



QRIS State Profile: New Hampshire

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
INTRODUCTION	
<p>New Hampshire’s voluntary quality rating and improvement system (QRIS) recognizes programs for their efforts to improve the quality of care for young children and rewards programs that strive to improve their practices and staff qualifications. It also allows families to identify programs with higher quality. Levels in the QRIS build from a foundation of minimum standards for licensing to full national accreditation. New Hampshire is in the process of revising its QRIS.</p>	
CONTACTS	
QRIS Name	New Hampshire’s Quality Rating and Improvement System
Organization	New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services
Web Site	http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dcyf/licensedplus/index.htm
RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS	
Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Licensed ■ Licensed-Plus ■ Accredited
Rating Assignment Method	<p>Building blocks: Licensed-Plus is the level (known as “a designation”) between meeting basic licensing requirements and being accredited.</p>
Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments	<p>New Hampshire does not require providers to be assessed with ERS, but does allow providers to perform a self-assessment using one of the ERS tools to meet one of the five optional standards that programs must meet.</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) ■ School-Age Care Environment Rating Scale (SACERS) ■ Family Child Care Environment Rating Scale- Revised (FCCERS-R)
QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS	
QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site	<p>There is one set of standards for licensed child care centers and FCC homes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Regulation ■ Administration and business practices ■ Learning environment ■ Parent/family involvement ■ Children with special needs ■ Professional development ■ Staff qualifications and compensation ■ Program evaluation <p><i>Licensed-Plus Quality Standards</i> http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dcyf/licensedplus/documents/option1standards.pdf</p>
Programs Eligible to Participate in QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Child care centers ■ Group child care homes ■ Family child care homes ■ Early Head Start programs ■ Head Start programs ■ School-age programs
Use of Accreditation	<p>Accreditation is the requirement for the highest level of the system. The level is called "Accredited." Being in the process of obtaining accreditation is one option for obtaining a Licensed-Plus designation. Programs who have participated in a Head Start review without a deficiency may also qualify for Licensed-Plus</p>
Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ COA (After School) or grandfathered under NAA ■ NAEYC ■ NAFCC

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FINANCIAL INCENTIVES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
Financial Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tiered subsidy reimbursement
Additional Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Programs who are in the process of becoming accredited, but have not yet achieved accreditation and programs that have participated in a Head Start review without a deficiency, may also qualify for the “Licensed-Plus” designation. ■ Tiered subsidy reimbursement was reinstated on July 1, 2013. ■ The Licensed-Plus designation lists 22 standards. Programs must meet 11 required standards, plus 5 additional standards of the program’s choosing.