



# Early Learning Services and Programs for Families



**FIND CHILD CARE AND SERVICES THAT HELP YOUR FAMILY**

Call 1-877-4-PA-KIDS  
or visit [www.raiseyourstar.org](http://www.raiseyourstar.org)  
to find an ELRC near you.



**FIND THE EARLY LEARNING SERVICES RIGHT FOR YOUR FAMILY**



## What are Early Learning Resource Centers?

The Early Learning Resource Centers are also called ELRCs. ELRCs help families pay for and find child care. ELRC staff help families select high quality child care and help child care programs improve their services through Keystone STARS. ELRCs connect families to the programs and services in this brochure.

If you are pregnant or have a baby or young child, call or visit your ELRC for help.



## What programs and services do ELRCs offer?

### Child Care Subsidy

Child Care Works is subsidized child care that helps working families pay for child care. Ask your ELRC about Child Care Works and how to apply.

### Resource & Referral Services

Resource and Referral services help families find child care and other programs. ELRCs can help you find child care that is near your home and work. ELRC staff can also connect you with other programs for your child and family.

### Keystone STARS

Keystone STARS helps child care programs improve the quality of care they provide to children and families. “Certified” child care programs must meet the health and safety needs of children.

Keystone STARS is used to rate “certified” child care programs from STAR 1 to STAR 4. The highest quality rating is STAR 4. These ratings are one way to determine which program is best for your child. ELRCs can help you understand these ratings.

### Early Intervention Services

Early Intervention (EI) programs help families with young children with disabilities or delays. EI programs can help with your child’s development and provide information to families.

How children change and grow is different for each child. If you have a concern about your child’s development, ask your ELRC about Early Intervention.

Families can also call the CONNECT Helpline at 1-800-692-7288 for help.

### Early Head Start and Head Start

Head Start and Early Head Start programs are for children from birth until they start kindergarten. These programs are free to eligible families. ELRCs can help you find a program near you.

### Home Visiting and Family Centers

Home Visiting and Family Centers are programs that support families. These programs answer questions about prenatal care, health and nutrition, or how to care for your baby as he or she grows. Your ELRC can help connect you to programs in your area.

### PA Pre-K Counts

PA Pre-K Counts is a free preschool program for eligible children. Your ELRC can help you decide and apply if Pre-K Counts is right for you and your family.

### Child Care Certification

Child Care Certification makes sure child care programs are safe and healthy for children. It is important that you choose a “certified” program. Certified child care programs have a “Certificate of Compliance.” This paper must be posted where people can read it. Call your ELRC to learn more about what makes a program safe and healthy.

## CONTACT YOUR EARLY LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find the Early Learning Resource Center near you, visit [www.raiseyourstar.org](http://www.raiseyourstar.org) or call 1-877-4-PA-KIDS (or 1-877-472-5437).