



## Areas of Specialization

The Department of Early Learning (DEL) has updated the number of points necessary to receive an Area of Specialization for Interactions and Environment. Participants will now only need to receive 45 (instead of 48) out of 60 possible points. Areas of Specialization offer recognition of high quality and provide more substantive information to families. They are awarded in the following Quality Standard areas:

- Child Outcomes: facilities that receive 6 out of 9 points.
- Interactions and Environment (ERS/CLASS): facilities that receive 45 out of 60 points.
- Curriculum and Staff Supports: facilities that receive 9 out of 11 points.
- Professionalism: facilities that receive 7 out of 10 points.
- Family Engagement and Partnerships: facilities that receive 8 out of 10 points.
- Accreditation: facilities that have a current, verified accreditation from a recognized accreditation agency.

Areas of Specialization are documented on providers' Early Achievers Rating Certificate and highlighted in the provider referral process. DEL will mail Early Achievers Rating Certificates to facilities 30 days after their rating release date.

