

Texas Rising Star (TRS)
TRS Workgroup Meeting
~~January 24, 2014~~
Rescheduled - January 31, 2014

TAB 1 – Welcome, Roll-Call and Overview of the Agenda (Attachment 1)

TAB 2 – Approval of December 19, 2013 Meeting Notes (Attachment 2)

TAB 3 – Review of Draft Assessment Recommendations (Attachment 3)

- TRS Facility
- Child Assessments

TAB 4 – Subcommittee Reports: Work Scope, Work Plan, Parking Lot;

- Draft Subcommittee Recommendations (Attachment 4)
- Discussion on Structural Measurement

Director & Staff Qualifications and Training – Elaine Zweig, Ph.D.

Caregiver-Child Interactions – Mary Clare Munger, M.Ed.

Curriculum/Physical and Social Activities – Dr. John Gasko

Parent Involvement and Education – Pat Smith

TAB 5 – Implementation Options of *New* TRS Standards (Attachment 5)

Grandfathering Discussion

- National Accreditation, Military
- Location changes

Upcoming Agenda items;
Assessors separate from Mentors/TA

DRAFT RECOMMENDATIONS

TRS Facility Assessments and Child Assessments

TRS Facility Assessments

Process for Application: *Draft Recommendations*

Providers applying for TRS certification should be required to:

- attend an orientation or watch a video providing an overview of the TRS application process, TRS criteria, and TRS assessment process; and
- complete a TRS Self-Assessment tool.

Process for Facility Assessment and Monitoring: *Draft Recommendations*

Assessments

TRS-certified providers should be reassessed for TRS certification every three years with an on-site visit.

All classrooms for any size facility should be assessed initially. The number of classrooms assessed in subsequent assessments will be based on a combination of size, age groups served by the provider and the star level.

2 Star – XX classrooms, or XX%, of classrooms, whichever is greater

3-Star – XX classrooms, or XX% of classrooms, whichever is greater

4-Star – XX classrooms or XX% of classrooms, whichever is greater

Monitoring

TRS-certified providers should be monitored twice a year. The monitoring process should consist of:

- provider written self-monitoring reports based on the TRS standards;
- completion of an annual classroom self-assessment tool developed by TRS and completed by each classroom teacher; and
- a review of the most recent 12-month licensing history to ensure the provider meets the TRS threshold for minimum licensing deficiencies **[to be determined through additional TRS workgroup discussion]**;
- a random site-visit by the TRS Assessor.

Child Assessments

Child Assessments: *Draft Recommendations*

Child Assessment measures should only be included in the 4-star standards.

The child assessments must be used by the provider to:

- chart the child's progress over time;
- provide feedback to the parents;
- help with classroom management and discipline; and
- assist in developing curriculum and daily activities to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.

The TRS Workgroup does not currently have a recommendation regarding the use of a specific set or menu of child assessment tools that should be used by providers. Options include:

- Maintaining an approved list of assessment tools selected by TWC.
- Maintaining an approved list of assessment tools recommended by a separate committee.
- Conducting a survey among subsidized child care providers and use their feedback to select an assessment tool.
- Recommending use of the Ages & Stages assessment tool. The Ages & Stages tool is a basic tool with a good indicator of development milestones and is not overwhelming for teachers to complete.

DRAFT

Implementation Options for *New* TRS Standards

Option 1)

- Freeze all providers at current TRS star level and current Board enhanced rates effective January 2015 (approximate date final rules are adopted)
- Training on new TRS standards: February 2015 through March 2015 (2 months)
- Reassessment period: from April 2015 through January 1, 2016 (9 months)
- Assessments using new TRS standards:
 - Existing Providers: must be completed within the Reassessment period.
 - New Providers: schedule assessment only upon completing reassessment of all existing TRS providers and as workload permits
- Existing TRS providers may or may not be at the same star level after assessment using new TRS standards
- Rates:
 - Existing Providers: eligible for new enhanced rates effective 1/1/2016 and thereafter (once re-assessed)
 - New Providers: eligible for new enhanced rates effective 1/1/2016 and thereafter (once assessed)
- Provide mentoring/coaching to assist provider in achieving a higher Star level (ongoing)

Option 2)

- All existing TRS provider certifications will remain as they currently are (2 Star, 4 Star, etc.)
- Training on new TRS standards: February 2015 through March 2015 (2 months)
- Reassessment period: from April 2015 through January 1, 2016 (9 months)
- Assessments using new TRS standards:
 - Existing Providers: must be completed within the Reassessment period.
 - New Providers: schedule assessment only upon completing assessment of all existing TRS providers and as workload permits
- Existing TRS providers may or may not be at the same star level after assessment using new TRS standards
- Rates:
 - Existing Providers (who have not been reassessed): eligible for new enhanced rates effective 9/1/2015 based on existing TRS certification Star Level; whether they have been reassessed or not
 - Existing Providers (who have been reassessed): eligible for new enhanced rates effective on the date of reassessment based on new TRS standards
 - New Providers: eligible for new enhanced rates effective on the date of assessment on the new TRS standards
- Provide mentoring/coaching to assist providers in achieving a higher Star level (ongoing)

Discussion

- Grandfathering; National Accreditation, Military
- Location Changes