



QRIS State Profile: Georgia

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
INTRODUCTION	
<p>Quality Rated, a voluntary tiered QRIS, is a systemic approach to assess, improve, and communicate the level of quality in early childhood education and school-age care programs. Quality Rated assigns a quality rating (1 Star, 2 Stars or 3 Stars) to programs that meet a set of defined program standards which exceed minimum state requirements.</p>	
CONTACTS	
QRIS Name	Quality Rated
Organization	Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning
Web Site	https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/
RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS	
Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Level 1 ■ Level 2 ■ Level 3
Rating Assignment Method	<p>Point system: Participation in Quality Rated is voluntary. Eligibility includes compliance with child care licensing rules, unless legally exempt. Providers demonstrate meeting the standards by submitting documentation through an online portfolio. Points are earned based on the documentation in the portfolio and an ERS observation. Bonus points are awarded for certain national accreditations.</p>
Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments	<p>Points are awarded based on ERS scores. These points constitute the Process Quality portion of the assessment and determine the rating. To achieve the highest rating, the center's or family provider's average ERS score must exceed 5.0 with no individual classroom score rated below a 3.0.</p>

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Program Assessments Included in QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ECERS-R) ■ Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale-Revised (ITERS-R) ■ Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale-Revised (FCCERS-R) ■ School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale (SACERS)
QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS	
QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Standard 1: Director and Teacher Qualifications/Family Child Care Director Qualifications and PDR Verification ■ Standard 2: Teacher : Student Ratios ■ Standard 3: Child Health, Nutrition, and Physical Activity ■ Standard 4: Family Partnerships ■ Standard 5: Intentional Teaching Practices <p>Quality Rated Rating Rubric https://qualityrated.decal.ga.gov/Content/Documents/PM_RatingRubric.pdf</p>
Programs Eligible to Participate in QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Child Care Learning Centers ■ Group Day Care Homes ■ Family Day Care Homes ■ Exempt Government Programs (public schools, Department of Defense, Head Start, etc.)
Use of Accreditation	<p>Accreditation results in “Bonus Points” towards higher ratings. NAEYC, NAFCC, AMI, and COA receive two points and NECPA, SACS, NAC, NLSA, and ACSI receive one point.</p>
Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Association for Christian Schools International ■ Association Montessori International/USA ■ Council on Accreditation ■ National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs ■ National Association for the Education of Young Children, Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation ■ National Association for Family Child Care ■ National Early Childhood Program Accreditation ■ National Lutheran School Accreditation

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FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Financial Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Quality Rated Portfolio Submission Bonus (January 2012-June 2013) ■ Quality Rated Enhancement Grant ■ Bonus Packages ■ Georgia SCHOLARSHIPS program for program staff ■ Georgia INCENTIVES program for program staff to receive salary supplements