



Learning Environment (ERS) and Teaching & Interaction (CLASS) Training Policy Update

As of June 2015, Learning Environment Trainings (ERS) are required for all Centers/Preschools, Public Schools and Family Child Care Homes at Star Levels 2 through 5.

Teaching and Interaction Trainings (CLASS) are required for Centers/Preschools and Public Schools applying for a Star Level 4.

At least one person per site is required to complete the approved training(s). BrightStars strongly recommends that center-based and public school programs have at least two people complete the trainings (an administrator and a classroom teacher) to build program capacity and to allow for staff turnover.

Centers/Preschools serving infants and toddlers (under 30 months) are required to complete ITERS training. Centers/Preschools and Public Schools serving preschoolers (ages 30 months through 5 years old) need to complete the ECERS training. Centers serving both age groups need to complete both trainings. Family Child Care Providers are required to complete FCCERS training.

LEARNING ENVIRONMENT TRAINING (Standard One): If the program completes training at The Center for Early Learning Professionals, The Center will verify training has been completed. To view available trainings, visit The Center website at: <http://center-elp.org/professional-development/center-offerings/>

A paper certificate is not required, but is also proof that the training has been completed.

Additional *equivalent* trainings include:

- Six (6) hour ERS trainings previously offered by BrightStars. This includes prior trainings for ECERS, ITERS and FCCERS.
- ERS 101 Online Training by Environment Rating Scales Institute (ERSi) and administered by Kaplan: <https://www.kaplanco.com/product/29155P/ers-101-online-training>

TEACHING AND INTERACTION TRAINING (Standard Seven): If the program completes training at The Center for Early Learning Professionals, The Center will verify training has been completed. Currently, this is the only option available to programs.

Programs applying for a new BrightStars rating, renewal or star increase after July 1, 2015 must have already completed this training. This applies to ALL programs applying for a rating higher than a 1 Star.