**Fiscal Facts: YoungStar program rates child care options in Wisconsin**

The Wisconsin Shares Child Care Subsidy program helps more than 20,000 low-income families afford child care. YoungStar, a companion program adopted in 2010, is designed to improve child care quality in Wisconsin by evaluating and rating providers, sharing those ratings with parents to encourage their selection of high-quality options, and providing technical and financial assistance to providers to help them achieve higher quality.

Under YoungStar, child care providers are rated on a scale of one to five stars based on their performance on a range of quality indicators. All child care providers that accept Wisconsin Shares subsidies are required to participate in YoungStar, while participation is optional for those that do not.

*This information is a service of the Wisconsin Policy Forum, the state’s leading resource for nonpartisan state and local government research and civic education.*