



## QRIS State Profile: Indiana

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	
<p>Indiana’s <b>Paths to QUALITY</b> started in one county in the State and was replicated statewide in 2008 and 2009. The system is implemented in partnership with the Indiana Association of Child Care Resource and Referral and the Indiana Association for the Education of Young Children. The standards for Paths to QUALITY are consistent but tailored for family child care homes and for licensed centers and unlicensed registered ministries and include several indicators for the care of infants and toddlers.</p>	
<b>CONTACTS</b>	
<b>QRIS Name</b>	Paths to QUALITY
<b>Organization</b>	Indiana Family and Social Services Administration
<b>Web Site</b>	<a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/2554.htm">http://www.in.gov/fssa/carefinder/2554.htm</a>
<b>RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS</b>	
<b>Levels</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Level 1</li> <li>■ Level 2</li> <li>■ Level 3</li> <li>■ Level 4</li> </ul>
<b>Rating Assignment Method</b>	<p><b>Building blocks:</b></p> <p>Paths to QUALITY is a voluntary system. Level 1 requires that providers have current licenses that are in good standing; child care ministries must be registered. For each remaining level, providers must meet the requirements of that level and those of previous levels. Level 4 requires accreditation.</p>

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments</b>	ERS or other assessments are not used in the QRIS.
<b>Program Assessments Included in QRIS</b>	
<b>QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS</b>	
<b>QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Sites</b>	<p>There are separate sets of standards for licensed child care centers and FCC homes and unlicensed registered ministries. Indiana does not categorize its standards. The following is a list of topics covered by the standards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Licensing Compliance</li> <li>■ Level of Education/Specialized Training</li> <li>■ Structural Quality</li> <li>■ Process Quality</li> <li>■ Use of Authentic or Naturalistic Assessment Methods</li> <li>■ Plans and Environmental Accommodations for Children with Special Needs</li> <li>■ Program Policies and Procedures</li> <li>■ Director/Lead Caregiver Professional Development</li> <li>■ Parent Teacher Communication</li> <li>■ National Accreditation</li> </ul> <p><i>Standards for Participation: Licensed Child Care Centers</i>  <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/files/CentersPTQStandards.pdf">http://www.in.gov/fssa/files/CentersPTQStandards.pdf</a></p> <p><i>Standards for Participation: Licensed Child Care Homes</i>  <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/files/HomesPTQStandards.pdf">http://www.in.gov/fssa/files/HomesPTQStandards.pdf</a></p> <p><i>Standards for Participation: Unlicensed Registered Child Care Ministries</i>  <a href="http://www.in.gov/fssa/files/MinistriesPTQStandards.pdf">http://www.in.gov/fssa/files/MinistriesPTQStandards.pdf</a></p>

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
<b>Programs Eligible to Participate in QRIS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Child care centers</li> <li>■ Family child care homes</li> <li>■ License exempt providers</li> <li>■ Early Head Start programs</li> <li>■ Head Start programs</li> <li>■ School-age programs</li> <li>■ Licensed preschool/PreK programs</li> </ul>
<b>Use of Accreditation</b>	<p>Accreditation is required to achieve Level 4 (i.e., the highest level).</p>
<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>■ 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>■ Cash Recognition Award</li> <li>■ Accreditation Maintenance Award</li> <li>■ T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Indiana (Scholarships and bonuses)</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>Indiana allows unlicensed (legally exempt) child care ministries to participate in the QRIS. These programs must be registered to participate and there is a separate set of QRIS standards for them.</p> <p>Paths to QUALITY standards about professional development and curricula include references to Foundations to the Indiana Academic Standards for Young Children Age Birth to Five, the early learning guidelines for children birth to age 5. Training on the Foundations is required at Level 2; using a curriculum consistent with the Foundations is required at Level 3.</p>