

A photograph of a woman with long dark hair smiling warmly at a young child. The child is holding a slice of cake with yellow filling and chocolate layers. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a classroom or play area with other children and toys.

**QUALITY FIRST**  
We support you, so you can support our young children.



What is Quality First?

Why does quality matter?

What is quality child care?

How can it help my program?

Is there a cost?

How much time does it take?

How do I apply?



# What is Quality First?

- Support to help early care and education providers
- A program of First Things First, Arizona's early childhood agency
- Partner with 1,300+ Arizona child care and preschool programs
- Resources to help you help children learn, grow and thrive



# Why does quality matter?

- 90% of a child's brain growth happens by age 5
- Many young children in Arizona are in early care and education
- Quality early learning experiences help children learn and grow





# What is quality child care?

- Teachers and caregivers who know how to work with young children
- Learning environments that nurture development
- Hands-on activities that stimulate young minds
- Positive, consistent relationships
- Caregivers who partner and provide feedback to parents/families



# How can Quality First help my program?

Professional development & coaching  
Funding for your learning environment  
Early childhood experts







## Professional development & coaching:

- Practices, routines and transitions
- Teacher-child interactions
- Supportive children's learning
- How to partner with families
- Data informed goal-setting



## Funding for your learning environment:

- Age-appropriate books, toys, materials
- New furniture or outdoor equipment
- Renovations that improve the physical space





## Early childhood experts:

- Improve program's health and safety practices
- Promote emotional health and well-being
- Manage behaviors
- Reduce spread of disease

# Is there a cost?

- Quality First is **free** for regulated child care centers, homes and preschool programs in Arizona





# How much time does it take?

- We understand you have a busy schedule
- Your coach is flexible and will work with you when it is convenient
- Specialized assistance is available when you need it



# How do I apply?

- Visit [QualityFirstAZ.com](https://QualityFirstAZ.com)
- Call 602.771.5000

*We currently have federal funding to enroll more participants.*





What questions do you have?





# QUALITY FIRST



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