



Waiver Application for Three-Star Compliance in Preschool Programs Serving Children with IEPs

March 16, 2026

Purpose

This waiver allows current 2-star early childhood programs to continue serving children with IEPs while working toward achieving a 3-star QRIS two years from their waiver approval date. Approved applicants will collaborate with an Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program Quality Specialist and submit a Professional Development (PD) Plan outlining how the 3-star standard will be met.

Section 1: Program Information

- **Program Name:** _____
- **License Number:** _____
- **Current Star Rating:** 1-Star 2-Star
- **Program Address:** _____
- **Director Name:** _____
- **Email:** _____
- **Phone:** _____

Section 2: Commitment Statement

Please confirm your program's commitment:

- We agree to collaborate with an ECE Program Quality Specialist.
- We will develop and implement a Professional Development Plan to achieve a 3-star rating.
- We understand this waiver is valid only for two years from the date of waiver approval.

Signature of Program Director: _____

Date: _____

Section 3: Professional Development Plan (attach or complete below)

Describe the professional development activities your program will undertake to meet 3-star standards. Include:

- Staff training goals



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- Timeline for activities
- Resources needed
- Benchmarks for progress
- Support needed from the ECE Program Quality Specialist

(You may attach a separate document.)

Section 4: Program Quality Support

List the name(s) of your assigned ECE Program Quality Specialist (if known): _____

What types of support or coaching do you anticipate needing from the ECE Program Quality Specialist?

Submission Instructions:

Please submit this form along with your PD plan to:

Jackie Hersom, Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator

Email: Jacquelyn.N.Hersom@maine.gov

Subject: Waiver Application – [Program Name]

For questions, contact: Jacquelyn.N.Hersom@maine.gov