



QRIS State Profile: Rhode Island

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
INTRODUCTION	
<p>BrightStars is a five-level quality rating and improvement system. All licensed child care centers, licensed family child care homes, and approved preschools in Rhode Island are eligible to participate in BrightStars. Licensed school-age programs will be able to participate in 2011. BrightStars is managed by the Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children. Rhode Island KIDS COUNT coordinates and supports the evaluation of BrightStars.</p>	
CONTACTS	
QRIS Name	BrightStars
Organization	Rhode Island Association for the Education of Young Children
Web Site	http://www.brightstars.org/providers/brightstars-quality-rating/
RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS	
Levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Level One ■ Level Two ■ Level Three ■ Level Four ■ Level Five
Rating Assignment Method	<p>Building blocks:</p> <p>To participate in BrightStars, providers must have a current, valid license. Preschools that are not licensed must have approval from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The licensing requirements and preschool approval are the standards for Level One. The four remaining levels have standards that build on each other. National accreditation or environment rating scale scores are used for assessing the learning environment.</p>

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments	<p>An environment rating scale score is an alternative to accreditation to achieve the “Child’s Daily Experience” and “Teaching and Learning” standards for Levels Three, Four, and Five.</p> <p>CLASS scores are collected from a random sample of 33 percent of preschool classrooms. The State did not use scores in the rating process during the first year of implementation.</p>
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)
QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS	
QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Child’s Daily Experience ■ Teaching and Learning ■ Staff-child Ratio and Group Size ■ Family Communication and Involvement ■ Staff Qualifications ■ Program Management <p><i>Child Care Center and Preschool Quality Framework</i> http://www.brightstars.org/documents/BrightStarsCenterFramework120808_000.pdf</p> <p><i>Family Child Care Quality Framework</i> http://www.brightstars.org/documents/BrightStarsFamilyChildCareFramework09010_000.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 ■ Pre-kindergarten programs ■ School-age programs

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
Use of Accreditation	Accreditation is an alternative to an environment rating scale score to achieve the Child’s Daily Experience and Context and Process of Learning standards for Levels Three, Four, and Five.
Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ National Association for the Education of Young Children, Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation ■ National Association for Family Child Care
FINANCIAL INCENTIVES	
Financial Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Grants to programs to meet or maintain licensing ■ Grants to programs to meet QRIS quality level ■ On-going, periodic grants or stipends tied to improving/maintaining quality ■ T.E.A.C.H. Early Childhood Rhode Island ■ CCRI Early Childhood Education and Training Program