

Keystone STARS Bonus Point Quality Initiative: PA Eco Healthy Child Care

In which Keystone STARS Performance Standard will I earn bonus points for successfully implementing PA Eco Healthy Child Care?

Leadership and Management (2 points)

How does PA Eco Healthy Child Care align with the Keystone STARS Performance Standards?

PA Eco Healthy Child Care supports Leadership and Management because it is an organized effort to promote environmental health improvements in early childhood education programs. Programs will be making their facilities and programs healthier resulting in a positive impact on the health of the children and program staff.

Through completing professional development courses, programs will focus on creating and maintaining an early childhood learning environment that addresses the range of environmental health topics including but not limited to:

- Air Quality
- Integrated Pest Management
- Chemical Hazards
- Environmental Tobacco Smoke
- Water Quality
- Lead (soil, water, products)
- Sun Safety
- Radon
- Plastics
- Furniture and Carpets
- Playground Equipment
- Noise Pollution
- Art Supplies
- Recycling and Garbage Storage

This will reduce children's and staff's exposure to chemicals and pollutants and will support programs that sustain environmentally friendly practices (recycling, reducing paper use, purchasing sustainable products, reducing waste, etc.).

What evidence should I expect to provide to my Quality Coach to show full implementation of PA Eco Healthy Child Care?

Evidence of annual professional development for staff (minimum 2 hours per person) on environmental health topics, presented by qualified professionals or approved Pennsylvania Key online module.

Assessment using EHCC Checklist Self-endorsement is optional because of cost and extremely limited validation of checklist items. Fee: \$25.00 if 1 - 20 children; \$50.00 if 21 or more children.

Policies in staff and family handbooks that are consistent with *Model Child Health Policies*, or equivalent, with inclusion of *Caring for Our Children* Standards.

Who do I contact for more information on PA Eco Healthy Child Care?

Organization: PA Chapter, American Academy of Pediatrics/Early Childhood Education Linkage System (ECELS)
Address: Rose Tree Corporate Center II – 1400 North Providence Rd, Suite 4000 Media, PA 19063
Phone: 800-243-2357
Email: ecels@paaap.org
Website: www.ecels-healthychildcarepa.org

Where do I go to find additional information on PA Eco Healthy Child Care?

- Early Childhood Education Linkage System (ECELS): www.ecels-healthychildcarepa.org
- [ECELS Indoor Air Quality Self -Learning Module](#)
- [ECELS Pest Management: Integrated Pest Management Self-Learning Module](#)
- Children’s Environmental Health Network: <https://cehn.org>
- [Eco-Healthy Child Care Online Module](#)
- [Eco-Healthy Child Care Fact Sheets](#)
- [Eco-Healthy Child Care Endorsement](#)
- PD Registry: papdregistry.org
- Caring for Our Children: National Health and Safety Performance Standards; Guidelines for Early Care and Education Programs - [Chapter 5: Facilities, Supplies, Equipment, and Environmental Health](#)
- [Model Child Care Health Policies](#) (MCCHP5) - Section 8 Environmental Health