

**Within the first three years, the human brain develops more than any other time in life.** Young children learn best when they are surrounded by a world of learning opportunities—there is a profound effect that their own unique way of approaching these early experiences has on their development and motivation to learn.

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The Infant Toddler Specialist's work has been so important in supporting my program to increase quality for our most vulnerable young children! Having been a coach with the scales in other states, I appreciate [her] respectful and supportive approach to working with my teachers. She was professional and willing to share ideas that were real and achievable. She sympathized with the struggles teachers face, yet consistent in her expectations for implementation and validity of the tool as a quality indicator for infant/toddler programs.

—5-Star Center Director

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## Improving the quality & availability of infant-toddler care in North Carolina

Contact the Infant Toddler  
Quality Enhancement Project  
by calling 919-967-3272  
or visit us at

**[childcareservices.org/ITQEP](http://childcareservices.org/ITQEP)**

or contact your local  
Child Care Resource  
and Referral Agency.



**NC Infant-Toddler**  
Quality Enhancement Project

The **goal** of the **Infant Toddler Quality Enhancement Project (ITQEP)** is...

to **increase the availability of high quality infant and toddler care** for families across North Carolina...

through the provision of specialized training, professional development, coaching, mentoring, and consultation for the early care and education workforce.

The project was established by the **Division of Child Development and Early Education** in 2005 as a part of the **NC Child Care Resource and Referral Council** and housed within **Child Care Services Association**.

Services are delivered to licensed early care and education programs across North Carolina through a statewide network of **21 Regional Infant Toddler Specialists**, and a **statewide Project Management Team**.

### Specialized training and certifications that all **Regional IT Specialists** complete include:

- Level 11 on the NC Early Educators Scale with Technical Assistance and Professional Development Endorsements
- The Program for Infant Toddler Care (PITC)
- Infant and Toddler Environment Rating Scale
- Infant and Toddler Classroom Assessment Scoring System (CLASS) Observer
- Ages & Stages Questionnaires (ASQ), Ages & Stages Questionnaires: Social-Emotional
- Program Administration Scale
- North Carolina Foundations for Early Learning
- Center on the Social and Emotional Foundations for Early Learning (CSEFEL) Pyramid Model
- Infant Toddler Sleep Safety and SIDS Reduction
- Zero to Three Critical Competencies for Infant and Toddler Educators

**Contact us to see how your local IT Specialist can support your local Early Care and Education program.**