



# Free Smart Start Programs for Early Childhood Professionals

Programs that Help Children Enter School Healthy and Prepared to Succeed

These programs are funded by Smart Start of Davidson County and intended for professionals working with children.

For more information on any of the following contact 249-6688.

## EDUCATION FOR THE STARS

Pays up to \$100 per semester credit hour direct to child care employees who complete classes toward a degree in early childhood, child development or related field.

## JOURNEY TO THE STARS (JTS) PROGRAM

A grant program for centers and homes at or below three star level who are interested in increasing their star-rating. This program provides equipment and individual assistance to enhance center quality.

## QUALITY MAINTENANCE PROGRAM (QMP)

Financial support and individual technical assistance for centers and homes at the four and five star level.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Assistance with individual college planning, study and support groups, and information on financial aid opportunities.

## READY SCHOOLS

Program works to ease children's transitions from home or child care to kindergarten.

## CHILD CARE REFERRAL

Parent assistance in finding quality child care.

## PARENT SPECIALISTS

Group trainings on a wide range of topics and interests for parents.

## GROW A CHILD

Visit [www.growachild.org](http://www.growachild.org) to find information that is specific to a young child's growth and development, as well as fun, simple activities to do with children.

## RESOURCE ROOM

Offers fingerprinting, laminating, die cuts, copies, and book binding services. **Available for checkout**— a large selection of prop boxes and materials to enhance all of your learning centers and a library to help plan age- appropriate activities.

## CHILD CARE TRAININGS

A variety of classes are offered at Smart Start weekly for child care professionals.

## WAGE\$

Provides education based salary supplements to low paid teachers, directors, and family child care providers.

**Contact:** (919) 967-3272

**Website:** [www.childcareservices.org](http://www.childcareservices.org)

## **Smart Start of Davidson County**

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For more information on any of these services, please call

**Smart Start of Davidson County**  
or visit our web site at  
**[www.partnershipforchildren.org](http://www.partnershipforchildren.org)**