



Texas Rising Star 4-year Review State Workgroup Conference Call 04/03/2020





Agenda

- Recap of Meetings
- Updated Timeline
- Proposed Changes (rule and policy)
- COVID-19 Discussion
- Next Steps



Recap of Meetings

Location	Attendance	Break Out	Overarching Topic
Austin	36	12 Early learning programs 8 Advocacy representatives 3 Board areas represented	1-star level Outreach about Texas Rising Star
Houston	36	21 Early learning programs 3 Advocacy representatives 1 Board area represented	1-star level Workforce Registry
McAllen	33	18 Early learning programs 1 Advocacy representatives 2 Board areas represented	1-star level Clarification of revisions
Arlington	76	34 Early learning programs 10 Advocacy representatives 4 Board areas represented	CCL Screening Impact Additional supports for staff and programs
Waco	46	33 Early learning programs 2 Board areas represented	Lesson Plans/Curriculum Collaboration with Head Start
Lubbock	30	14 Early learning programs 4 Board areas represented	CCL Screening Impact Workforce Registry
El Paso	43	35 Early learning programs 1 Board area represented	1-star level Board resource supports



Updated Timeline

Topic	Timeframe
Commission Approval	April 28, 2020
Rule Making process	May – October 2020
Commission Final Approval	October 6, 2020
TRS Staff Statewide Training	Mid-Late October 2020
Rule Effective	October 26, 2020
Freeze on Visits	November 2020 – January 2021
Implementation of Changes	February 1, 2021



Proposed Changes

- Workforce Registry
- Impact of CCL Deficiencies
- Entry Level TRS & Goals for Achieving Higher Level of Quality
- Centralization of Assessment Function
- Continuous Quality Improvement Framework
- Training and Certification Requirements
- Statewide Outreach Campaign
- Streamlining and Reweighting Categories
- Revisions to Measures/Processes



Workforce Registry

Amend minimum eligibility requirements to require programs to create staff accounts within the Workforce Registry

Supports provided:

- Board training to assist programs and validate records
- 2% Quality funds can be used to support this effort
- Procedures outlined within the new Staff Handbook
- Informational Flyer
- Rolling implementation
- CQIP topic area for continued compliance



Impacts of CCL Deficiencies

- Reformat to have 4 sections with impact
 - No Tolerance (immediate revocation of certification)
 - No weapon/ammo on premises; and probation limitations
 - Revising total number of deficiencies
 - Star Level Reduction
 - Revised to 4 standards (2 on abuse/neglect and 2 on Initial CBC)
 - Probation Level 1
 - Similar to previous Critical section; get one of these and receive impact
 - Probation Level 2
 - Similar to probation, but revised to look at only high/medium-high standards cited

- Double Impacts

- Re-application

Entry Level with Goals to Achieve Higher Levels of Quality



- Current proposal
 - Texas Rising Star Pre-Star for screening compliance
 - 5 year goal for moving programs to quality

- Possible Future Structure (requires Legislative change)
 - 5 levels of Texas Rising Star
 - Pre-Star (screening compliance)
 - 1-Star (structural only)
 - 2-Star (minimal scoring compliance)
 - 3-Star (no change)
 - 4-Star (no change)



Centralizing the Assessment Function

Beginning in late 2020 TWC will competitively procure for a single entity to employ approximately 36 staff and conduct the assessment and monitoring functions for Texas Rising Star programs to support stronger inter-rater reliability and fidelity of program certification.

Supports:

- Training and Certification Course
- Collaborative PLCs
- Quarterly reliability and monthly coding calls
- Procedures outlined within the new Staff Handbook

Continuous Quality Improvement Framework



Continuous Quality Improvement Plans (CQIPs) would be utilized by all early learning programs working towards certification or higher levels of certification as well as maintaining certification. Initial CQIPs would include base requirements for applying to the Texas Rising Star program.

Supports:

- Online generated/ Updates to CLI Engage
- Base requirements
- Boards retain funding
- Procedures outlined within the new Staff Handbook
- Mentor Toolkit and coaching credential



Training and Certification Requirements

TWC will amend rule specific to staff requirements (§809.134) to mandate that all assessors complete the training and certification course and all mentors complete the training course at minimum. Mentors will participate in a Texas Rising Star specific micro-credential to improve the quality of mentoring and provide supports on mentoring.

Supports:

- 3-month timeframe for completion
- Defined roles within CC Rule
- Peer Learning Communities (PLCs) and supports throughout the course and ongoing reliability
- Procedures outlined within the new Staff Handbook



Statewide Outreach Campaign

TWC will develop an outreach plan to emphasize family and consumer education around choosing high-quality programs and encouraging and informing programs to remain or become high-quality programs. Initial phase will be cost estimating the campaign and preliminary research to determine plan.

Supports:

- Printed Resources
- Social Media toolkit
- Media presence
- In-person events
- Collaboration with other agencies



Streamlining/Reweighting Categories

Texas Rising Star will be reorganized to have 4 categories: (1) Director and Staff Qualifications and Training, (2) Teacher-Child Interactions, (3) Program Administration, and (4) Indoor/Outdoor Environments

These 4 categories will have weights attached to their scoring to determine overall star level:

- (1) Director and Staff Qualifications and Training – 20%
- (2) Teacher-Child Interactions – 40%
- (3) Program Administration – 20%
- (4) Indoor/Outdoor Environments – 20%

Supports:

- Projected scoring for current programs
- Freeze on visits
- Webinar and training events
- Updates to Engage/ Engage User Guide



Measure and Process Revisions

Measures will be revised, removed or added per the recommendations presented.

Processes specific to national accreditation, staff changes, and assessment scheduling will be revised as recommended.

Supports:

- Updates to Engage/ Engage User Guide
- Updated Guidelines and Technical Scoring Manual (TSM)
- Revised Assessment Record Forms (Facility and Classroom)
- Procedures outlined within the new Staff Handbook
- Freeze on visits
- Webinars and training events
- Mentoring Toolkit



Additional Supports

- Online Application process
- Automated Screening process
- Integration of WFR and Engage for Category 1 scoring



Follow Up

Are there any topics you want to go back to?





COVID-19 and Texas Rising Star

➤ Current supports

- Payment for enrollment vs attendance and Parent Share of Cost for April
- Allowance to postpone assessments, annual monitoring visits and quarterly screenings up to 6-months
- Those in a current star level drop due to CCL can be screened to regain star level

➤ Additional Supports

- Local Initiatives
- Free resources

➤ Discussion



Next Steps

Rule Making Process continues

Future opportunities for public
comment

Webpage updates

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