

## Statewide QRIS Profile: Mississippi

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
<p>The <b>Mississippi Child Care Quality Step System</b> is implemented by the Mississippi State University Early Childhood Institute through a contract with the Office for Children and Youth of the Mississippi Department of Human Services. Child care facilities earn ratings by meeting specific requirements in five areas: administrative policy, professional development, learning environments, parent involvement, and evaluation.</p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	
<b>QRIS Name</b>	Mississippi Child Care Quality Step System
<b>Organization</b>	Mississippi State University Early Childhood Institute, through a contract with the Office for Children and Youth of the Mississippi Department of Human Services
<b>Start Date</b>	2009
<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.earlychildhood.msstate.edu/initiatives/qualitystep.htm">http://www.earlychildhood.msstate.edu/initiatives/qualitystep.htm</a>
<b>RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>	
<b>Levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Step 1 Licensing</li> <li>■ Step 2</li> <li>■ Step 3</li> <li>■ Step 4</li> <li>■ Step 5</li> </ul>

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>Rating Assignment Method</b>	<p><b>Building blocks:</b></p> <p>The Child Care Quality Step System is a voluntary system. To meet the standards for Step 1, providers must be licensed. For each remaining level, providers must meet the requirements of that level and those of previous levels.</p>
<b>General Requirements to Achieve Highest Level</b>	<p>Providers must have successfully completed all the criteria for Steps 1, 2, 3, and 4, plus additional criteria for Step 5.</p>
<b>Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments</b>	<p>ERS scores are required to achieve Steps 2–5. Scores on the Arnett Caregiver Interaction Scale are required for Steps 3–5.</p>
<b>QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS</b>	
<b>QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Administrative policy</li> <li>■ Professional development</li> <li>■ Learning environments</li> <li>■ Parent involvement</li> <li>■ Evaluation</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.qualitystep.msstate.edu/Criteria.pdf">http://www.qualitystep.msstate.edu/Criteria.pdf</a></p>
<b>Provider Types and Groups of Children Addressed in QRIS Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Child care centers</li> <li>■ Infants and toddlers</li> <li>■ Preschool-age children</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Accreditation</b>	<p>Accreditation is not included in the QRIS.</p>
<b>FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Financial Incentives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tiered subsidy reimbursement</li> </ul>