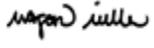


## TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION LETTER

<b>ID/No:</b>	WD 27-15
<b>Date:</b>	November 6, 2015
<b>Keyword:</b>	Child Care
<b>Effective:</b>	Immediately

**To:** Local Workforce Development Board Executive Directors  
Commission Executive Offices  
Integrated Service Area Managers  


**From:** Reagan Miller, Director, Workforce Development Division

**Subject:** **Texas Rising Star Guidelines Revisions: Application and Self-Assessment for Accredited Providers**

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### **PURPOSE:**

To provide Local Workforce Development Boards (Boards) with information and guidance on:

- national accreditations recognized by the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) for the Off-Base Child Care Military Fee Assistance Program; and
- modifications to the Texas Rising Star (TRS) application process for nationally accredited and nonaccredited providers.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Currently, the Texas Rising Star Guidelines (TRS Guidelines) require that nationally accredited providers wishing to participate in the TRS certification system complete the TRS application process required of all TRS applicants, which includes the following:

- TRS application
- TRS orientation
- Licensing screening form
- Self-assessment form
- Document checklist to support TRS measures (except for accredited providers for the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) and the National Association for Family Child Care (NAFCC))

Under current TRS Guidelines, facilities with the following national accreditations are initially certified at the 4-star level without a full TRS assessment:

- NAEYC
- NAFCC

The national accreditations above are recognized by DoD for child care facilities operated by the U.S. military on military installations.

Along with NAEYC and NAFCC, the following national accreditations are required in order for a child care facility to participate in DoD's Off-Base Child Care Military Fee Assistance Program:

- National Early Childhood Program Accreditation (NECPA)
- National Accreditation Commission for Early Child Care and Education (NAC)
- Council of Accreditation (COA)

## **PROCEDURES:**

### **Additional National Accreditations Initially Certified at the 4-Star Level**

**NLF:** Boards must be aware that on November 3, 2015, the Texas Workforce Commission's three-member Commission (Commission) approved modifying the TRS Guidelines to allow providers with the following national accreditations to be initially certified at the 4-star level without a full TRS assessment:

- NECPA
- NAC
- COA

### **Streamline Application Process for Nationally Accredited Providers**

**NLF:** Boards must be aware that on November 3, 2015, the Commission approved modifying the TRS Guidelines to only require nationally accredited providers to submit the following documents to apply for TRS certification:

- TRS application
- Licensing screening form

**NLF:** Boards must be aware that all accredited providers are still required to view the online TRS orientation at <https://texasrisingstar.org/wordpress/providers>.

## **INQUIRIES:**

Direct inquiries regarding this WD Letter to [wfpolicy.clarifications@twc.state.tx.us](mailto:wfpolicy.clarifications@twc.state.tx.us).

## **RESCISSIONS:**

None

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## **REFERENCE:**

Texas Workforce Commission Child Care Services Rules: 40 TAC, Chapter 809

## **FLEXIBILITY RATINGS:**

**No Local Flexibility (NLF):** This rating indicates that Boards must comply with the federal and state laws, rules, policies, and required procedures set forth in this WD Letter and have no local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to comply. All information with an NLF rating is indicated by "must" or "shall."

**Local Flexibility (LF)**: This rating indicates that Boards have local flexibility in determining whether and/or how to implement guidance or recommended practices set forth in this WD Letter. All information with an LF rating is indicated by “may” or “recommend.”