

Quality Child Care & Early Education Review

How-to Guide

- **When do I use this form?** This form is for JRSSRs involving a child 0 to 5 years old who is not yet in school. Complete one for each child in your case that matches that description.
- **How do I complete the form?**
 - a. Answer each question on the form.

Question tips:

- i. Determining if a provider participates in Gold Seal or Head Start:
 1. Use the DCF CARES website:
<https://cares.myflfamilies.com/PublicSearch/>
 - a. Search by the zip code of the provider.
 - b. Select the provider from the resulting list.
 - c. Look to see whether under the “Programs” field, the provider has an image representing participation in:
 - i. Gold Seal



OR

- ii. Head Start



- ii. Determining if a provider participates in Quality Counts for Kids:
 1. Review the Early Learning Coalition monthly report distributed to the Program Directors by Eckerd’s Fostering Education Initiative. Note the Quality Counts for Kids providers are listed by zip code.

OR
 2. Ask Karen Perkins of the Early Learning Coalition if the provider participates in Quality Counts for Kids by emailing: kperkins@elchc.org.
- iii. Submitting an inquiry to the Early Learning Coalition regarding quality of a program:
 1. Email Karen Perkins (kperkins@elchc.org) with the following:
 - a. I am a case manager with the child welfare system and am trying to determine the quality of the following child care provider: INSERT NAME AND ZIP CODE OF DAY CARE.

- iv. Reviewing the provider's licensing history:
 - 1. Go to the DCF Cares website:
<https://cares.myflfamilies.com/PublicSearch>
 - 2. Search by the provider's zip code (this is the easiest way to search the site). Note: it is a statewide website and so can be used to look up information for any child care around the state.
 - 3. Find your provider from the resultant list and click on the name.
 - 4. To find out whether the provider had a licensing violation, click on the PDF reports linked in the "Inspection Reports" section.
 - 5. Class One Violations include violations that pose an "imminent threat to a child including abuse or neglect and which could or does result in the death or serious harm to the health, safety or well-being of a child".

In addition to looking out for serious, Class One Violations, also be aware of whether there's a pattern of violations.

- v. Providing information to caregivers on quality child care:
 - 1. Tell caregivers to call Child Care Resource and Referral at 813-906-5041 or complete an online request at
https://www.elchc.org/programs_services/child-care-resource-referral/
Advise the caregivers to request a list of Gold Seal Accredited, Quality Counts for Kids, and Early Head Start/Head Start providers in their zip code. Advise the caregivers to put in their phone or online request that they are asking on behalf of a child in the child welfare system and that they need the list of providers as quickly as possible.
 - 2. Remind the caregivers to review the licensing history of their chosen provider on the DCF Cares website:
<https://cares.myflfamilies.com/PublicSearch>
 - 3. Suggest to caregivers that they should explore the Ages 0 to 5 resources on the following site:
<http://centerforchildwelfare.fmhi.usf.edu/Circuit13.shtml>

b. Obtain from the child care provider and attach the following:

- i. Attendance Record
- ii. Child's Latest Developmental Screen

c. Obtain and attach any of the following that are applicable:

- i. Individualized Education Plan
- ii. Individualized Family Support Plan (will have if participating in Early Steps)
- iii. Updates from any providers serving the child

- **What do I do with this form when it is completed?** Send the completed form and all appropriate attachments to the Attorney General's office.

- **How will this form be used at the hearing?** Each party and the judge will receive a copy of this form and the attachments. The attorneys at the hearing will ask you questions based on the form. The Judge will make findings regarding the child's early education based on the responses.