

## Statewide QRIS Profile: Rhode Island

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
<p><b>BrightStars</b> is a five-level quality rating and improvement system. All licensed child care centers, licensed family child care homes, and approved preschools in Rhode Island are eligible to participate in BrightStars. Licensed school-age programs will be able to participate in 2011. BrightStars is managed by the Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children. Rhode Island KIDS COUNT coordinates and supports the evaluation of BrightStars.</p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	
<b>QRIS Name</b>	BrightStars
<b>Organization</b>	Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children
<b>Start Date</b>	2009
<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.brightstars.org/providers/brightstars-quality-rating/">http://www.brightstars.org/providers/brightstars-quality-rating/</a>
<b>RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>	
<b>Levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Level One</li> <li>■ Level Two</li> <li>■ Level Three</li> <li>■ Level Four</li> <li>■ Level Five</li> </ul>

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>Rating Assignment Method</b>	<p><b>Building blocks:</b></p> <p>To participate in BrightStars, a provider must have a current, valid license. Preschool programs that are not licensed must have approval from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The licensing requirements and preschool approval are the standards for Level One. The four remaining levels have standards that build on each other. National accreditation or environment rating scale scores are used for assessing the learning environment.</p>
<b>General Requirements to Achieve Highest Level</b>	<p>Providers must meet all criteria in all categories of standards to achieve Level Five (i.e., the highest level).</p>
<b>Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments</b>	<p>An environment rating scale score is an alternative to accreditation to achieve the “Child’s Daily Experience” and “Teaching and Learning” standards for Levels Three, Four, and Five.</p> <p>CLASS (Classroom Assessment Scoring System) scores are collected from a random sample of 33 percent of preschool classrooms. The State did not use scores in the rating process during the first year of implementation.</p>
<b>QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS</b>	
<b>QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Child’s Daily Experience</li> <li>■ Teaching and Learning</li> <li>■ Staff-child Ratio and Group Size</li> <li>■ Family Communication and Involvement</li> <li>■ Staff Qualifications</li> <li>■ Program Management</li> </ul> <p><i>Child Care Center and Preschool Quality Framework</i>  <a href="http://www.brightstars.org/documents/BrightStarsCenterFramework120808_000.pdf">http://www.brightstars.org/documents/BrightStarsCenterFramework120808_000.pdf</a></p> <p><i>Family Child Care Quality Framework</i>  <a href="http://www.brightstars.org/documents/BrightStarsFamilyChildCareFramework090109_000.pdf">http://www.brightstars.org/documents/BrightStarsFamilyChildCareFramework090109_000.pdf</a></p> <p><i>School-Age Child Care (K–5) Quality Framework</i>  <a href="http://www.brightstars.org/providers/brightstars-quality-rating/school-age-child-care/documents/School-Age_framework_FINAL_000.pdf">http://www.brightstars.org/providers/brightstars-quality-rating/school-age-child-care/documents/School-Age_framework_FINAL_000.pdf</a></p>

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<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>
<b>Use of Accreditation</b>	<p>Accreditation is an alternative to an environment rating scale score to achieve the “Child’s Daily Experience” and “Teaching and Learning” standards for Levels Three, Four, and Five.</p>
<b>Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Council on Accreditation, After School Programs (formerly National AfterSchool Association)</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> </ul>
<b>FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Financial Incentives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Cash incentives for participation</li> <li>■ Quality improvement funds</li> </ul>