



NATIONAL CENTER ON

Early Childhood Quality Assurance

National QRIS Overview: Licensing, Assessors and Director Qualifications

October 29, 2019

Agenda and Outcomes

- ◆ Discuss data and trends of other states' QRIS regarding:
 - Child care licensing within QRIS
 - Director qualifications standards, and
 - Assessor staffing and reliability requirements.
- ◆ To use this information to inform discussion on the considerations posed to and by the Workgroup for informing recommendations for revision of the Texas Rising Star program.

Licensing in QRIS

- ◆ 40 states require that a program participating in QRIS must be licensed
- ◆ In 19 states, licensing is the first level of QRIS
- ◆ General Policies
 - Licensing status
 - Time licensed
 - Defining ‘good standing’



*Data pulled from the QRIS Compendium <https://qualitycompendium.org/>

Licensing in QRIS: Florida – Duval County

- ❖ Programs must be licensed for at least one year to participate
- ❖ Programs must not be on probationary status for the previous 12 months
- ❖ Programs must not have a Florida DCF Class I Violations resulting in severe injury
- ❖ Program must not be on a quality improvement plan
- ❖ Programs must maintain a school readiness contract
- ❖ If there is a change in ownership or location change, the star rating is not transferable to the new owner or new location. The star certificate and the center sign will be picked up by the Coalition and the center must re-apply and meet all the eligibility requirements

Licensing in QRIS: Wisconsin

- ❖ Providers who accept Wisconsin Shares childcare subsidy payments from families must participate in YoungStar.
- ❖ Any Wisconsin childcare provider who serves children from birth to school age can apply to participate, if they're in good standing with state regulations.
- ❖ Programs that have had their licenses or certifications revoked, denied, or suspended are ineligible.
- ❖ Local YoungStar offices and state staff will confirm regulatory compliance through an automated transfer of data from licensing, certification, and the Wisconsin Shares program. Programs out of regulatory compliance cannot move above 1 Star and are not eligible for Wisconsin Shares payments.

Trends

- ◆ Allowing QRIS participants flexibility to address compliance issues prior to suspension
- ◆ Embedding licensing in CQI process
 - Licensor and coach coordination for program improvement
- ◆ Licensors leading recruitment efforts
 - Supporting initial onboarding activities
- ◆ Joint site visits
- ◆ Moving general health and safety standards from QRIS back to licensing
- ◆ Establishing readiness levels or activities

Assessors: Who, What and How

- ◆ Observation tools and state standards
- ◆ Approaches to partnerships
- ◆ Reliability and ongoing reliability
- ◆ Data sharing



Assessors: Example

- ❖ Indiana: Trained on self-developed tool to 80% reliability
- ❖ Florida Duval: 80% agreement with ongoing reliability every 6 – 10 visits (ERS)
- ❖ New Jersey: 90% or higher on the ERS; 80% or higher on CLASS with continuous reliability checks
- ❖ Michigan – 80% reliability annually on the Program Quality Assessment (PQA)



Assessor Trends

- ◆ Self-assessments
- ◆ Desk monitoring vs. Onsite monitoring
- ◆ Longer assessment cycles
- ◆ Forecasting: Rating Cohorts or Rating Periods
- ◆ Re-rating fees



Director Qualifications

- ◆ Most states have expectations for staff education in their QRIS
- ◆ In many states, a certificate, credential or degree is expected
- ◆ Directors may have additional participation expectations:
 - Self-assessments
 - Training
 - Leadership and Management standards

Director Qualifications: Arkansas

❖ Level 1

- Administrators and teaching staff are members of the TAPP Registry and/or the ADE registry
- Administrator meets requirements for TAPP Foundation 3 or higher including 21 clock hours of training in program planning or management and/or leadership
- Administrator completes ERS training
- Administrator completes training on developmentally appropriate physical activities for children

❖ Level 2

- Administrator meets requirements for TAPP Intermediate 1 or higher including 30 clock hours of training in program planning and management and/or leadership
- All administrators and staff participate in 20 clock hours of approved professional development and administrators must take at least 3 clock hours in program planning/management and/or leadership

❖ Level 3

- Administrator meets requirements for TAPP Intermediate 1 or higher including 45 clock hours of training in program planning/management and/or leadership
- All administrators and staff participate in 25 clock hours of approved professional development and administrators must take at least 4 clock hours in program planning/management and/or leadership

Director Qualifications: Montana

❖ STAR 1

- Director and teaching staff current on practitioner registry at any level
- Director must complete the following trainings:
 - Stars to Quality Essentials (2 hours)
 - Program Administration Scale (2 hours)
 - Environment Rating Scale (2 hours) – The director completes the ERS self-assessment

Director Qualifications: Montana cont.

❖ STAR 2

- Director current on registry at Level 2 or higher
- Director and all teaching staff have a professional development plan that is updated annually
 - Complete the Pyramid Model Training (8 hours)
 - Complete the Montana Blended Pyramid Module (6 hours)
 - Medication Administration (3 hours)
 - Medication Administration Refresher (4 hours)
 - Introduction to Montana Early Learning Standards (3 hours)

Director Qualifications Trends

- ◆ Registries and degree verification
- ◆ Access to higher education
- ◆ Access to professional development in multiple languages and formats
- ◆ Resources to support program administrators:
 - Technical assistance
 - Start-up awards
 - Mentoring

Questions



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