



Changes are Coming to Spark!

Spark is undergoing some changes as it is being redesigned by Oregon's early educators and families. Find out more about the Spark redesign here: <https://oregonspark.org/spark-redesign/>

Starting October 1, 2023

- There will be self-selected quality improvement options for programs that do not wish to complete a portfolio. These options will not lead to a star-rating.
- To submit a portfolio and receive a star-rating, programs must be listed with DHS to serve families receiving DHS childcare subsidy. Find out more about becoming DHS listed here: <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/assistance/CHILD-CARE/pages/provider-listing.aspx>

What's Available	DHS Listed	Not DHS Listed
Spark Application and Commitment to Quality (C2Q) designation	✓	✓
Support Funds for Quality Improvements (\$1,000 - \$2,000 depending on program licensed capacity)	✓	✓
Portfolio Submission or Resubmission to Receive a Star Rating	✓	✗
NEW Self-selected Quality Improvement Options (starting 10/1/2023)	✓	✓
Star-rating Incentive Funds (\$500-\$3,000 depending on program licensed capacity & star level achieved)	✓	✗
Spark-rated DHS Monthly Incentive Payment (\$54, \$72, or \$90 for each full-time child depending on star level)	✓	✗
Rating Renewal	✓	✓

Why are these changes being made?

- Empowers programs to choose how they want to improve or enhance their programs each year.
- Keeps an option available to DHS listed programs to earn a monthly Spark-rated DHS incentive payment.
- Allows TRI to focus more effort on redesigning Spark.