



## QRIS State Profile: Colorado

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
<p>The <b>Qualistar Rating System</b> is a tool to measure quality in licensed center and family child care homes and preschool programs for children from birth to kindergarten. The Qualistar Rating System evaluates programs in five areas: (1) learning environment, (2) family partnerships, (3) training and education, (4) adult-to-child ratios, and (5) accreditation. It also assigns a rating of one to four stars to each program.</p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	
<b>QRIS Name</b>	Qualistar Rating System
<b>Organization</b>	Qualistar Colorado
<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.qualistar.org/home.html">http://www.qualistar.org/home.html</a>
<b>RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>	
<b>Levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Provisional</li> <li>■ Star 1</li> <li>■ Star 2</li> <li>■ Star 3</li> <li>■ Star 4</li> </ul>
<b>Rating Assignment Method</b>	<p><b>Point System:</b></p> <p>All providers participating in the QRIS must be licensed. Providers earn points in five areas of standards, up to a total of 42 points. In five areas of the standards, 0–10 points can be earned. Zero or 2 points are earned for program accreditation. Stars are earned when a provider has a total of at least 10 points. A provider that earns 0–9 points is designated as provisional.</p>

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<b>Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments</b>	Programs earn 0–10 points based on average classroom ERS scores.
<b>Program Assessments Included in QRIS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ECERS-R)</li> <li>■ Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ITERS-R)</li> <li>■ Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale-Revised (FCCERS-R)</li> </ul>
<b>QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS</b>	
<b>QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Learning environment</li> <li>■ Family partnerships</li> <li>■ Training and education</li> <li>■ Adult-to-child ratios and group size</li> <li>■ Accreditation</li> </ul> <p><i>Qualistar Rating™ Criteria Chart</i></p> <p><a href="http://www.qualistar.org/uploads/file/QI%20-%20Qualistar%20Rating%20Criteria%20Chart.pdf">http://www.qualistar.org/uploads/file/QI%20-%20Qualistar%20Rating%20Criteria%20Chart.pdf</a></p>
<b>Programs Eligible to Participate in QRIS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Child care centers</li> <li>■ Group child care homes</li> <li>■ Family child care homes</li> <li>■ Early Head Start programs</li> <li>■ Head Start programs</li> <li>■ Pre-kindergarten programs</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Accreditation</b>	Providers earn points in 5 areas of standards, up to a total of 42 points. In 4 areas of the standards, 0–10 points can be earned. Two points are awarded for program accreditation.
<b>Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Association for Christian Schools International</li> <li>■ Council on Quality and Leadership for People With Disabilities</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>

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<b>FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</b>	
<b>Financial Incentives</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Tiered subsidy reimbursement (county option)</li> <li>■ T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Colorado</li> <li>■ Colorado has both public and private funding to award school readiness grants to child care centers in districts with low-performing public schools.</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>Decisions about which providers participate in the Qualistar Rating System are made at the county or school-district level. Some counties or districts have Colorado Preschool Programs (state-funded preschool) participating in the QRIS.</p> <p>Colorado has information for parents on its QRIS Web site at <a href="http://www.qualistar.org/what-is-the-qualistar-rating.html">http://www.qualistar.org/what-is-the-qualistar-rating.html</a>.</p> <p>Colorado is in the process of redesigning its QRIS. Additional information is available at <a href="http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251583639294">http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDHS-ChildYouthFam/CBON/1251583639294</a>.</p>