601](#)
- Revise deficiency on Screening forms
  - Centers
    - [746.1003 Director's responsibilities](#) to indicate 1, 3, 4 and 5 only (remove 2 and 6)



# Processes and Protocols Additional Consideration: Initial Screening Protocol

**REVISE** Initial Screening Form Protocol: Require a threshold to request certification instead of using the initial screening form

- Current Process: Programs determined ready for Initial Certification must comply with their facility specific Screening Form, which includes not having specified deficiencies within their most recent 12-month CCR history.

## Question

- What would this look like and how does it compare to the current process?

## Concerns

- (screening form) May be too easy to impact program's star level after years of work; need to consider minimizing impacts

## Benefits

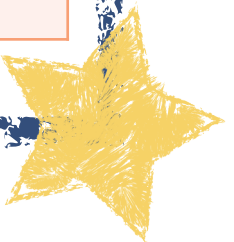
- Would allow programs who have a recent citation to be certified w/in the Entry Level timeframe.

## Suggestions

- none

## 9/27:

Workgroup requested more information; TWC will provide a mockup of examples for both scenarios and rediscuss at future date.



# Workgroup Consideration – Impacts to Certified Programs

Review of the current impacts for Certified Programs

- No Tolerance Section
  - Immediate loss of certification
  - 7 factors
  - Varying return requirements dependent on issue
- Star-Level Drop Deficiencies
  - 6-month star-level drop for each specified deficiency
  - Can return w/ no additional deficiencies cited
- Probation A
  - 6-month probation (watch) for specified deficiencies
  - Can be removed w/ no additional deficiencies cited
- Probation B (previously discussed)
  - 6-month probation (watch) for total High/Medium-high (regardless of specified)
  - Can be removed w/ no additional deficiencies cited

# Next Steps

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- Next virtual meeting is October 25 at 10:00 AM
- POLL: Next in-person will be November 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- Revising the timeline; goal for effective by 10/01/24

[TRS4YearReview@twc.Texas.gov](mailto:TRS4YearReview@twc.Texas.gov)

