



QRIS State Profile: North Carolina

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
INTRODUCTION	
<p>In 1999, the North Carolina Division of Child Development began issuing rated licenses to all eligible child care centers and family child care homes. Facilities can receive one to five stars in the Star Rated License program. A rating of one star means that a child care program meets North Carolina’s minimum licensing standards. Programs that choose to voluntarily meet higher standards can apply for a two to five star license. In addition, all classrooms in the NC Pre-K program must achieve and maintain a four- or five-star license, and meet additional requirements set by the Division of Child Development and Early Education.</p>	
CONTACTS	
QRIS Name	North Carolina Star Rated License System
Organization	Division of Child Development and Early Education, North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
Web Site	http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/providers/pv_sn2_ov_sr.asp
RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS	
Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 1-star license ■ 2-star license ■ 3-star license ■ 4-star license ■ 5-star license
Rating Assignment Method	<p>Point system: Points are earned in two standard components—education and program—to obtain each level of the star rated license. Providers may choose to meet additional education or programmatic criteria to earn one Quality Point. This Quality Point will be added to the total points earned in program standards and staff education to determine the total number of stars earned.</p>

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Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments	Points are earned based on the average ERS score in each classroom.
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	<p>Program and Education Standards for Child Care Centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Operational and personnel policies ■ Caregiving activities for preschool-aged children ■ Parent participation ■ Night care ■ Space requirements ■ Staff-child ratios ■ Environment rating scale assessment ■ Education levels of staff <p>Program and Education Standards for Family Child Care Homes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Operational and personnel policies ■ Environment rating scale assessment ■ Reduced number of infants enrolled ■ Coursework completed by the provider <p><i>How Points Are Earned</i></p> <p>http://ncchildcare.nc.gov/providers/pv_sn2_hpae.asp</p> <p><i>Child Care Rules – full text of all standards in Section .2800</i></p> <p>http://nrckids.org/default/assets/File/StateRegs/NC/May2013DCDEERulebook.pdf</p>

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Programs Eligible to Participate in QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Child care centers ■ Family child care homes ■ Early Head Start programs ■ Head Start programs ■ Pre-kindergarten programs ■ School-age programs ■ Public school preschool programs funded with Title I funding or other funding sources
Use of Accreditation	Accreditation is not included in North Carolina’s rated license.
Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS	
FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Financial Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tiered subsidy reimbursement ■ Grants to programs to meet or maintain licensing ■ Grants to programs to meet QRIS quality level ■ One-time awards or bonuses on completion of quality standard attainment ■ On-going, periodic grants or stipends tied to improving/maintaining quality ■ Facility Loans ■ T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood North Carolina (scholarships, health insurance, and salary supplement program)
Additional Information	All classrooms in the NC Pre-K program must achieve and maintain a 4- or 5-star license, and meet additional requirements set by the Division of Child Development and Early Education.