



EVERY CHILD DESERVES OUR BEST

Dear Child Care Provider:

We would like to provide you with information about how your facility's pending recertification will transition to the Better Beginnings System. We realize that the addition of new components and criteria can be stressful so we hope that this will help to ease the transition process.

On July 1, 2010, Better Beginnings certificates were mailed to all facilities that had current Quality Approval status. All facilities were transitioned into Better Beginnings at level 3. Your facility's certificate included a date for recertification. The date listed was the same as the Quality Approval recertification date.

We also enclosed a Better Beginnings application for you to complete prior to your recertification date. (See your Better Beginnings certificate for actual date).

Your facility may not yet have met all requirements for level 3. You will have up to 1 year from your recertification date to meet NEW requirements of the Better Beginnings System.

Here are steps to take for recertification:

1. Complete the Better Beginnings application and send to Better Beginnings Unit; Forms A, B and C are required and the use of Forms D-G is recommended but optional as long as the information is submitted.
2. Form B – Better Beginnings application checklist: mark each requirement yes or no according to whether or not the requirement has been met. A "no" response will indicate the new requirement that you will need to meet within the next certification year. Be sure to save a copy of this form.
3. The Better Beginnings System continues to include Environment Rating Scale assessments as part of the quality requirements. Your facility will be contacted and given a time frame for the on-site reviews. Certain ABC classrooms may be exempt from having an ERS review this year.
4. An appointment will be scheduled with you to conduct a Program Review which includes a PAS or BAS assessment. If you have not completed the PAS or BAS Basics course, please enroll at your earliest convenience. The Program Review will not be scheduled until you've had an opportunity to complete the course.
5. Your Better Beginnings Specialist will review the application and help you make a plan of how to meet any of the new requirements that your facility may still need to meet.
6. Mail application to: Division of Child Care and Early Childhood Education
Attention: Better Beginnings
P O Box 1437, Slot S-150
Little Rock AR 72203-1437

www.ARBetterBeginnings.com

1-800-445-3316