



QRIS State Profile: Mississippi

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
INTRODUCTION	
<p>Quality Stars is Mississippi's tiered Quality Rating and Improvement System. It was developed by the Division of Early Childhood Care and Development(DECDD) of the Mississippi Department of Human Services. The Early Childhood Institute receives a grant from DECDD to administer Quality Stars. Participation in Quality Stars is voluntary for licensed child care centers.</p>	
CONTACTS	
QRIS Name	Mississippi Child Care Quality Stars
Organization	Division of Early Childhood Care and Development of the Department of Human Services
Web Site	http://www.earlychildhood.msstate.edu/programs/qualitystars/index.php
RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS	
Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Step 1 Licensing ■ Step 2 ■ Step 3 ■ Step 4 ■ Step 5
Rating Assignment Method	<p>Building blocks:</p> <p>The Child Care Quality Step System is a voluntary system. To meet the standards for Step 1, providers must be licensed. For each remaining level, providers must meet the requirements of that level and those of previous levels.</p>

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments	ERS scores are required to achieve Steps 2–5.
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)
QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS	
QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site	<p>Standards are only for child care centers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Program administration ■ Professional development ■ Learning environments ■ Parent involvement ■ Evaluation <p><i>Mississippi State Child Care Quality Step System Criteria</i> http://earlychildhood.msstate.edu/programs/qualitystars/criteria/pdfs/Criteria.pdf</p>
Programs Eligible to Participate in QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Child care centers ■ Head Start programs ■ Pre-kindergarten programs
Use of Accreditation	Accreditation is not included in the QRIS.
Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS	
FINANCIAL INCENTIVES	
Financial Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tiered subsidy reimbursement ■ Scholarships to attain CDA’s ■ One-time bonus to individuals who complete their CDA