



# Race for the Stars

Application for Participation June 2010

Child Care Center or Sponsoring Organization

1) Please describe the mission and vision of your organization. Please include the number of years your program has been in operation
2) Please describe your organizations child care philosophy.
3) Please provide a description of the services your program provides. Please include parent engagement strategies, parent/child community referral programs, child assessments, curriculum, hours of operation, etc.
4) Please describe the geographic and demographic information of the community and children you serve. Please include the number of children you serve on a daily basis, the number of unduplicated children you serve and the licensing capacity for your program. Additional examples include the number of low-income children, minority children and other at-risk indicators. Please explain if organization is located in at-risk neighborhood and the characteristics of the neighborhood your organization serves.
5) Please explain why your program is interested in participating in a quality improvement project?
6) Please describe what your center would look like at its highest quality. What steps do you need to take to achieve that level of quality?
7) What resources are most needed by your program to improve quality? Why? In what ways would you use the new resources?
8) What other child care quality enhancement programs does your center participate in (ie: Texas Rising Star) What resources do you receive from that program?
9) What is your center's plan to make provisions for the time commitment and overall staff effort that is required to participate in the Program?
10) Please describe any current or past violations from child care licensing. Please explain what actions were taken to bring your program into compliance
11) Are you currently on probationary status with child care licensing? Do you have a current plan of action with the state?
12) Are families charged fees for the program? Please describe the fees charged for the varying ages of children served. What percentage of your total enrollment receives subsidized care?

13) Please describe whether you own or lease the space for the program. If the space is leased, please state when the lease will expire. Does your program have any plans for capacity expansion? If so, please describe. Please include how long you will be at your existing site.
14) Please explain if you measure any outcomes associated with the children in the program. Examples include children meeting developmental milestones, children being prepared for Kindergarten and others.
15) Please describe the staff retention or turn-over rates of your organization. Please describe the number of staff in your organization, the ratios of your children: staff (broken down by age level if appropriate) the education and salary levels of your staff.
16) Does your organization encourage professional development of staff? Please describe the current professional development strategies employed at your organization
17) Please describe your organizations accounting practices. Please include whether you have an audit or financial review and the frequency at which this occurs. In addition, please describe whether you maintain and adhere to an annual budget and if you review profit and loss statements for you program