

## Statewide QRIS Profile: New Mexico

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
<p>New Mexico's <b>Look for the STARS</b> is a five-level quality rating and improvement system to help parents identify quality child care programs. Each STAR Level requires a provider to meet higher quality standards in six areas: staff training and education, environment, daily learning activities, family involvement, assessment, and ratios and group size. The number of stars a provider earns is displayed on the facility license. All facilities that meet minimum licensing standards earn at least one star.</p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	
<b>QRIS Name</b>	Look for the Stars
<b>Organization</b>	Children, Youth and Families Department, Office of Child Development
<b>Start Date</b>	2005
<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.newmexicokids.org/#.pages.stars.index.cfm">http://www.newmexicokids.org/#.pages.stars.index.cfm</a>
<b>RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>	
<b>Levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ 1-star</li> <li>■ 2-star</li> <li>■ 3-star</li> <li>■ 4-star</li> <li>■ 5-star</li> </ul>

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<b>Rating Assignment Method</b>	<p><b>Building blocks:</b></p> <p>In Look for the Stars, all licensed providers are required to comply with licensing regulations and automatically earn a 1-star license. For the remaining voluntary levels, providers must meet the requirements of previous levels. Accreditation is required to obtain a 5-star license.</p>
<b>General Requirements to Achieve Highest Level</b>	<p>To achieve the 5-star level, providers must meet the standards for levels 1–4 and be accredited.</p>
<b>Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments</b>	<p>New Mexico requires providers to be assessed with an ERS. To achieve 2 stars, no score can be below 1.0. To achieve 3 stars, the provider must achieve an average score of 4.0, with no scores below 1.0.</p>
<b>QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS</b>	
<b>QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site</b>	<p>There is one set of standards for all facilities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Staff qualifications, evaluation, and communication</li> <li>■ Environment</li> <li>■ Observation and documentation of children’s progress and curriculum planning</li> <li>■ Staff/caregiver professional development plan</li> <li>■ Family involvement plan</li> <li>■ Administrative policies</li> <li>■ Employee compensation and benefits</li> <li>■ Ratios and group size</li> <li>■ Accreditation</li> </ul> <p><a href="http://www.newmexicokids.org/content/caregivers_and_educators/aim_high/">http://www.newmexicokids.org/content/caregivers_and_educators/aim_high/</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>■ Family child care homes</li> <li>■ Infants and toddlers</li> <li>■ Preschool-age children</li> <li>■ School-age children</li> </ul>

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>Use of Accreditation</b>	Accreditation is required to obtain a 5-star license (i.e., the highest level).
<b>Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Association for Christian Schools International</li> <li>■ Council on Accreditation</li> <li>■ Council on Accreditation, After School Programs (formerly National AfterSchool Association)</li> <li>■ National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs</li> <li>■ National Association for the Education of Young Children, Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation</li> <li>■ National Association for Family Child Care</li> <li>■ National Early Childhood Program Accreditation</li> </ul>
<b>FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Financial Incentives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tiered subsidy reimbursement</li> <li>■ Teacher Education and Compensation Helps Early Childhood® Project</li> </ul>