



QRIS State Profile: Texas

Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) Component	State Details
INTRODUCTION	
<p>Texas Rising Star Provider Certification is a process for improving the quality of child care services provided in Texas. The certification system offers three levels of certification to encourage providers to attain progressively higher certification requirements. Only licensed or registered providers that have an agreement with a local Workforce Development Board to serve Texas Workforce Commission subsidized children participate in Texas Rising Star Certification.</p>	
CONTACTS	
QRIS Name	Texas Rising Star Provider Certification
Organization	Texas Workforce Commission
Web Site	http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/childcare/provcert.html
RATING LEVELS AND ASSESSMENT METHODS	
Levels	<p>For centers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Two-Star Certification ■ Three-Star Certification ■ Four-Star Certification <p>For FCC homes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Provisionally Certified ■ Fully Certified
Rating Assignment Method	<p>Point system:</p> <p>A system of scoring a facility for certification is based on meeting a certain number of measures for each standards criterion. For centers, individual care groups must meet the measures in designated criteria for the facility to achieve the certification level. Otherwise, the entire center is certified at the level of the lowest scoring group. For FCC homes, a number of measures that must be met in each standard area is specified for each level of certification.</p>

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Use of Environment Rating Scales (ERS) and Other Assessments	The state-developed tool is used first in a self-assessment and then in the State’s formal assessment. The tool is used to determine the quality rating of the program.
Assessments Included in QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ State developed tool adapted from NAEYC Standards
QRIS QUALITY STANDARDS	
QRIS Quality Standards: Categories and Web Site	<p>There are separate standards for child care centers and FCC homes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Licensing compliance ■ Director qualifications (centers only) ■ Caregiver staff qualifications ■ Staff orientation ■ Staff training ■ Group size ■ Curriculum/activities ■ Caregiver-child interaction ■ Physical environment ■ Health and safety ■ Nutrition/meal time ■ Parental involvement <p>Texas Rising Star Provider Certification Guidelines http://www.twc.state.tx.us/svcs/childcare/provcert.pdf</p>
Programs Eligible to Participate in QRIS	<p>Only licensed or registered providers that have an agreement with a local Workforce Development Board to serve Texas Workforce Commission subsidized children participate in Texas Rising Star Certification. Providers can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Child care centers ■ Group child care homes ■ Family child care homes

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Use of Accreditation	Child care providers who have attained national accreditations may be certified as a TRS Provider without going through the TRS Provider assessment process and are initially enrolled as a Four-Star or fully certified provider
Accreditation Organizations Accepted for QRIS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Association for Christian Schools International ■ Council on Accreditation, After School Programs (formerly the National AfterSchool Association) ■ National Accreditation Commission for Early Care and Education Programs ■ National Association for the Education of Young Children, Academy for Early Childhood Program Accreditation ■ National Association for Family Child Care ■ National Early Childhood Program Accreditation
FINANCIAL INCENTIVES	
Financial Incentives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tiered subsidy reimbursement ■ Some Boards provide grants, bonuses, one-time awards, or purchase of child care equipment