Getting to Know Delaware Stars

**Continuous Quality Improvement** is at the heart of Delaware Stars for *Early Success*. All participating programs engage in intentional planning to set goals and work toward those goals to improve the quality of care they provide. The Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) supports this process, which is a document that programs use as a framework to make decisions related to quality improvement efforts.

**Technical Assistance** (TA) is offered to programs participating in Delaware Stars. A TA will provide on-site support to programs and help a program navigate the quality improvement journey. While on-site, TAs will spend time both in the classroom as well as with the administrative staff to implement strategies and evaluate progress.

**Quality Assured Professional Development** (PD) is also available to participating programs. Quality Assured PD is approved through the DIEEC Professional Development System.

**Standards of Quality** reflect a quality framework across four dimensions of practice including: Family and Community Partnerships, Qualifications and Professional Development, Management and Administration, and Learning Environment and Curriculum. Programs select standards under each of the four areas. Different standards have been established for center-based, family child care, and school-age programs.

**Grants** are allocated for programs participating in Delaware Stars. These funds can be used to pay for PD (except for those required by licensing) or for classroom materials and furnishings.

**Tiered Reimbursement** for POC available for programs at Star Levels 3, 4, and 5.

**Applying** is easy! Applications **with acceptance criteria** can be found on the Delaware Stars website at the following address: [http://delawarestars.udel.edu](http://delawarestars.udel.edu). **Applications are accepted on a quarterly basis** – January 15, April 15, July 15, and October 15.

If you have any questions, please contact Rena Hallam, Stars Director at [rhallam@udel.edu](mailto:rhallam@udel.edu) or Mary Sonnenberg, Stars Deputy Director at [msonnenb@udel.edu](mailto:msonnenb@udel.edu).